

Estate Planning Overview

Estate planning is the process of drafting legal documents that set forth your detailed wishes for your assets and how they will be held and distributed after your passing. It is an important part of financial planning and can help to ensure that your assets are preserved and that your loved ones are taken care of in the future.

The Law Office of Christopher P. Cox, L.L.C. offers a comprehensive range of estate planning services to help you create a plan that meets your individual needs and goals. We regularly draft and advise clients on the following:

- Wills
- Trusts, including revocable living trusts and irrevocable trusts
- General Durable Powers of Attorney
- Durable Powers of Attorney for Healthcare and Healthcare Directives
- HIPAA Waivers
- Beneficiary and Warranty Deeds for real estate
- Structuring beneficiaries
- Payable on death (POD) and transfer on death (TOD) designations
- The funding of your Trust (e.g., retitling assets into your Trust)

Why is estate planning important?

Estate planning is important for a number of reasons:

- It ensures that your assets are preserved and distributed according to your wishes
- It allows you to appoint the people you want to be in charge of the handling and distribution of your assets after your passing
- It can help avoid Probate Court and the ridiculously high cost of your assets going through Probate Court.
- It can help minimize estate taxes
- It allows you to appoint a Guardian for any minor children that you may have.
- It allows you to financially provide and care for any minor children, and allows you to dictate when,

and under what terms, they receive any of your assets

How to get started with estate planning

If you are interested in getting started with estate planning, the first step is to consult with an experienced estate planning attorney. An attorney can help you to develop a plan that meets your individual needs and goals.

The Law Office of Christopher P. Cox, L.L.C. offers a free initial consultation to discuss your estate planning needs, get your questions answered, and to provide you with your options. We can help you to create a plan that protects your assets and provides for your loved ones in the future. Please contact our office at [314-727-0163](tel:314-727-0163) if you have any questions or if we can assist you in any way.





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