

ELDER LAW PLANNING - WHAT WILL YOU DO?

We all know someone who is caring for an elderly or disabled parent. But what happens when that someone becomes YOU? *What will you do?* Will you be dutiful and move the parent in with you and your family? Or will a nursing home be a better alternative? Are there savings for long term care needs or will governmental assistance be needed? *What will you do?*

Most people have worked all their adult lives to live comfortably in their golden years. Many wish to pass on the fruits of their labor to children and grandchildren. But sometimes debilitating illness can prevent these goals from reaching reality. The average costs of long term care has skyrocketed over the last few years and the costs continue to rise. Without proper legal advice, a comfortable nest egg for retirement will be quickly depleted in a few months. We all have heard the stories from well-intentioned family and friends about how the government will take all your money or the family home before it will pay for nursing home care. This simply is not true. The laws have been designed to prevent an individual, especially one that is married, from being impoverished to qualify for governmental benefits.

If you or your parents need elder law planning. We can help. *What Can we do?* Through our practice of Elder Law, we assist families in dealing with issues of asset management, government benefits eligibility and estate planning.

We can explain how certain assets are exempt and not counted.

We can explain how you can legally transfer assets without violating the Medicaid rules.

We can explain how planning for incapacity now through durable powers of attorney, certain trusts and other strategies can ensure that your family will have peace of mind.

We can explain how certain trusts can provide supplemental benefits to a disabled loved one without jeopardizing existing government eligibility.

We can diffuse the confusion on maintaining your home and receiving Medicaid benefits.

We can determine whether you or loved one may qualify for any other benefits.