

Fletcher Tilton^{PC}

Attorneys at law



FREDERICK M. MISILO, JR.
Practice Group Chair

ELDER LAW & SPECIAL NEEDS ATTORNEYS

Frederick M. Misilo, Jr.
Practice Group Chair

Richard C. Barry, Jr.

Lucille B. Brennan

Robert F. Dore, Jr.

Meredith H. Greene

Marisa W. Higgins

Mia H. Lahti

Michael T. Lahti

John J. McNicholas

Lauren E. Miller

Steven T. O'Neill

Mary F. Proulx

Theresa M. Varnet

ELDER LAW & SPECIAL NEEDS PRACTICE GROUP

The Elder Law and Special Needs Practice Group of Fletcher Tilton provides comprehensive legal services to older persons and families of individuals with special needs in a caring and concerned environment. Using an interdisciplinary approach, our attorneys draw upon their experience in the areas of estate and retirement planning, Medicaid and Medicare eligibility, long term care issues and financing to provide our clients with protection and peace of mind. Among the many services we offer are the following:

SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING

The Special Needs Planning Group provides legal counsel and support in creating a comprehensive plan for families with individuals who have special needs. These services include wills, trusts, health care proxies, powers of attorney, guardianships and other services.

SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST MANAGEMENT

We serve as trustee and as co-trustee of Special Needs Trusts for individuals with disabilities. Working closely with family members or other interested parties, our trust professionals actively manage trusts according to specific standards established for fiduciaries, while keeping in mind the extraordinary provisions that allow beneficiaries to receive supplemental payments from the trust without jeopardizing public or private benefits. Services include advocacy on behalf of beneficiaries, investing and reinvesting trust assets pursuant to individually focused investment strategies, collection of income, payment of beneficiary expenses, and the preparation of annual accountings and fiduciary income tax returns.

ESTATE PLANNING

We develop and prepare comprehensive estate plans which are consistent with our clients' long-term planning objectives. Our estate plans range from simple wills to the use of sophisticated trusts such as Grantor Retained Annuity Trusts, Grantor Retained Income Trusts, Charitable Lead and Charitable Remainder Trusts, and Qualified Personal Residence Trusts, to name just a few.

RETIREMENT & TAX PLANNING

Our attorneys counsel clients on how to preserve, protect and grow their assets so as to maximize the funds available to support their retirement plans. We also provide practical financial advice and assist clients in assessing the benefits of various types of insurance, including health, disability, and long-term care.

INCAPACITY PLANNING

Our attorneys provide practical advice on the need to plan for incapacity. We discuss the costs associated with the appointment of guardians and conservators and seek to avoid such appointments by executing a Durable Power of Attorney and Health Care Proxy. Our planning gives due consideration to the quality of life issues.

(continued on back)

**ELDER LAW & SPECIAL
NEEDS ATTORNEYS****Frederick M. Misilo, Jr.***Practice Group Chair*

Richard C. Barry, Jr.

Lucille B. Brennan

Robert F. Dore, Jr.

Meredith H. Greene

Marisa W. Higgins

Mia H. Lahti

Michael T. Lahti

John J. McNicholas

Lauren E. Miller

Steven T. O'Neill

Mary F. Proulx

Theresa M. Varnet

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

We help our clients to remain at home, as well as to secure nursing and personal care when needed. When necessary or desired, we assist in securing alternative living arrangements, such as assisted-living setting or a continuing care retirement community.

LONG TERM CARE PLANNING

We work closely with elders and their families to identify and meet their long-term health care needs while maintaining financial independence and achieving their final asset distribution goals. Our experienced attorneys also provide sophisticated and creative approaches to “crisis” planning and successfully navigate complicated Medicaid (“MassHealth”) applications through to completion.

MEDICAID (MASSHEALTH)

The Group provides practical advice and advocacy on MassHealth eligibility, including long term care and community benefits. We represent applicants at Administrative Hearings and Superior Court appeals.

SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW

We work as advocates for students with special needs and their families to ensure that each child receives a free, appropriate public education as required under state and federal law. Our representation extends to all stages of advocacy in the special education process including assessment, IEP development, implementation and placement. We assist our clients in mediation and in hearings before the Bureau of Special Education Appeals.

PROBATE PROCEEDINGS

Our attorneys handle many proceedings in the Massachusetts Probate and Family Courts relating to guardianship, conservatorship and medical decision-making matters.

RESPONSIVE SOLUTIONS

Two simple words that explain our commitment to you. Being responsive is a critical element in building a strong attorney-client relationship. Whether you are a new or existing client, we'll be quick to respond to your needs with the knowledge necessary to find solutions to your legal concerns.

Fletcher Tilton PC
Attorneys at law