

Clients From All Walks of Life Turn to Attorney Patricia Ferrari for Help in Designing a Plan to Protect Assets

By Marcy Sanford

As I was walking into Attorney Patricia Ferrari's office, her client was thanking her profusely and telling her how impressed and thankful she was for the personal attention and help that Patricia was giving her. With more than 30 years as an attorney and more than 15 years in private practice, Patricia Ferrari has a long list of clients who are thankful for her help in protecting and preserving their assets. A little more than a year ago, Patricia opened a new office at the Oakstead Professional Center on State Road 54 so she can better serve clients in this area.

"I worked as in-house legal counsel for several different insurance companies for part of my career, but I missed my private practice and went back to that in 2007. I enjoy the personal connection you get when you

help people one-on-one. Whatever your financial situation is, you want to be sure that you have a plan in place to protect your assets as you get older and ensure your wishes are followed if something happens to you. Business owners, especially, need to have a plan in place to protect their assets in the event of a lawsuit."

Patricia's focus is on designing asset protection plans to meet her clients' unique needs and individual goals. Everyone from business owners to retirees, young families to working professionals can benefit from an asset protection plan.

Business Owners: If you are a business owner, you know that insurance does not cover all the risks involved in



Attorney
Patricia Ferrari



running a business. There are dozens of different structures and methods that can be used to protect your assets such as Limited Liability Companies, Limited Liability Partnerships, Family Limited

Partnerships, Corporations, International Asset Protection Trusts, and Irrevocable Domestic Trusts.

Patricia has more than 25 years of experience in assisting business clients

with asset protection. She makes sure her clients understand all of the options and works with her clients to design an asset protection plan that meets their businesses' needs.

"Many times insurance does not cover all the liability exposures that businesses face," says Patricia. "I can help business owners navigate and understand Florida laws to make sure their business is safe."

Families: If you have children, you need to have a plan in place in case something happens to you or your spouse. At the very least, you should have a will naming the person who will be the guardian for your children.

"Without a will, the court appoints a person," says Patricia. "When the court is involved, the selection process can be lengthy and expensive and take an emotional toll on your children."

Sometimes the person who would be best suited for raising your child is not the best person to also handle the finances. Patricia says that with a will you can name a person as guardian of the children and another person as guardian of the children's property.

Additionally, if you have a child with special needs, a Special Needs Trust will allow you to protect the financial interests of your child by allowing parents or caregivers to access money now to

care for the child without affecting the child's eligibility for Medicaid or other governmental benefits in the future.

Retirees: If you are nearing retirement or retired, you want to make sure that you have enough money to live comfortably. You also don't want to get in a situation where your assets are eaten up by long-term care needs. You want to make sure that in the event of incapacity, your loved ones do not incur the expense and time-consuming process of having the courts establish a guardianship. Finally, no matter what your income level, you want to protect your estate and loved ones from the time-consuming and expensive costs of probate. There are many options available to achieve all of these goals, including but not limited to the use of an Enhanced Life Estate or "Lady Bird" Deed, Revocable Trust, Marital Deduction Trust, Durable Power of Attorney, Health Care Surrogate Power of Attorney, Miller Trust, and various other ways to maximize and protect your assets. Patricia makes sure her clients understand all of the options available and designs a plan that meets their unique and individual needs.

Patricia Ferrari is a resident of Land O' Lakes. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois and The John Marshall Law School in Chicago. She

has been a member of The Florida Bar since 1982, is a member of the Elder Law Section of the Florida Bar, and a member of the Central Pasco Chamber of Commerce.

Call Attorney Patricia Ferrari today to find out how she can help secure your family's future. Her

office is located at 19439 Shumard Oak Drive, Suite 102, at the Oakstead Professional Center on SR 54 in Land O' Lakes.

For more information about her practice and services she offers, visit www.PatriciaFerrariLaw.com or call (813) 597-8348.

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