

Preserving and increasing wealth requires strategy, planning and artful execution. The estate planning attorneys at Odin, Feldman & Pittleman collaborate with clients to structure their affairs in a way that helps them to maximize wealth and protect their assets for the future.

In addition to leveraging their extensive experience and legal knowledge to help clients preserve and transfer their wealth to future generations, our estate planning attorneys apply their in-depth financial and business insights to tailor their advice and planning. Indeed, most of the group's attorneys are also CPAs or hold graduate degrees in taxation.

We work with owners of closely held businesses, corporate executives, professionals, and non-profit organizations to draft trusts and wills, establish charitable giving programs, and structure business entities to maximize income tax benefits and reduce estate and gift tax liabilities. We provide extensive advice on the use and administration of trusts, estates and investment vehicles, and methods to reduce the liability of fiduciaries.

We also represent fiduciaries in the administration of estates and trusts and litigate matters involving estates and trusts.

AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

The Estate Planning group provides personalized legal services and advice regarding:

Business succession planning.

Whether through sale, ownership transfer, retirement, or liquidation, our estate planning attorneys can help you to manage and navigate successfully when it's time to exit your business. Our goal is to help each business client build and implement a custom, business succession plan that meets each client's unique individual goals and objectives.

Charitable planning techniques.

Our attorneys can assist you in applying charitable planning techniques that deliver immediate and long-term tax benefits while directing vital financial resources to those who need it most. Whether through lifetime or testamentary donor advised funds (DAFs), private foundations, charitable remainder trusts (CRTs), charitable lead trusts (CLTs), private endowments, or scholarship funds, we help clients to select and implement the tools that best meet their charitable goals.

ESTATE PLANNING

Family partnerships and LLCs.

The proper business entity formation and operation can protect assets from creditors and yield significant tax savings for the business owners and their families. It can also raise questions and scrutiny from the Internal Revenue Service. Odin, Feldman & Pittleman's estate planning attorneys remain abreast of the latest IRS guidelines and rulemaking, and use creativity and experience to ensure we represent our clients effectively and responsibly.

Lifetime gifting strategies.

Making financial gifts over the span of one's lifetime can be a great tool in reducing estate taxes. Our estate planning attorneys put their financial knowledge and expertise to work for clients, helping them to preserve and transfer wealth while minimizing gift taxes over their lifetimes.

Medical directives.

How you spend your latter years has everything to do with how well you prepare today. Our attorneys can help you plan for the unexpected by ensuring your wishes are clearly documented within your estate plan. Should you become incapacitated, your loved ones will have the tools and insights they need to make decisions on your behalf and in your best interests.

Powers of attorney.

If you ever are unable to act in your own behalf, a durable power of attorney can provide clients with the assurance and confirmation that their affairs will be managed in accordance with their wishes.

Trusts of all types.

Establishing a trust helps clients to protect their estate by managing tax liability, sheltering certain property and avoiding probate court. Let us help you determine the best type of trust for your needs.

Wills.

A will perhaps is the most basic of estate planning tools. From drafting and memorializing your final wishes to helping you and your family avoid the pain of contentious challenges after your passing, the OF&P estate planning attorneys have the knowledge, experience and compassion to preserve your legacy and your family's future well-being.

Representative Matters.

Represented family-owned business in keeping the family together after the founders' divorce and building an effective estate plan to pass ownership to the next generation with minimal tax consequences.

Represented trustees of various trusts to reform estate planning documents in order to minimize adverse estate and gift tax effects created by the founder's pre-death planning efforts.

Created complex estate planning structures utilizing limited liability companies and irrevocable trusts to transfer wealth to the next generation with minimal income and estate and gift tax consequences, while saving the families significant estate tax following the founders' deaths.

Built complex management succession plans for closely held businesses that did not want to be sold following the founders' deaths, and integrated the plans into the estate planning documents of the founders.

Structured the buy-out of inactive family members by active members in closely held businesses, where the active family members wanted control of the businesses, but the inactive family members wanted to be treated fairly and equitably.