

TEAM RUSSO *In Action for You*

ELDER LAW

- Asset Protection
- Medicaid
- Nursing Homes
- Health Care Directives
- Long Term Care Planning
- Veterans Benefits

SPECIAL NEEDS

- Special Needs Trusts
- Guardianships
- Government Benefits
- Pooled Trusts
- Supplemental Security Income
- Social Security/Disability

ESTATE PLANNING

- Wills
- Living Trusts
- Family Protection Trusts
- Durable Powers of Attorney
- Estate Tax Planning
- Retirement Planning

TRUSTS AND ESTATES

- Probate
- Estate and Gift Taxes
- Administration
- Litigation

REAL ESTATE

- Sale and Purchase of Residences

RUSSO LAW GROUP, P.C. has earned the title “*Long Island’s Signature Elder Law, Special Needs & Estate Planning Law Firm*” following more than thirty years of local and national advocacy for seniors, baby boomers and their families.

“*Team Russo – In Action for You*” Team Russo is a staff of distinguished, experienced and compassionate attorneys with the knowledge & experience to address any concerns you may have, implement a plan tailored to your needs and provide you with Peace of Mind.

The law firm continues to implement new programs of awareness and action to meet the growing needs of its clientele. We have offices in Nassau & Suffolk Counties as well as New York City to serve your needs throughout all of New York.

Our genuine concern is demonstrated by commitment and ongoing involvement in community-sponsored programs, including among others:

- Alzheimer’s Disease Resource Center
- Arthritis Foundation, Long Island Chapter
- Cerebral Palsy of Nassau County
- The Theresa Foundation

THE RUSSO COMMITMENT:

“We promise to be your family lawyer, no matter what the legal issue. We promise to be your lawyer for life.”

THIS IS OUR COMMITMENT.
OUR EXPERIENCE IS YOUR PROTECTION.

RUSSO LAW GROUP, P.C.

Estate Planning, Elder Law & Special Needs

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GUARDIANSHIP

*Peace of Mind Through
Thoughtful Planning*

RUSSO LAW GROUP, P.C.

Estate Planning, Elder Law & Special Needs



For those individuals who do not have advance directives, the inability to make personal and financial decisions can result in the need for a COURT-APPOINTED guardian.

Financial Decisions

A guardian can make a broad range of financial decisions on behalf of an incapacitated person. The guardian is usually a family member or close friend, who can be given the power to:

- Collect and invest the person's assets
- Expend assets and income on any of the person's needs
- Sell the person's residence
- Protect the person's assets in such a way as to maximize government benefits (such as SSI and Medicaid)
- Make gifts of the person's assets to his or her loved ones



How To Become a Guardian

Your attorney petitions the appropriate court and asks that the court appoint you (or, if you wish, someone else) as guardian. The court decides whether or not a guardian is needed, who should be appointed, and what financial and/or personal decision making powers the guardian should have. Once appointed and commissioned, the guardian can begin to act on behalf of the incapacitated person.

Personal Decisions

A guardian can also be authorized to make important personal decisions for the incapacitated person regarding routine and major medical and dental treatment; living arrangements; educational and training opportunities; and the application for government benefits including SSI and Medicaid.

Special Needs Trusts

A guardian can set up a Special Needs Trust which will allow a trustee to hold the person's assets for his or her benefit without compromising Medicaid eligibility. This is a vital planning tool for all incapacitated persons under age 65 who have assets.

Benefits Of Guardianship

- Protection of assets from loss or waste
- Access to money to make necessary expenditures
- Investment of the assets according to a prudent investment plan
- Medicaid planning
- Special Needs Trusts
- Sale of residence
- Living arrangements
- Health care decisions
- Tax and estate planning
- Creation of Living Trusts

