# **O'DONNELL & ASSOCIATES**

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Matthew O'Donnell, Esq. is certified by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization as a Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate law.

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All of us at O'Donnell & Associates are committed to giving our clients peace of mind by providing comprehensive estate planning solutions and services.

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We are happy to answer your questions. Call 650/853-7183

### WHAT CAN A CERTIFIED ESTATE PLANNING, TRUST AND PROBATE LAW SPECIALIST DO FOR YOU?

Whether your situation is simple or complex, you should consider hiring an attorney who specializes in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law, and who is committed through certification to maintain proficiency through continual practice and continuing education.

## Why does the California 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.

Estate planning, trust and probate law is complex and constantly changing. A certified specialist stays current with the law.

### What does it mean when an attorney is designated a "Certified Specialist?"

A California attorney who is certified by the State Bar as an Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law specialist must have:

- Studied the changes in estate, trust and probate Law
- Passed a written examination in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law;
- Demonstrated a high level of experience in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law;
- Fulfilled ongoing higher educational requirements;
- Been favorably evaluated by other attorneys and judges familiar with his or her work.

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

- Work with you to create and implement your estate plan by preparing wills and trusts and associated documents;
- Help you minimize death, gift and Income taxes in connection with your estate plan;
- When the time comes, assist with probate, trust, conservatorship and guardianship proceedings and disputes.

Every attorney sets their own fees based on the complexity of each case...

Using a Certified Specialist does not necessarily mean that it will cost you more money...

Using a Certified Specialist means that you will be working with an expert in his field, dedicated to helping you achieve your goals.