



The State Bar  
*of California*

## LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
415-538-2120

### Need a Certified Specialist?

Use our certified specialist search tool:  
[www.calbar.ca.gov/attorneysearch](http://www.calbar.ca.gov/attorneysearch)

## LEGAL SPECIALIZATION



What can a  
Estate Planning, Trust  
& Probate Law  
Certified Specialist  
do for you?

[calbar.ca.gov/legalspec](http://calbar.ca.gov/legalspec)  
Phone: 415-538-2120



Whether your situation is simple or complex, you should consider hiring an attorney who specializes in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law. Certified legal specialists are committed to maintaining their proficiency through ongoing practice and continuing education.

## Why does the State Bar certify legal specialists?



To help the public identify attorneys who have demonstrated proficiency in specialized fields of law.



To encourage the maintenance and improvement of attorney competence in specialized fields of law.

## What does it mean when an attorney is a certified specialist?

A certified specialist is more than just an attorney who practices in a particular area of law. A California attorney who is certified by the State Bar as an Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law specialist must have:

- ✓ Passed a written examination in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law;
- ✓ Demonstrated extensive and varied experience in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law;
- ✓ Completed additional and ongoing education requirements; and
- ✓ Been favorably evaluated by other attorneys and judges familiar with their work.

What you do now affects your rights. **Consult a certified specialist as soon as possible.**

## What can an Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law certified specialist do for you?

Estate planning involved more than drafting a will – it requires legal knowledge, tax awareness, and careful planning. An Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law certified specialist can:

- ✓ Help you create and update your estate plan through wills and trusts;
- ✓ Minimize potential taxes on your estate, gifts, and income;
- ✓ Guide you through probate, trust administration, or court proceedings for conservatorship and guardianships; and
- ✓ Assist with resolving disputing involving estates and trusts.

Certified does not mean it will cost you more – each attorney sets their own fees based on your specific needs.

**Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law is complex and constantly changing**—certified specialists meet higher standards to stay current with the law and best practices.



## LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

### In what fields of law are attorneys certified by the State Bar?

- ✓ Admiralty & Maritime Law
- ✓ Appellate Law
- ✓ Bankruptcy Law
- ✓ Criminal Law
- ✓ Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law
- ✓ Family Law
- ✓ Franchise & Distribution Law
- ✓ Immigration & Nationality Law
- ✓ Legal Malpractice Law
- ✓ Taxation Law
- ✓ Workers' Compensation Law

### How can I find a Certified Specialist?

To find a certified specialist, please visit the Attorney Search webpage, select the Certified Specialists link, and use the drop down to search by certified legal specialty: [www.calbar.ca.gov/attorneysearch](http://www.calbar.ca.gov/attorneysearch)

### Contact:

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