



Just Released!

The Peak of Planning: Special Needs Trusts
eBook

written by Tresi Weeks

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A complimentary eBook to walk you through the basics of special needs trusts

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Upcoming Events

♦ **October 17th - Developing a Road Map to the Future**

Join Tresi Weeks, Debbie Wilkes, Macy Melton and Matt Adamczyk for a 1/2 day interactive workshop and learn to use a person-centered approach to best plan for your special needs child. The morning session is for parents age 49 and younger and the afternoon session is for parents age 50+. [Click here](#) to register now.

♦ **October 18th - Discipleship University - Special Needs Planning**

Tresi Weeks will be discussing Guardianship and Guardianship Alternatives. This presentation will be from 5:30pm - 7:00pm at First Baptist Church Dallas, Criswell Center, Room 422, 1707 San Jacinto Street, Dallas 75201. [Click here](#) to register now.

♦ **October 29th - Lunch & Learn: Family Legal Documents 101 at the Weeks Law Firm**

Join the Weeks Law firm for a free workshop to learn what legal documents you need to protect your family. [Click here](#) to register now.

Don't Let Your Questions Haunt You!

A Complimentary eBook to Walk You Through the Basics of Special Needs Trusts



As the parent of a child with special needs, there is so much that you simply cannot plan for; but you want to know that your child is going to have all the resources needed for his or her lifetime. The good news: there are solid solutions to achieve that important goal with the help of a great plan. The icing on the cake to a great plan? Peace of mind. I know this, because I've helped parents like you get there. One of the primary legal tools utilized in estate planning for families with a special needs child is the Special Needs Trust.

If you've wondered what this is all about, or even been a bit overwhelmed at the concept – I understand. That is why I developed a resource to walk you through the basics of special needs planning. I wrote this eBook to you. In other words, this isn't meant to be a dry, impersonal explanation in the form of clinical definitions – it's meant to be a relatable, understandable guide to the basics of how legal planning can help tackle some of your greatest concerns, questions and hopes when it comes to planning for your child's future. [Click here to read more.](#)

Fall Advocacy Update: Public School Disability Rights

As of September 1st, some new state laws have taken effect – 678 to be exact. The 84th Session of the Texas Legislature tackled a myriad of issues. For your advocacy update, there are four laws to highlight:

1. [Physical Education for All](#) H.B. No. 440

This new law requires schools districts to offer physical education to all students, at every level of physical and mental ability.

2. [ARD Committee Meetings](#) S.B. No. 1259

This new law amends Section 29 of the Education Code with new paperwork requirements for admission, review and dismissal meetings (ARD).

3. [Expulsion & Disability](#) S.B. No. 107

This new law takes the edge off the “zero tolerance” policy for student discipline, requiring a procedural process of sorts before expelling any student.

4. [Truancy No Longer Criminal](#) H.B. No. 2398

More than a simple amendment, this new law has made what was formerly a criminal offense, now a civil matter. Concerns that truancy laws went too far – especially regarding the potential for a criminal record – caused legislators to enact the current law.

Read full article along with links to full text of each law [here](#).

The Not-So-Odd Couple:

529 Savings Accounts & Your Estate Plan

Whether you have one child, or seven children, you’ve likely thought about that future day when the ever-rising college tuition bills will come knocking at your door. Maybe that day began for you last month. There are a lot of eager high school graduates readying for their first college semester to begin.

Having a 529 Plan in place is a great start – in fact, you’re in the minority if you’ve taken that initiative.

Nonetheless, if you have not factored your 529 Plan into your estate planning, you are missing a crucial step in ensuring the proper execution of your goals. **Click [here](#) to read the full article.**



The Do's & Don'ts of Financial Planning for Special Needs Families

DO make sure a Special Needs Trust is established. This step is vital to ensuring a child with special needs is not disqualified from public benefits that will otherwise be unaffordable, rapidly draining any funds to the child's name and thereby leaving no supplemental funding to increase quality of life.

DO communicate with friends and family about the existence of a Special Needs Trust, and the importance that any funds gifted to the special needs child **MUST** be gifted directly to the Trust, **NOT** the child.

Click [here](#) for full article

Highlights

◆ September 3rd - The Weeks Law Firm Ribbon Cutting

The Plano Chamber of Commerce conducted the official ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the new office of the Weeks Law Firm!

◆ September 14th - City of Plano Parent Education Seminar

Tresi held a workshop for parents with Special Needs children discussing guardianship and alternatives to guardianship.

◆ September 28th - Tresie toured the Coventry Reserve

Darlene Blakey, executive director and co-founder showed Tresie the unique facility that provides a place for special needs adults to learn new skills in a safe and cheerful environment. **Click [here](#) to go to their website.**





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