Elder Law Attorneys

Protecting Floridians and their Futures

Elder law attorneys are committed to protecting the autonomy, assets, and legal rights of Floridians as they navigate long-term care planning for their unique situation with comfort and security – whether it be aging, disability, or chronic illness.

PLANNING

A 2022 survey found that fewer than one-third of Floridians have made long-term care plans for themselves or a loved one. Elder law attorneys can help Floridians and their families protect their assets, create long-term care plans, and create estate plans to ensure the futures of their loved ones.

ADVOCACY

Elder law attorneys use their knowledge, expertise, and influence to counsel lawmakers and other decision-makers, ensuring that the best legislation and policies are in place to fund senior programs, give reasonable guardianship protections and processes, give aging and disabled adults the best quality of life, and protect them from exploitation.

PROTECTION

When a vulnerable client is at high risk of exploitation or is being actively exploited, Florida elder law attorneys can quickly identify this potential or actual exploitation and work to safeguard the client's safety, well-being, and assets from bad actors.

Learn more about retaining the services of an elder law attorney at **eldersection.org**

Did you know?

Florida has nearly 2,000 elder law attorneys dedicated to bettering the lives of the state's most vulnerable residents.



TERMS TO KNOW

Designation of health care surrogate: A document that identifies who makes your medical decisions if you are unable to make them yourself.

Living will: States your wishes with respect to life-prolonging measures at the end of life.

Durable power of attorney: A durable power of attorney is a written authorization to represent or act on another's behalf with respect to financial, business, or other legal affairs. The authority granted by this document survives the maker's incapacity.

Estate planning: The process of anticipating and arranging, during a person's life, for the management of that person's estate in the event the person becomes incapacitated and after death.

Exploitation: Illegal use of an elderly person or adult with a disability's money, property, or other resources for monetary or personal benefit.

Health care advance directives: Legal documents that go into effect should you be incapacitated and unable to speak or make choices for yourself. It helps others know what type of medical care you want. An advance directive also allows you to express your wishes related to end-of-life care.

Long-term care planning: Long-term care planning helps prepare elderly and vulnerable persons for financial freedom and autonomy through financial and estate planning and making choices about long-term care options.

Probate: A legal process that takes place after someone dies that includes proving in court that a deceased person's will is valid, identifying and inventorying the deceased person's property, having the property appraised, paying debts and taxes, and distributing the remaining property as the will directs.

Ward: A person who is under the protection of the court or a guardian.

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