Estate Planning 101

Carby & Carby

Carby & Carby
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

THE PLANNING PROCESS

Everybody needs an estate plan, but it's often hard to know where to start.

We know that beginning your estate plan can be intimidating. Our process is designed to ensure your confidence in the planning process, each step of the way.

You can feel confident knowing that within a few weeks of meeting with us, your family wealth plan can be put into action, protecting your assets from risk, delay, conflict, and court costs.

Here's how it works:

Our Initial Meeting: The Family Wealth Planning Session

Our planning process begins with your Family Wealth Planning Session. This is your opportunity to get educated, informed, and fully empowered to make the right decisions for the people you love. This session also gives us the opportunity to meet each other and ensure that working together is a good fit. During your Family Wealth Planning Session, we will walk you through exactly what your loved ones would have to do and where your assets would go if something happened to you today. You will then be able to determine if there is anything about what would happen today that you would dislike, and then we can explore other options together.

If We Are a Good Fit ...

Assuming there is a good fit between you and us, we will design a custom plan that is right for your family. A custom plan allows us to focus on your specific needs, so YOU get to decide which plan best protects you and your family and cements the legacy you want to leave.

Once we determine your planning needs, we will then help you design a plan that will give you the peace of mind of knowing your family will be taken care of in the event the unthinkable happens. After designing your plan to your satisfaction, you will return to our office about a month later to sign your newly prepared estate plan. At this point, your family and your assets will be protected in case of your incapacity or death.

In Most Law Firms, The Relationship Ends There

We want the signing of your estate plan to be the beginning of our relationship with your family. This is where our law firm is very different. After you sign your estate plan, we don't simply send you on your way and wish you luck for the future. Instead, we create an electronic record of all your legal documents so you can easily access them anytime. We then schedule our next meeting with you.

At this meeting, one of the most important meetings of our process, we help you:

Ensure your assets are owned in the right way (you can have the best set of legal documents, but if your assets are not owned in the right way, it has all been a waste).

Make sure everyone you have named to take care of you, your children, and the money you are leaving behind, knows just what to do if something happens to you.

Capture and plan for your intangible and most valuable assets: your values, insights, stories, and experiences that neither you nor your loved ones would ever want to lose.

Then, We Still Aren't Finished!

We meet with you at least every three years to review your plan and make sure it stays up to date. We do this because we know that without regular reviews, the business of life will take over and the years will fly by. Often, your plan may not address recent changes in your life, such as the birth of a grandchild or a child's divorce.

AN ESTATE PLAN DESIGNED JUST FOR YOU

Estate planning at Carby & Carby is not "one size fits all" or "cookie cutter."

Your custom estate plan focuses on your specific needs. From simpler plans designed primarily for families with young children and not yet much in the way of financial wealth to more robust plans for well-established families concerned with matters of asset protection, preservation, and increased growth, we have you covered.

Helping You Throughout All Stages in Life

We represent all family types at various stages of life, including:

- Two-parent families or single parents wishing to provide for and protect their children and themselves.
- Unmarried couples who are either solidifying their relationship through proper planning or dissolving their relationship with the assistance of counsel.
- New grandparents seeking to provide for the family's newest generation.
- Blended families negotiating the challenges of creating new relationships with varying expectations.
- Families with children with special needs who are looking to ensure that those children will be taken care of and able to continue to receive government assistance.
- High-net-worth families seeking strategies for minimizing estate and income taxes.
- Estate executors and beneficiaries navigating the court process of probate administration.
- Family members or trustees carrying out the legacy left behind through trust administration.

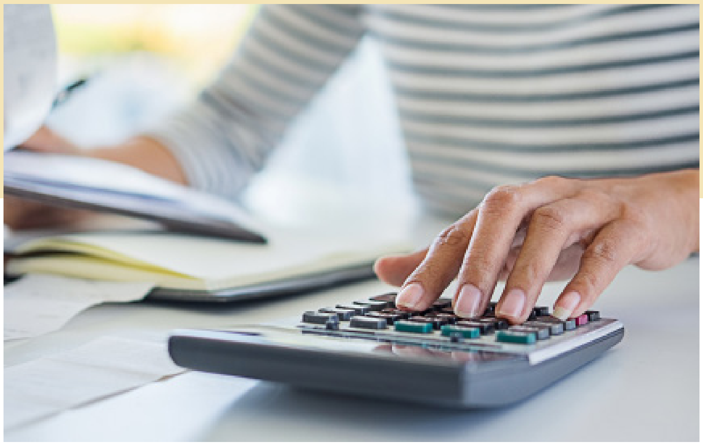
We Help You Ensure Your Plan is Current

Your plan needs to evolve with you as your life changes and as the laws change.

We have designed unique annual membership programs to ensure your plan continues to work throughout your lifetime, that your assets are always owned in the right way, and that you feel confident calling us with any related legal issue without worrying about receiving a bill in the mail for hourly fees.

Whether you participate in one of our membership programs or not, we keep all of our clients updated about changes in the law and issues that might affect your life. We often serve the whole family and multiple generations of the same family. From free estate checkups for elderly parents to basic planning documents for young adult children, become part of our client family and feel how much we care.

HOW MUCH IS ESTATE PLANNING?



Why Cost Matters but Not in the Way You Think

This is a good question that we want to answer for you as clearly as we can, given that there is not a “one-size-fits-all solution” for every family. If a lawyer tells you exactly what your comprehensive plan would cost via email or over the phone without a thorough discovery process, we recommend finding a different lawyer.

Families shop around based on price (because they don’t know any other way to shop for an estate plan) and they end up with a traditional plan, which is a set of documents that do not necessarily work when the family needs them.

Here Is What We Can Assure You

We will design and price an estate plan for you and your family at the intersection of affordability and effectiveness.

When we meet in person, we will review everything you own and discuss everyone you love, and you will understand exactly what would happen to everything you own and everyone you love in the event of your incapacity or death.

Plus, we will help ensure that no matter what happens, none of your hard-earned assets will be lost when something happens to you. Here is the most important part for you to know about this: you will be making informed, empowered decisions for the people you love, not just shopping around based on price.

We have priced our planning for you at the intersection of affordability and effectiveness. Depending on what you need, our fees range from around $2,000, for those not worried about keeping family out of probate court, up to $8,000 for an extensive plan that provides significant asset protection after death and maximum protection for your assets from inadvertent loss to taxes, bickering beneficiaries, or the court process.

If after reading this you are ready to make informed, empowered, educated decisions for the people you love (instead of just shopping around for the cheapest plan, which is unlikely to work when your family needs it), schedule an appointment with Carby & Carby today.

MORE THAN JUST YOUR MONEY

How We Guide You to Leave a Legacy That's About Much More Than Just Your Money.

After you are gone, your loved ones will miss you deeply. They will long for your words of counsel and concern. Hearing your voice again would be a tremendous gift. Through our unique legacy process, you can give your loved ones the most precious gift – a lasting expression of your love.

We believe estate planning is not just about transferring your financial assets and personal belongings. It's equally about capturing and transferring your valuable intangible gifts: who you are and what's important to you – your values, insights, stories, and experiences.

We Can Help You Capture These Precious Moments

We realized we would have to build this into our planning process and not make it just another thing you'll get done someday. That's why at Carby & Carby we make it part of our planning for every client to help you capture and pass on more than just your money: your intellectual, spiritual, and human assets. We help you capture who you are and what's important to you.

For more information about how we help you pass on your most valuable assets – your values, insights, stories, and experiences – to your loved ones, or about our resources for leaving your family with a true legacy, please contact us.

Schedule your appointment with Carby & Carby today and we'll discuss together exactly how we build this into our planning process designed exactly for people like you who want to leave a real legacy.

CARBY & CARBY
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

513 State St. • Natchez, MS 39120
www.carbylaw.com
601-445-5011