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Welcome to BrigliaHundley 's guide on planning for the future, protecting your loved ones, and navigating through the unexpected.

Visit our website or contact us directly for more information or to arrange a strategy session to address your concerns.

Please bear in mind, this guide is simply an introduction to the field of estate planning and does not constitute, nor should it be considered, legal advice.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The purpose of this guide is to provide you with an introduction to:

- Our firm and what we stand for
- Our attorneys who specialize in estate planning
- Why it is important to plan for your future
- The legal terms and solutions we use to help protect you and your family

We take pride in the relationships we have developed with other professionals and service providers in our community. We strive to provide pertinent education to our partners and work with them to be a resource for their clients' needs. We also strongly believe in the "planning team concept" to ensure planning is a collaborative effort between ourselves and the other services you may require (i.e. a financial advisor, CPA, insurance agent and care providers). Through these relationships, we want to ensure all clients have access to professionals that will be able to assist and guide them through their journeys. You will find some of those organizations featured within this guide, for your benefit.

Please bear in mind, this guide is simply an introduction to the fields of estate planning and elder law and does not constitute, nor should it be considered, legal advice. Every individual's situation is different. To be able to provide you with an effective plan for the future, we will need to learn about your individual considerations...

If you are ready to take the next step on the road to protecting your legacy, we are happy to offer you a no-obligation initial consultation, during which we will LISTEN to your goals and ASSESS your current situation. Based on the information provided, we will then put together a tailored plan that is best suited to YOU and your family..

Should you have any questions based on anything featured in this guide or on our service in general, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 703.883.0880.





SONJA N. AOUN BIO

During her legal career, Sonja N. Aoun has developed extensive experience in the fields of estate planning and family law. Her primary interest is helping people protect their loved ones.

For over twenty years, she has helped families throughout Virginia resolve their legal matters and obtain peace of mind during some of life's most difficult times.

Recognizing that the need for planning extends well beyond marriage and children, Ms. Aoun prepares wills, powers of attorney, advance medical directives, and trusts to preserve her clients' wealth and ensure that their families are well cared for.



Through appropriate planning, Ms. Aoun helps her clients avoid tax liability, probate, and other unnecessary governmental involvement in their estates. As part of her estate planning practice, Ms. Aoun emphasizes planning for the future care of her clients' children, particularly those with special needs. For many families, arranging trusts, guardianships, and conservatorships is essential to safeguard their loved ones' futures. In such circumstances, Ms. Aoun provides careful guidance.

Ms. Aoun has earned the respect of clients and colleagues alike for her creative problem-solving, her effective trial advocacy, and the informed, compassionate, and ethical approach she brings to complicated estate and family matters. She has a passion for helping families with a special commitment to finding solutions for children with special needs.

Her practice addresses all aspects of family law including separation agreements, divorce, custody, visitation, property division, child support, spousal support/alimony, premarital settlement agreements, post-nuptial agreements, enforcement of agreements, modification of orders, stepparent adoptions and adoptions of adult children. She has the experience and knowledge to effectively handle these matters from their inception through negotiation, mediation, trial, and appeal, as necessary.

She has helped military families, state department families, and others facing relocation. She works with special needs families, blended families, LGBTQ families, high net worth families, and families with closely held businesses.

Ms. Aoun works with experts in the fields of real estate, special education, financial planning, vocational rehabilitation, immigration, and mental health to ensure her clients receive the best possible outcome.

Ms. Aoun has been honored to be named to the Virginia Super Lawyers list every year since 2014 and to the Washington, D.C. Super Lawyers list since 2015. She received the Martindale-Hubbell Client Distinction Award in 2015 and maintains the highest available 10.0 rating on Avvo.com.

Ms. Aoun frequently speaks on various aspects of family law at seminars for separating families and at legal education courses for attorneys. She volunteers her time as a mentor for law students at the Georgetown University Law Center and serves as an attorney mentor with the Fairfax Bar Association's mentorship program. She is a dyslexia advocate, and she volunteers her time to support special needs families and alleviate homelessness and hunger. She and her children prepare monthly meals for The Lamb Center in Fairfax City, volunteer with Lasagna Love, and run a neighborhood food drive for families in Burke Centre.

Admissions

- Virginia State Bar, 2001
- District of Columbia Bar, 2002

Education

- Georgetown University Law Center, Juris Doctor, 2000
- Georgetown University Bachelor of Science, 1995

Past and Current Professional Associations and Memberships

- Washington Women's Leadership Institute (WWLI)
- Ellevate DC
- National Association of Professional Women
- Virginia Association of Elder Law Attorneys
- National Association of Elder Law Attorneys
- BNI, McLean Prospects
- Virginia Women Attorneys Association
- Virginia State Bar, Family Law Section
- Volunteer Law Clerk, Ayuda Clinical Legal

Speaking Engagements

- 2021 Estate Planning Tasks Post-Divorce at "Done With Divorce", Argent Bridge Advisors
- 2016 Advanced Custody and Support Issues Conference, "Recent Developments on the Rights of Same Sex and Unmarried Couples: Practical Implications"
- 2015 NBI Family Law CLE Conference, "Relocation, Social Media Evidence, Same Sex Divorce, And Other Current Issues"
- 2014 Second Saturday Conference, "Legal Aspects of Separation and Divorce"
- 2014 Family Law from A to Z Conference, "Discovery in Divorce"
- 2014 Divorce Litigation from Start to Finish, "Pretrial Motions Practice and Settlement Strategies"
- 2013 Second Saturday Conference, "Legal Aspects of Separation and Divorce in Virginia"
- 2011 WBIS Fairfax Success Luncheon Conference, "What Every Small Business Owner Simply Must Know"
- 2010 Wills and Estate Planning Conference, "Three Documents and Why You Need Them"

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KALEY DUNCAN WARD BIO

Kaley Duncan Ward is an associate attorney practicing primarily in the areas of estate planning and eminent domain. Prior to joining Briglia Hundley, Ms. Duncan Ward served as law clerk to the Honorable Grace Burke Carroll of the Fairfax County Circuit Court.

Ms. Duncan Ward has been practicing law since 2018. During that time, she has assisted numerous clients through the estate planning and probate administration process. She has also represented clients in multiple areas of civil litigation including guardian and conservator cases, contract disputes, personal injury, and domestic relations.

Ms. Duncan Ward received her undergraduate degree from Virginia Tech where she double majored in Psychology and Public Relations. She went on to earn her

law degree from the University of Richmond School of Law, where she served as Managing Editor of the Richmond Journal of Law and Technology, Vice President of Richmond Women's Law, and member of the Trial Advocacy Board.

Ms. Duncan Ward is an active member of the Fairfax Bar Association (FBA) and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the FBA Young Lawyers Section.

Areas of Practice

- Estate Planning
- Probate Administration
- Guardianships/Conservatorships
- Eminent Domain
- Civil Litigation
- Family Law

Education

- · Virginia Tech Cum Laude 2015
- · University of Richmond School of Law Cum Laude 2018

Admissions

· Virginia, 2018

Professional Associations and Memberships

- Virginia Bar Association
- Fairfax Bar Association
- Fairfax Bar Association Young Lawyers Section Board Member
- Virginia Trial Lawyers Association
- · Northern Virginia Women Attorneys Association

Past Employment Positions

- · Associate Attorney, Surovell Isaacs & Levy PLC
- · Law Clerk, Fairfax County Circuit Court







WHAT IS ESTATE PLANNING?

What is an estate?

An estate is the net worth of a person at any point in time, alive or dead. It is the sum of your assets, including savings, possessions, houses, cars, businesses, etc. less all liabilities at that time. In other words, it is everything you own, minus everything owe.

What is estate planning?

Estate planning is the process of arranging the management and disposal of your estate, both during your life and after your death, including how your estate is then distributed to loved ones. It is a way of controlling how the assets that you own are distributed or used. It even gives you the chance to name your children's guardian in the event of your early death.

Why is it important?

Estate plans include documents such as wills, trusts, powers of attorney, and advance medical directives. It ensures you remain in control, even after your death, of how your hard-earned wealth is distributed or used. It gives you the opportunity to decide who receives what and how they receive it, while at the same time, minimizing or even avoiding tax exposure. It allows you to protect your loved ones, and ensure their best interests are met. It also helps you by naming who will take care of you if end up in long-term care, hospitalized, or incapacitated.

What problems can be created by not taking these steps?

- Stress and complicated paperwork.
- Difficult decision-making that is left for loved ones who are grieving your death.
- Unnecessary exposure to taxes.
- Family disputes over your assets are more likely.
- Unnecessary attorney and court costs.
- Family members may have to petition a court to help care for you or make end-of-life decisions for you.
- Other people, who you may not even know, will have a big say in how your assets are distributed and who will become guardians of your children.

How do I create a plan to deal with these issues?

We are all different and it is important that time is taken to understand your personal situation, and family dynamics. During our initial meeting, we will ask you a few questions and provide you with additional questionnaires that will allow us to gain a more complete understanding of your full financial picture and goals. We will then recommend and tailor an estate plan to your unique circumstances.

In the following sections, we will address the various estate planning tools that are at our disposal, as well as explaining their specific benefits.

At BrigliaHundley, P.C., we believe the creation of an estate plan is an ongoing process that includes continuing education and advice for the client and their family as their circumstances and situations change.

For help with financial planning:



ReFrame Wealth LLC - Melanie Corbett Simons - 571-354-8471

For help with selling property:



McEnearney Associates - Laura Schwartz - 703.283.6120

For help with tax planning:



Logo - Kelly & Company - David Baum - 703-288-3302

For help with Medicare applications:



Logo - Medicare Portal - Kevin Chaikin - 571-361-2220

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WILLS

What is a will?

A will is a legally binding document that allows you to decide how your estate will be handled and how your assets will be distributed upon your death. It helps ensure that the people you love get what you want them to receive. A will can cover everything from leaving your home to a spouse, leaving a monetary gift for an individual or organization, or specifying which family members receive heirlooms, jewelry, or other items that are important to you.

Do I need a will?

Yes, a will is a basic estate planning tool that nearly all people need, even if you have a trust.

Why? What happens if I die without a will?

If you die without a will, it means you have died "intestate." So, rather than your estate being handled the way you would have wanted, the intestacy laws of the state will determine how your property is distributed. In most cases, this means your loved ones are not guaranteed to benefit in the way you would have hoped.

How does a will work?

Once you have an idea of what all your assets are, you then decide who receives the assets after your death. You should also use your will as an opportunity to make your wishes known regarding other important details, such as appointing a guardian for any minor children you have. Within your will, you will also appoint one of more individuals to act as your "executor(s)" and it will be their responsibility to administer your estate. This document must be witnessed, by two people (one of which can be your attorney) and a notary, to make it legally binding and easily enforced.

What are an executor's responsibilities?

There are several responsibilities, but one of the most important tasks the executor is responsible for is making sure that outstanding debts left by the deceased are paid BEFORE any money is paid to beneficiaries mentioned in the will. These debts must be paid in a order, established by law.

What will happen on my death?

Upon death your will must be filed with your local probate court. This will begin the probate process.

What is probate?

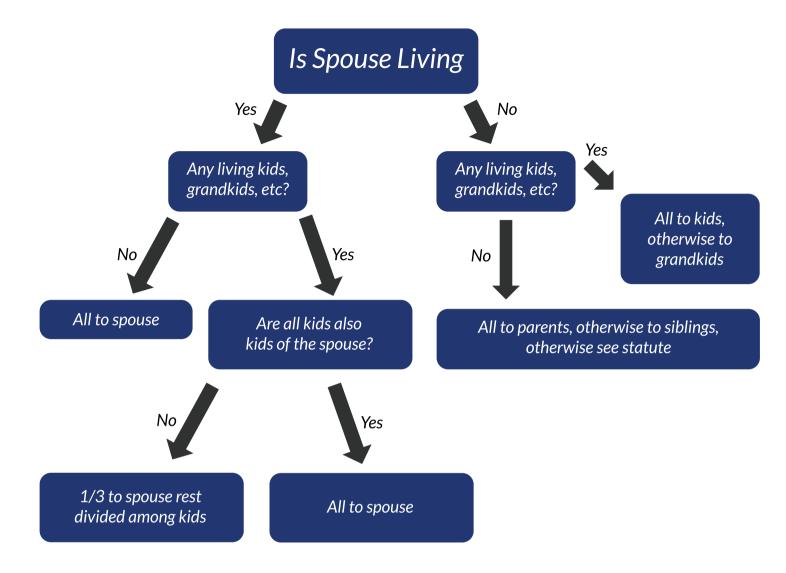
Probate is the process of administering someone's estate when they die. Even if you have a will, you still need to go through this legal process, although it is substantially simpler if you also have a trust. Probate essentially involves:

- Filing the will with the probate court (or if the person died without a will, petitioning the probate court for the right the administer the estate).
- Collecting details of the deceased's assets (filed with the court as a list, called the inventory).
- Paying all outstanding bills and taxes.
- Filing an income tax return for the deceased.
- Distributing the assets (this can take up to a year and some money will be retained as a reserve for unexpected claims and costs).
- Filing a final account with the probate court;
 when approved, this allows the executor /
 administrator to distribute any remaining funds.

What are the benefits and limitations of having a will?

A will is an inexpensive estate planning tool that ensures your estate is distributed the way you want it to be. It is still subject to the probate process though, which can be time consuming and is subject to public record, so your financial affairs are no longer your private business.

Intestacy Distribution in Virginia





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TRUSTS

What is a trust?

A trust is created when a person gives property / assets to another person or institution (called the trustee) to hold for the benefit of someone else, called a beneficiary. A document called the trust agreement is created which outlines the set of rules for the trust. Trusts are private contracts that are developed by an individual or couple for some specific purpose. Reasons to create a trust include probate avoidance, estate tax planning and reduction, asset protection, gifting of assets, special needs planning for your loved ones, and protection against overspending of assets before your financial goals can be accomplished.

There are two types of trust - testamentary and intervivos (also called living trusts).

How do I decide which trust to use?

This is dependent on your goals. It is imperative that you consult an attorney to discuss this, who will work with tax professionals and financial advisors to give the correct advice. Below is a brief description of the different types of trusts, their benefits, and potential uses.

What is a testamentary trust?

A testamentary trust is a trust which starts upon the death of the testator and is created through his or her will.

What are some potential uses for a testamentary trust?

- Preserving assets for children from a previous marriage.
- Protecting your spouse's financial future by providing lifetime income.
- Ensuring that a special needs beneficiary will be taken care of.
- Preventing minors from inheriting property outright at age 18 or 21. Minors are unable to take legal title of assets or property until they reach legal age, which varies by state. However, this type of trust can be used to delay the age they inherit to even later.
- Skipping the surviving spouse entirely as a beneficiary.
- Gifting to charities.

In summary, what are some of the benefits and limitations to a testamentary trust?

A testamentary trust is an inexpensive estate planning tool, which can be helpful in reducing estate taxes. However, it is still subject to the probate process as outlined in the previous section on wills.

What is an inter vivos / living trust?

An inter vivos trust is a trust that comes into force while an individual is still alive. There are two types of inter vivos trust - revocable and irrevocable.

What is the difference between a revocable living trust and an irrevocable living trust?

With a revocable trust, the creator of the trust (called a grantor), remains in complete control of the assets held in trust and can change or revoke / terminate it at any time. An irrevocable trust cannot be changed or amended by its creator / grantor once created.

What are some of the potential uses of a revocable living trust?

- Avoidance of probate, meaning your beneficiaries will not have to wait to receive their inheritance.
- Maintain privacy, because unlike assets subject to probate, the details of the trust will not be made public.
- Segregation of assets. For example, married couples with substantial separate property that was acquired prior to the marriage can use this type of trust to segregate those assets from marital assets.
- To help control a guardian's spending habits for the benefit of your minor children.
- It can authorize another person to act on your behalf financially you become incapacitated and need someone to make decisions for you. Should you become impaired or disabled, the trust can automatically appoint your trustee to oversee it and your financial affairs with no requirement to obtain a durable power of attorney.
- It can help the wealth that you have accumulated continue to grow for multiple generations by using a professional trustee (sometimes called a trust advisor) to manage your property.

In summary, what are some of the benefits and limitations of a revocable living trust? Living trusts can minimize estate taxes, while completely avoiding probate and providing privacy. They are powerful estate planning tools, especially when you factor in the flexibility they provide the creator. However, they can be expensive to create, fund, and they lack protection from creditors implicit in irrevocable trusts.

What are some of the potential uses of an irrevocable living trust?

- To remove taxable assets from the estate. Property transferred to an irrevocable living trust does not count toward the gross value of an estate. Such trusts can be especially helpful in reducing the tax liability of very large estates.
- To stop beneficiaries from misusing assets, as the grantor can set conditions for distribution.
- To gift assets to the estate, but still retain the income from the assets.
- To remove appreciable assets from the estate while providing beneficiaries with a step-up basis in valuing the assets for tax purposes.
- To gift a principal residence to children under more favorable tax rules.
- To house a life insurance policy that would effectively remove the death proceeds from the estate.
- To deplete one's property to ensure eligibility for government benefits, such as Social Security income and Medicaid (for nursing home care). Such trusts can also be used to help secure benefits and care for a special needs child by preventing disqualification of eligibility.

In summary, what are some of the benefits and limitations of an irrevocable living trust?

Irrevocable trusts offer certain tax benefits that revocable trusts do not. However, they lack flexibility.

Your attorney and financial team will work with you to understand your goals, recommend options, and prepare the estate plan that is right for you.

POWERS OF ATTORNEY

What is a power of attorney?

A Power of Attorney is a document by which an individual appoints someone to make decisions, sign paperwork, and conduct financial transactions on their behalf. This individual may handle the financial affairs of such a person as if they owned the assets themselves.

Why does an estate plan need a power of attorney?

A power of attorney is an essential estate planning tool because it allows you to choose who you want to act on your behalf should you become incapacitated. It is also your opportunity to dictate what decisions they can, or cannot, make.

What happens if I become incapacitated without a power of attorney?

You are unable to create a power of attorney once you become incapacitated, so you lose control over what happens next. More than likely what will happen is your relatives will apply to the court for a guardianship or conservatorship over you. This can be time consuming, costly and there is no guarantee that your wishes will be honored.

What are the different types of power of attorney used in estate planning?

There are two main types – durable and springing.

How do the different types work?

Durable – gives someone else the power to immediately start acting on your behalf, as outlined in the power of attorney document. It remains in force should you become mentally or physically incapacitated and only ends if you die, or you cancel it when you are not incapacitated.

Springing – only comes into force when certain terms are met, which are usually physical or mental incapacitation, with the exact terms for when it does come into force being outlined in the document. You use this power of attorney if you are just looking to give someone authority over your affairs if and when you become incapacitated.

In summary, what are the benefits and limitations of a power of attorney?

A power of attorney is an essential estate planning tool, which ensures that your family does not have to go through the costly and time-consuming process of applying for guardianship or conservatorship, should you become incapacitated.

Due to the potential power the person you appoint will have over your finances, it is important you choose someone you can trust as your agent.

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ADVANCE MEDICAL DIRECTIVES

What is an advance medical directive?

An advance medical directive is a legal document in which a person specifies what actions should be taken for their health if they are no longer able to make decisions for themselves because of illness or incapacity. Like a power of attorney, advance medical directives can be produced in either a durable or springing capacity. If they are durable, they come into effect immediately, if they are springing, they become effective only on proof of your incapacity.

Why are advance medical directives an important part of an estate plan?

Advance medical directives help loved ones, and medical personnel make important decisions during a medical crisis. It is the best way to ensure that your wishes regarding your health care are carried out when you are not able to speak or decide for yourself.

What happens if I do not have an advance medical directive?

If you suffer a major health issue and you become incapacitated, there will be no guidance as to how you would like the doctors to proceed (what treatments you prefer, types of pain medication, etc). Your family could apply to the court for guardianship to obtain the right to make those decisions for you, but this is a costly and time-consuming process and does not guarantee your wishes will be fulfilled. In an emergency, there won't be time to apply for a guardianship before treatment decisions need to be made.

What types of advance medical directives are there?

There are two types – a living will and durable power of attorney for health care (or health care proxy). You can also create a simple advance medical directive in which your agent must make decisions for you, or a more specific one in which you decide on certain types of treatment in advance.

What is a living will?

A living will is a legal document that spells out medical treatments you would and would not want to be used to keep you alive, as well as your preferences for other medical decisions, such as pain management or organ donation. A living will is also called an advance medical directive.

What is a durable power of attorney for health care / health care proxy?

A health care proxy is a legal document in which a person authorizes someone else to make all health care decisions on their behalf, should they become incapacitated.

In summary, what are the advantages and limitations of advanced medical directives?

Advance medical directives ensure your health care wishes will be known and implemented. Plus it saves your family from having to go through the timely and costly process of petitioning the court for the right to make decisions for you.

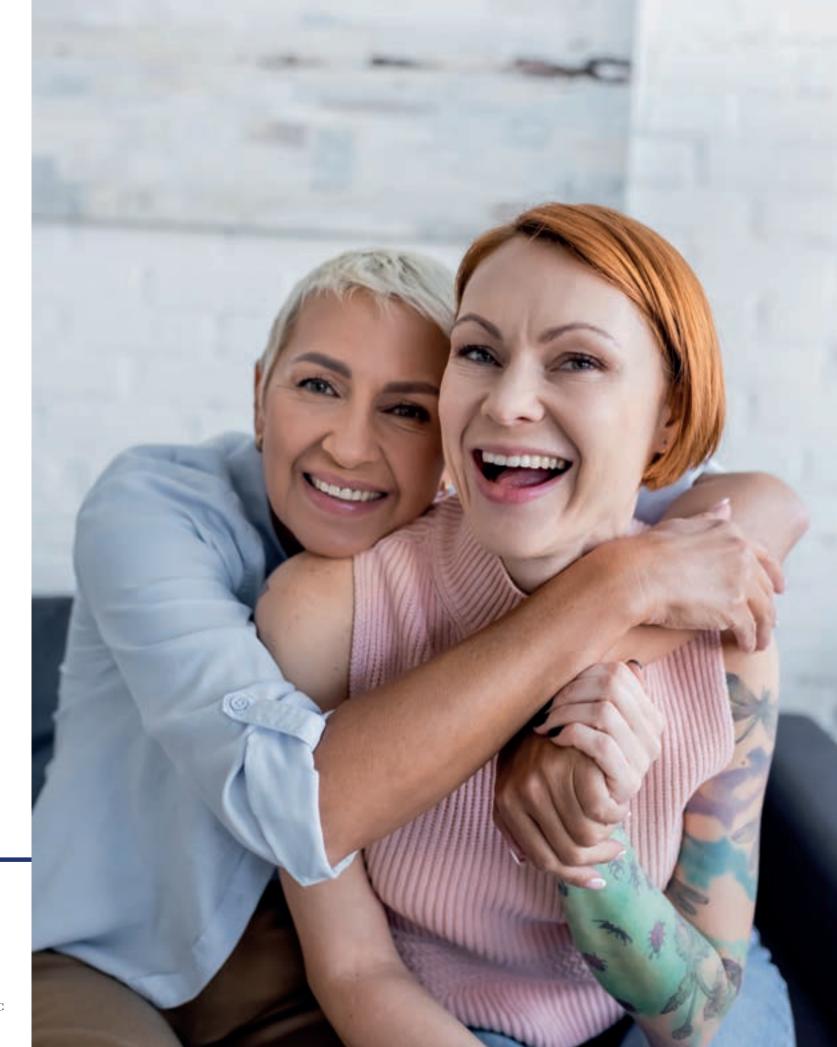
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FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Why is it important for a family with special needs to ensure they have a detailed estate plan?

If you have a child with special needs, estate planning is critical to ensure their needs are still met after you die or become seriously ill or disabled. For example, because Medicaid and the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program impose special rules about how much money a person with disabilities can have to remain eligible, your estate plan may need to include a special needs trust. If you have specific goals or preferences for how your child should be cared for after your death, these can be specified in your will or living trust.

How does a special needs trust work?

A special needs trust helps provide assets to cover the percentage of a person's financial needs that are not covered by public assistance payments. The assets held in the trust do not count for the purposes of qualifying for public assistance, as long as they are not used for certain food or shelter or other prohibited expenditures. Proceeds from this type of trust are commonly used for medical expenses, payments for caretakers, transportation costs, and other permitted expenses.

The party who creates the trust designates a trustee who has control over the trust. This trustee will also oversee management and disbursement of funds. Assets originally belonging to the disabled individual that get placed into the trust may be subject to Medicaid's repayment rules, but assets provided by third parties such as parents are not. This type of trust is sometimes also called a "supplemental needs trust."

What are the benefits of a special needs trust?

Establishing a special needs trust can have benefits for both parties. The beneficiary has a way to receive financial support without putting their eligibility for income-restricted programs or services in jeopardy. Meanwhile, the person or party that creates the trust has some reassurance that the trust assets will be used to care for their loved one.

When a third party puts money in a special needs trust, the party is assured that the money will be used for its intended purpose. Special needs trusts are irrevocable, and their assets cannot be seized by creditors or by the winner of a lawsuit.

It is important that the person who creates the trust or their legal representative word the terms of the trust documents very carefully to ensure its validity, and to confirm that the directives and purpose of the document are explicitly clear. The special needs trust must be established before the beneficiary turns 65.



LONG-TERM CARE PLANNING

Why is long-term care planning necessary?

Nowadays, people are living longer, which gives many people more time to enjoy their retirement years. However, aging also brings difficult challenges, such as declining health and the necessity of planning for long-term care. Because the costs of elder care can be exorbitant, particularly at a skilled nursing facility, it is important to plan for your care in a way that will preserve your legacy.

What are the common long-term care issues?

Our comprehensive estate planning services encompass a wide range of long-term care issues, such as:

- Planning for incapacity (advance medical directives, living wills).
- Selecting the right nursing home or assisted living facility.
- Arranging for home care.
- Qualifying for public benefits (e.g. Medicaid, Veteran's Benefits).
- · Guardianship.
- · Asset protection.

Is Medicare a viable option for long-term care?

Many people mistakenly assume that Medicare will cover the costs of skilled care at a nursing home or assisted living facility. Medicare only pays for limited services on a short-term basis, such as nursing home care or rehabilitation services for a set number of days. Moreover, many elders require non-skilled care to assist with daily tasks of living — dressing, feeding, light housekeeping — not covered by Medicare. This makes long-term care planning critical.

Should I consider long-term care insurance?

Long-term care insurance is designed to cover the cost of personal and custodial care at home, an assisted living facility or nursing home. You may also be covered for a certain amount of assistance with daily activities such as bathing, dressing, or eating. Qualifying for such coverage can be complicated because pre-existing conditions may render you ineligible. Premiums are also costly and based on factors such as your age, the maximum amount per day the policy will pay, and the maximum number of days or years covered.

Our attorneys can help determine if long-term care insurance is the best option for you and consider alternatives if the premiums are not affordable or you do not qualify.

Medicaid planning and long-term care

While Medicaid is the largest payer of nursing home care in the country, the program is needs-based, and many elders have financial resources that exceed the eligibility threshold. Our legal team can help you qualify for Medicaid and protect your assets through a variety of strategies such as spousal income and asset transfers, annuities, and qualified income trusts.

Long-term care options for veterans

Our attorneys routinely advise veterans and their spouses about benefits available through the Veterans Administration, such as Aid and Attendance. This is a pension program that assists individuals who need assistance with performing daily tasks or require long-term care in a skilled nursing or assisted living facility. Aid and Attendance is only provided to qualified war veterans — those who served at least one day of active duty during a designated period of war. Veterans may also be eligible for disability compensation, free or low-cost medical care through VA hospitals and medical facilities, and education programs.

Planning for incapacity and long-term care

Although thinking about the possibility of becoming incapacitated is unpleasant, it is crucial to plan your finances and healthcare around the possibility of being unable to speak for yourself. Our estate planning attorneys can draft a tailored estate plan that authorizes a trusted person to manage your personal and financial affairs — paying monthly bills, managing real estate, bank accounts, and investments — when you are unable to do so. We also recommend having advance medical directives which appoints someone to act as your agent in coordinating your preferred medical care when you cannot make such decisions independently. Finally, a living will declares the type of end-of-life care you wish to receive or have withheld (e.g. a ventilator or feeding tube) when you are terminally ill or in an irreversible condition.



MEDICARE

What is Medicare?

Medicare is the federal health insurance program for:

- People who are 65 or older;
- Certain younger people with disabilities; and
- People with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a transplant, sometimes called ESRD)

What does it involve exactly?

There are different parts of Medicare that help cover specific services:

• Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance)

Part A covers inpatient hospital stays, care in a skilled nursing facility, hospice care, and some home health care.

• Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance)

Part B covers certain doctors' services, outpatient care, medical supplies, and preventive services.

• Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage) Helps cover the cost of prescription drugs (including many recommended shots or vaccines).

Are there associated premiums?

Most people do not pay a monthly premium for Part A - You usually don't pay a monthly premium for Part A if you or your spouse paid Medicare taxes while working for a certain amount of time. This is sometimes called "premium-free Part A."

If you don't qualify, you can still pay for Part

A - If you aren't eligible for premium-free Part A, you may be able to buy Part A. You'll pay up to \$499 each month in 2022. If you paid Medicare taxes for less than 30 quarters, the standard Part A premium is \$499. If you paid Medicare taxes for 30–39 quarters, the standard Part A premium is \$274.

Everyone pays for Part B - Most people will pay the standard Part B premium amount. The standard Part B premium amount in 2022 is \$170.10. If your modified adjusted gross income as reported on your IRS tax return from 2 years ago is above a certain amount, you'll pay the standard premium amount and an Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA). IRMAA is an extra charge added to your premium.

How does Medicare work?

With Medicare, you have options in how you get your coverage. Once you enroll, you'll need to decide how you'll get your Medicare coverage. There are 2 main ways:

Original Medicare - Original Medicare includes Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance). You pay for services as you get them. When you get services, you'll pay a Deductible at the start of each year, and you usually pay 20% of the cost of the Medicare-approved service, called coinsurance. If you want drug coverage, you can add a separate drug plan (Part D). Original Medicare pays for much, but not all, of the cost for covered health care services and supplies. A Medicare supplement Insurance (Medigap) policy can help pay some of the remaining health care costs, like copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles. Some Medigap policies also cover services that Original Medicare doesn't cover, like emergency medical care when you travel outside the US.

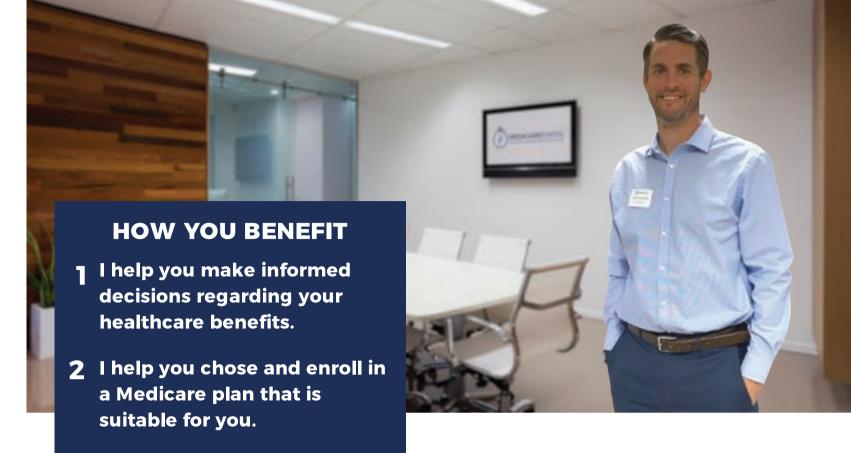
Medicare Advantage - Medicare Advantage is Medicare-approved plan from a private company that offers an alternative to Original Medicare for your health and drug coverage. These "bundled" plans include Part A, Part B, and usually Part D. Plans may offer some extra benefits that Original Medicare doesn't cover — like vision, hearing, and dental services. Medicare Advantage Plans have yearly contracts with Medicare and must follow Medicare's coverage rules. The plan must notify you about any changes before the start of the next enrollment year. Each Medicare Advantage Plan can charge different out-of-pocket costs. They can also have different rules for how you get services.

Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D)

Medicare drug coverage helps pay for prescription drugs you need. To get Medicare drug coverage, you must join a Medicare-approved plan that offers drug coverage (this includes Medicare drug plans and Medicare Advantage Plans with drug coverage). Each plan can vary in cost and specific drugs covered, but must give at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Medicare drug coverage includes generic and brand-name drugs. Plans can vary the list of prescription drugs they cover (called a formulary) and how they place drugs into different "tiers" on their formularies. Plans have different monthly premiums. You'll also have other costs throughout the year in a Medicare drug plan. How much you pay for each drug depends on which plan you choose.

How does Medicare work with my other insurance?

When you have other insurance, there's more than one "payer" for your coverage.



3 I am local and available to meet in person, over the phone or virtually.

- 4 My services are always free.
- **5** You'll have a lifetime resource for your Medicare insurance needs.

KEVIN CHAIKIN

MEDICARE INSURANCE AGENT



571-361-2220



kevin@medicareportal.org



Learn more about Kevin

KNOW MORE. STRESS LESS.

As a Vienna native, I strive to improve our community's understanding of Medicare.
Whether you're turning 65, working past 65, or currently on Medicare, I'm here to guide you on your Medicare journey to ensure a smooth and stress-free transition to your new benefits.



DOWNSIZING AND PREPARING YOUR HOUSE FOR SALE

Moving into a Senior development or care facility can be a stressful time, however, with a little forward planning, it does not need to be! To help you with this transition we have prepared these top tips:

Space planning

Time to get the tape measure out! Use the floor plans to confirm which furniture will fit in your new home. If you are struggling, ask the facility if they can provide space planning assistance, or alternatively, consider using a professional relocation and transition specialist.

Sort your possessions into categories

Move, Maybe (move and decide later), Sell (at auction, yard sale etc), Give Away (family or friends), Donate (to charity) and Throw Out

Throw out strategies

The key thing is to resist the "maybe we will need to sometime" mindset. If it hasn't been touched for more than a year, throw it away. Consider if it's worth the cost and effort to pack, move and unpack. Still can't decide? Put it in a sealed, unlabeled, and dated box; if unopened a year later, throw it away, unopened.

Managing time

Start early, ideally starting before the house is listed, in case it sells quickly. Remember, most downsizing processes take 2-3 months. Try to set a schedule by room, week, month or other milestones.

Preparing for a sale

- And when you are preparing your house for sale, remember these five tips:
 Make sure the buyer can see walls and floors cleaning up and clearing out the property of
- 2. personal belongings is crucially important.

 Fresh paint and floors make the home look refreshed and move in ready with paint and flooring. This will give the home a reasonably new and updated look, even if the kitchens and
- 3. bathrooms are not renovated. Eliminate red flags – if there's anything scary looking, like a big crack going down a wall or water stains on the ceiling, this can cause buyers to do one of two things: 1) ask for a big
- 4. discount, or 2) walk out the front door and say "next".
 - Other questions to consider:
 - Do you replace the roof, HVAC, or repair any of the systems prior to selling?
 - Do you replace the kitchen countertops, counters or update the appliances?
 - Do you update the bathrooms?
 - All these questions must be answered on a case by case basis and depend on the condition of
- 5. the home, its age, budget and market competition.

 Repair and upgrades must be neighborhood appropriate it does not make sense to overimprove, relative to neighbors, because you may never see that money back in a sale.



Downsizing can be stressful and emotional. You need someone you can trust to guide you through the process. I can help.

- Help facilitate and manage any repairs, if necessary
- Help facilitate estate sales, donation, and cleaning
- Help decide what to do before selling
- Create a custom plan that feels comfortable for you

Let me take the stress out of selling. Contact me for a private conversation about buying or selling your home.

Laura Schwartz, Realtor®

Licensed in VA, MD & DC 703.283.6120 | Laura@GuidingYourMove.com www.GuidingYourMove.com













FINANCIAL PLANNING

As explained at the beginning of this guide, estate and later-in-life planning will require the input of professionals from a variety of different sectors. A financial advisor helps you create strategies for managing financial risk and building wealth over the long term. They can give you a plan that puts you on track to achieve your financial goals. Typically, this will include:

RETIREMENT AND PENSION PLANNING – with people living longer lives, it is important to have a plan in place for retirement. Typically, this will involve one or more pension products, which a financial advisor will be able to assist you with.

MORTGAGE ADVICE - purchasing a property, for most people, will be the largest purchase they make and will typically involve borrowing money in the form of a mortgage loan. Furthermore, more and more people are choosing to invest in property, using buy-to-let mortgages or accessing funds later in life through a reverse mortgage, which is a type of loan secured on a property. A financial advisor will be able to organize and advise you on the various products and lenders available to you.

SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS - there are a variety of ways in which you can choose to invest your money ranging from placing it in a bank account to investing in shares on the stock market. A financial advisor will listen to your goals as well as assess your attitude towards financial risks before advising you on the various products and services that best match your overall goal.

INSURANCE AND PROTECTION – there are a variety of different insurance products available that can help protect every aspect of your life and that of your family. Key products include health insurance to ensure you get the treatment you need and to cover its cost, life insurance which provides a pay-out to your loved ones on your death, long-term care insurance that helps cover the costs of long-term care, products that cover you in case of critical illness, or provide income protection.

PLEASE NOTE - there are various federal and state organizations that regulate the activities of financial advisors by providing them with strict guidelines regarding how they can operate. We can confirm that the companies featured in this guide are registered with the necessary federal and state regulators and therefore have demonstrated their adherence to their guidelines and are featured here for your convenience. However, you are under no obligation to use them.

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FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR LIFE-LONG LEARNERS

Fiduciary advice that feels right

The state of "not knowing where you stand financially" can be stressful. We enter every conversation with an open heart and an open mind.

Our goal is to change the way our clients feel about money - and to make the time you spend with your financial planner a turning point in your financial life.

> PHONE 571-354-8471 E-MAIL info@reframewealth.com IN PERSON 3251 Old Lee Hwy. Suite 502, Fairfax, VA 22030

> > www.reframewealth.com

ReFrame Wealth, LLC ("ReFrame Wealth") is a registered investment advisor. Advisory services are only offered to clients or prospective clients where ReFrame Wealth and its representatives are properly licensed or exempt from licensure. ReFrame Wealth and its advisors do not provide legal, accounting, or tax advice.

TAX PLANNING

Should you work with a certified public accountant (CPA) even before your estate needs to be distributed or finalized? The answer is generally yes and here are a few of the most important reasons why:

They will help reduce taxes.

Your estate may or may not be subject to taxes upon your passing. While the threshold for owing federal income taxes is high, an estate with such features as a business, significant real estate, or other expected inheritances can surpass the taxable minimum. Your CPA can advise how to reduce the chances of owing estate taxes as well as what the tax impact of various choices might be to your heirs.

An accountant is also up-to-date on tax law changes that could affect your estate. With recent tax reform, even existing estate plans - especially those involving spouses - may need to be updated to avoid potential problems later on.

They can aid in trust planning.

Do you know how to deploy trusts within your estate plan? Trusts are legal tools you can use for a variety of purposes, including preparing arrangements in case you are incapacitated and cannot make your own financial decisions. Trusts are also used for the ongoing care of someone with special needs, minor children, or even adult children who need more structure in their financial assets. An attorney can help set up trusts, but a CPA will aid you in ensuring you follow the tax rules, understand and file the proper tax forms, and use the right type of trust. For instance, the income earned by a grantor trust is often taxable to the grantor, if not sufficiently decoupled from your control. These distinctions are important if you want to protect your financial interests.

They may advise early actions.

Not all estate planning activities happen within your will or trust. Many people also find that making some smart moves now will help everyone down the line. For instance, if your estate may exceed the tax exemption, the CPA may suggest using the gift tax exclusion to give money annually to heirs in advance. If the fair market value of your business could be the problem, you may diversify ownership or alter the business entity now in order to reduce the value of your stake in it.

They can help your Executor.

The intended executor of your estate will have a big job ahead of them. How prepared are they for their responsibilities? Most executors are unfamiliar with what they need to do and will have a lot of responsibilities during a difficult time. If you're proactive about working with them, you increase the likelihood that your wishes will be carried out and that everyone will have a smooth transition. The CPA will develop a relationship with the executor so she or he has someone to turn with questions and the CPA can provide practical help filing a final tax return and estate forms.

The CPAs featured in this guide are here for your convenience. However, you are under no obligation to use them.



ESTATE AND TRUST PLANNING AND TAX PREPARATION

Effective estate and trust planning can ensure financial security for loved ones. For businesses, it can maintain a smooth succession of ownership. Our role is to help you navigate the complex and shifting tax laws to facilitate the transfer of assets and minimize the tax liability of your beneficiaries. Everyone should have a well-thought-out plan as to how to distribute the assets left in one's estate so as to avoid complications and to be sure that the individual's wishes are followed. Having your taxes and estate thoroughly and carefully planned will ensure that your loved ones don't have any complications to deal with during a time of loss.

Make your estate and trust planning simple and painless. We can answer those unknown questions concerning estate and trust planning.

- We can assist you in defining your estate planning goals
- We will help assemble your estate planning team, including tax, finance and legal experts
- Prepare estate and trust tax returns required by the Internal Revenue Service
- Provide trust and estate accounting services



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PROBATE AND TRUST ADMINISTRATION

If you have a loved one who has passed away, and you need guidance on what to do next, we can

IF YOUR LOVED ONE PASSED AWAY WITH NO ESTATE PLAN OR A WILL...

Dying without an estate plan is called dying intestate. The estate will be subject to state intestacy laws and go through probate court. This means the division and distribution of the estate will be subject to predetermined formula, usually providing half of the estate to a spouse and the remaining half allocated in equal portions to the biological children. A will guarantees probate. The probate court will take over at the time of death to make sure debts are paid, assets are distributed to heirs, and any loose ends are taken care of. All property that is controlled by the will must go through the probate court. It is a demanding and challenging job, with many deadlines to be met, most of which are within nine months of the person's death — the mourning period for the family.

Depending on the size of the estate, the complexity of the estate plan, and the nature and extent of the assets involved, there may be additional demands placed on the executor. However, we can help smooth the process.

IF YOUR LOVED ONE CREATED A LIVING TRUST...

Your family will go through a process called trust administration. Upon death, the successor trustee must take steps to distribute trust assets to beneficiaries and fulfill any other obligations of the trust. We serve as counsel to the trustee and provide assistance with the administrative duties required of the trustee, as well as help them take advantage of any benefits offered by the trust. When a trust is not administered properly, the trustee runs the risk of causing the beneficiaries to pay penalties or additional fees.

For advice and help administering an Estate or Trust, please contact us today on 703.883.0880.

Phone: 703.883.0880 **Fax:** 703.883.0899

Email: saoun@brigliahundley.com or kward@brigliahundley.com

www.brigliahundley.com







Losing a loved one is hard enough. Deciding what to do with their home can be overwhelming. That's where I can help.

- Help care for a home through probate, make use of that time prepping it for sale
- Help facilitate and manage any repairs, if necessary
- Help facilitate estate sales, donation, and cleaning
- Create a custom plan that feels comfortable for you

Let me take the stress out of selling. Contact me for a private conversation about assitance with a probate sale or any other real estate needs.

Laura Schwartz, Realtor®

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THE NEXT STEPS

We hope this guide has proved to be informative and helped you realize the benefits you will receive by taking a proactive approach to estate planning. However, this guide is simply an introduction to the field of estate planning. It does not constitute, nor should it be considered legal advice.

If you are ready to start the process of securing your family's legacy, then contact us today to schedule your strategy session, where we will learn about your individual goals, before constructing a plan that is tailored specifically to you.

BrigliaHundley P.C. is a forward-thinking law firm that relies upon our experienced attorneys to meet the legal needs of our clients in Virginia, Maryland, the District of Columbia and throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. We are a full-service, award-winning law firm with attorneys who have been named to Super Lawyers, listed in U.S. News and World Report's Best Lawyers in America, and achieved Martindale-Hubbell's highest "AV" rating.

We emphasize providing superior client service, pursuing innovative strategies, and meticulous preparation to ensure our clients receive the best possible outcome.

Our extensive practice areas include:

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- Appellate Litigation
- Business Litigation
- Corporate Law
- Criminal Law
- Eminent Domain
- Employment Law
- Estate Planning
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