

## WILLS AND TRUSTS

### THE WILL

A will is a great tool for making sure that your property goes where you want after you die. It is a necessary part of your estate planning which ensures that your property goes to the people you intend, rather than just hoping for the best. Leaving it to chance, and a judge, may not allow everything to turn out the way you envision. The problem is that a will is limited, as it only states where your assets go after you die, and does nothing while you are alive. Therefore, a will might not meet your needs, and we can help you find out.

### THE TRUST

A trust allows control and protection of your assets both during your life and after your death. It allows you to make plans in case you are temporarily or permanently disabled.

Trusts come in a number of varieties that can accomplish a number of goals. A trust can help your family avoid probate. It can assist in tax issues. It can keep assets insulated from certain types of creditors. It can help control your business, your investments and your funds, even after your death or disability. We will explain all the flexibility and the options that are available to you, and customize it to your needs.

### WHY NOT GET IT OFF THE INTERNET?

All you get off the internet is a form that you fill in yourself, or a faceless person generating a document for you based on a few questions. You will get few explanations, no guidance, and most importantly no way for you to be sure that the documents will be effective. We will explain it, customize it and make sure it complies with the most current laws. Most importantly, we are here to make changes when the law changes, or your mind changes. The internet can give you a piece of paper; we can give you peace of mind.

## OUR PRACTICE AREAS

- ESTATE PLANNING
- PROBATE AND ESTATE ADMINISTRATION
- GUARDIANSHIPS
- REAL ESTATE
- CORPORATE AND SMALL BUSINESS
- PERSONAL INJURY
- WORKER'S COMPENSATION
- TRAFFIC TICKETS



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LUCAS + LAW



WILLS, TRUSTS

POWERS OF  
ATTORNEY

PROBATE AND  
GUARDIANSHIPS

TRUST  
ADMINISTRATION

## PROTECTING ASSETS

It is a myth that only the rich have estates. If you own any property, or have a little money in the bank, have a job, or a retirement account, you have an estate. What happens to it when you are gone, disabled or just unable to manage your affairs is up to you. We are here to make sure that your wishes legally become your commands.

## SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS TAILORED TO MEET YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS

The attorneys of Lucas Law practice in many areas of law. We use our knowledge and experience to bring together a plan that not only says who gets your assets when you die, but protects the assets during your life. Whether your estate is large or small, we will craft an estate plan unique to you.

## OUR APPROACH

We listen. We ask questions. We keep you involved in every step of the process.

We know that cookie-cutter answers are available on the internet, and we don't believe in them. Every client's matter is approached differently and our efforts are tailored to suit that client's needs. That starts with listening.

As a client you will not just be another file. You'll be a person who deserves the best available personal service and attention to your plan.

## POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Powers of attorney are documents that protect you in case of emergency. Insurance covers costs, but what if you cannot deposit or write the checks, make the calls, or make decisions?

A power of attorney for healthcare allows you to choose who can speak for you when you are too sick or injured to speak for yourself. It can educate your physicians on your wishes as to the way you want to be treated. Without it, at the moment you might be the most helpless, your treatment decisions may come down to a guess. Worse, a loved one may be asked to make decisions that they emotionally cannot make.

A power of attorney for property can allow a trusted family member or friend to act on your behalf regarding your assets, when you would need to act but cannot. They can get money from the bank, pay your taxes, or work with a creditor on your behalf, when you are too sick or injured to act for yourself.

## PROBATE AND GUARDIANSHIPS

Not only do we set up an estate plan but we can assist your family through closing your estate after your death. Whether from a will or a trust, in or out of court, we will help your family. Ideally, we will set up your estate to avoid the hassle of probate, which makes your personal finances a matter of public record that is subject to a judge's decisions. Probate is a lengthy and sometimes difficult process and, if unavoidable, we will try to make it as simple as possible.

If you have a disabled person in your life, we can help protect them. We have represented guardians throughout the Chicagoland area, in both trials and uncontested matters.

## OUR HISTORY

Lucas Law started in 1984 in Niles, Illinois with Joseph Lucas helping anyone he could, however they needed his help.

In the 90's, the firm grew and moved to Barrington. In 2016, Lucas Law merged with the Law Offices of Bonnie Spaccarelli Hannon, P.C. and in 2017 the firm added another office in Schaumburg. Lucas Law merged again with the Law Office of Carol J. Grier LTD in 2019. Since then, Lucas Law has added experienced and talented attorneys, paralegals, and staff, practicing in the areas of real estate, estate planning and probate, wills and living trusts, business law, personal injury and accidents.

Today the practice serves clients from all over the Chicago area, primarily serving Lake County, Cook County, McHenry County, Kane County and DuPage County.

Call or visit our website today to set up a consultation. We look forward to helping you find the right solution to fit your situation.



THE ESTATE PLANNING TEAM