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Adoption

Adoption is one of the few cases in which all parties win. The child who is adopted gets a new set of loving and caring parents. The adopting parents gain a child when, in a lot of cases, that has otherwise been impossible. The natural parents of the child also win in that due to circumstances beyond their control, they were unable to provide for the child, they are relieved of that burden and can rest assured that the court will do everything possible to make sure that the child receives the love, care and support that it needs.

Automobile Accidents

Accidents occur. Unfortunately, all too frequently and never at a convenient time. You may be injured as a result of an accident and not even discover your injuries until a few days later. On the other hand, your injuries may be immediate which calls for immediate treatment or hospitalization. Even though Tennessee law requires it, many people do not carry insurance. In that situation, you are left with no choice but to make a claim to your own insurance carrier under the uninsured motorist coverage of your policy, or to attempt to collect directly for yourself against the party causing the accident.

In an accident situation you should, if possible, immediately get the name, address and telephone number(s) of all parties to the accident and witnesses thereto. You should also collect additional information, i.e., license number of vehicles involved and, if practical and available to you, take photographs of the accident scene, vehicle damage, and any injuries you or your passenger(s) may have sustained. Each party involved in an accident is entitled to the name, address and insurance information of the other parties. You should always contact the police so that an accident report can be made unless the accident occurs on private property such as a parking lot where the police department is not required to make such a report. Even so, any security officer of that area should be notified.

Your major concern after an accident is the physical recovery of yourself and any passenger(s) or other person(s) involved in the accident. Secondly, the law entitles you to compensation for medical bills, lost wages, and for the pain of your injuries. Unfortunately, insurance companies are interested in their bottom line and paying out as little as possible. It is the job of the insurance adjuster, the company's trained representative, to accomplish just that. You should consider retaining an attorney to deal with the insurance company, and have someone working for you who is trained in the law.

Many attorneys will accept the first offer made by an insurance company. We do not do that. We review with you each

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offer and counter-offer until your claim is resolved at a point where you are satisfied that you have been made a whole as a result of the accident. If no fair offer is made, we will file a suit for you.

We look forward to receiving your call and talking with you and assisting you in regard to any accident in which you have been involved.

Business Law

This firm has assisted many businesses, both small and large, with preparing contracts, interpretation contracts in which they are involved, breach of contracts, and the enforcement of contracts. This firm has a broad background of experience in business, banking and sales to assist it in reaching the correct solution for your particular problem.

Child Support

Child Support is an area of the law that the courts are quite concerned with and have, over the years, evolved a calculation for the purpose of assuring that the child receives the necessary financial support it needs in accordance with the incomes of both parents. There is an on-line site at www.courtsonline.com where a person can review the child support guidelines and put in the required information in order to make a calculation of child support. Child support is a complicated matter and depends not only upon the information going into the child support guideline formula for financial support but also upon many other considerations. The court is most concerned with the best interest of the child and that the child has opportunity for visitation with the non-custodial parent on a regular basis so that that child will know and have a strong relationship with both parents.

Conservatorships

Conservatorships are for the benefit of a person who can no longer manage their own affairs due to advanced age, illness or other circumstances beyond the control of the adult. Upon petition, the court can establish a conservatorship for the use and benefit of the party. The conservator of the conservatorship must report to the court each year and account for all income and expenditures of the conservatorship in accordance with court orders. This is used to conserve for the benefit of the adult under the conservatorship their assets for their own use so that they may not be taken advantage of by other parties.

Construction/Contract Law

Many times when making an addition to your home or business, your idea of what is to be done and that of the builder or contractor are two entirely different things and the end product results in dissatisfaction by both parties. This firm has represented contractors as well as homeowners in determining what has actually been contracted for and how to have the matter resolved. Of course, the best method of avoiding litigation in construction and contract law is to retain your attorney on the front end, thus making sure that the contract and/or construction project is fully described and documented with all schedules and required information for both parties to know exactly what they are bargaining for and are to receive. This firm can assist you in construction and contract law at almost any stage in which you find yourself, whether you are just beginning or at the end of a contract.

Custody

Child Custody is one of the most difficult issues of the law in that the Court is again trying to determine what is in the best interest of the child and not that of either parent. Many, many factors go into the Court's making that decision if it cannot be agreed upon between the parents. This type of litigation is lengthy, costly and usually involves a guardian ad litem (court-appointed attorney) to represent the child. The dynamics of the child's living conditions, the school he/she is attending, church affiliation and other family members in his/her paternal and maternal family support systems. This area of the law is extremely emotional and you will need a dedicated attorney who is likewise working for the best interest of the child to assist you in any custody matter.

Divorce

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Divorce is also a very traumatic and emotional time. Divorce should be attempted only when all other efforts of reconciliation, marriage counseling and sometimes medical assistance has been sought. A divorce can be relatively simple or extremely complicated. It can occur in as little as 61 days from the time of filing to the entry of the final decree or it can last years. The cost of a divorce can vary from \$2,000.00 to \$20,000.00 depending on the amount of time that it takes to reach a marital dissolution agreement between the parties, a permanent parenting plan concerning the children, and the division of property and debt as required by the laws of the State of Tennessee. Do-it-yourself divorces are a nightmare to the courts and seldom save any cost. A caring and concerned lawyer can guide you through the process with as minimal a disruption to your life as possible while securing for you all that you are entitled to under the law.

Family Law

Family Law is a broad topic that covers [adoption](#), [child support](#), [custody](#), and [divorce](#).

Formation & Structure of Corporations, LLCs & Partnerships

Formation of a business entity other than a person doing business as some company name falls into three (3) categories, i.e., corporations, limited liability companies and partnerships.

Corporations are an entity recognized by the State of Tennessee and all other states that can act as a person in and of itself by and through its officers and pays taxes and carries on a business in its own name. It has stockholders, a board of directors and can grow to any size.

A **limited liability company (LLC)** is a corporation which functions much like a partnership but affords limited liability to its owners from third parties with which the LLC may have dealt. This is probably the most popular form of corporate entity at this time.

Many people are in **Partnerships** which are unwritten. Never having been reduced to writing, they invariably lead to a problem and the division of losses as well as profits need to be addressed in any partnership agreement. Partnerships have some positive attributes, but likewise have many problems associated with that form of entity.

Our firm can assist you in determining which form or entity you should take for your business.

Guardianships

Guardianships are for minors who, under the law, cannot own property and therefore, the court appoints a guardian to manage the funds of the guardianship for the use and benefit of the minor. The guardian has to report annually to the court with a full accounting of all funds that came through their hands and comply with the orders of the court and the goal of the guardianship to manage those funds to the best interest of the child.

Juvenile Law

Juvenile Law in the State of Tennessee is, for the most part, governed by the Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County. This firm has years of experience in dealing with matters in Juvenile Court. It is imperative to have representation in that court because of the fact that that record, though not available to the general public, can set a pattern with the juvenile. It is imperative that any experience with Juvenile Court be one that allows the child to grow from the experience and to be re-directed from those events and occurrences which brought him/her into the juvenile system.

Litigation

Litigation is a broad term that covers lawsuits of all types, whether it be over property lines, ownership of personalty or real estate, recovery of property, recovery of rents due, or defense of an action filed by a landlord for rents which have previously been paid. In other words, litigation is a broad word used to cover any type of court action.

Mediation

Mr. Beasley is a **Rule 31 Mediator** and would be happy to assist you and your opposing party to attempt to work out a settlement between you of the issues at hand. Mediation is an effective and quick method of reaching a conclusion of a matter while you still have some control over it. Many times such mediation develops new methods by which the matter can be settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

Personal Injury

A **Personal Injury** lawsuit involves an injury that you have received as a result of the negligence or wrongdoing of another party which inflicts some sort of bodily pain or injury of some physical nature to you. In some cases, this likewise covers mental anguish and subsequent related problems that their actions may have caused. Fright and shock, if proven, can compensate one for injuries observed to a family member or loved one. Personal injuries can occur in another person's home or on their property when that person knew or failed to advise you of certain known problems such as a loose step or landing wherein, having not been notified of the defect or problem, you slip and fall.

Probate

Probate is the broad term for any matters handled by the Probate Court, such as [wills](#), estates, [trusts](#), [guardianship](#) and [conservatorships](#), as well as name changes that may be required as a result of an error in a birth certificate or even through family usage of a different name for a number of years. This firm handles estates wherein proper notice is given to all of the parties who are beneficiaries of an estate, notice given to the creditors, and the estate administered in accordance with the laws of the State of Tennessee and the will or laws of intestacy which may govern that particular estate. This process makes sure that all creditors are notified, that all beneficiaries are notified and that the full administration of the estate is accomplished so that everyone entitled to receive under the will or estate receives their share.

Wills & Trusts

Wills are those written documents we prepare for or on behalf of or by an individual for the completion of his/her business after he/she passes, setting forth who is to receive what assets of the estate. There are specific requirements for a will to be valid in the State of Tennessee, as in other states, and a review of your will should be done no less frequently than every year or two and any time that there is a change in the family situation or increase in the net worth of the party.

Trusts, on the other hand, are documents we prepare that pass title to property to a trustee, who manages the property in accordance with the terms of the trust document and for the benefit of a third party (spouse/children). Some trusts allow for the removal of assets from the estate to reduce the taxable impact of death on the estate while accomplishing the goals and objectives of the party drawing the trust.

Workers Compensation

Workers Compensation is a highly technical area of the law that protects employees of a company, provides benefits to them if they are injured and while they are recovering, a source of income and subsequently, if there is permanent injury involved, compensation for such injury. This firm can assist you in making sure that you receive all of the benefits to which you are entitled and all of the medical needs brought on by the injury which you received on the job.

Wrongful Death

The most serious type of lawsuit is a **Wrongful Death** action wherein a member of your family or a loved one is killed as a result of the wrongful act of another person, whether it be in an automobile accident or in some other negligent which resulted in the death of a person. Such lawsuits are very stressful and emotional and require attorneys who understand the emotional impact upon a family.

If your question is not covered here, please [contact us](#) for more information.

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