

2/17/2022: STATEWIDE Attorney List – Special Needs Trusts, Interdiction, Tutorship, Guardianship, and less restrictive alternatives

## ALEXANDRIA AREA

### **Vicknair Law Firm**

<https://vicknairlawfirm.com/>

3112 Jackson St  
Alexandria, LA 71301  
(844) 908-1206

[info@vicknairlawfirm.com](mailto:info@vicknairlawfirm.com)

Estate planning, wills, trust/special needs trusts, probate, tax issues

### **Crowell & Owens**

#### **Zebulon “Zeb” Winstead**

934 3<sup>rd</sup> St 6<sup>th</sup> floor  
PO Box 330

Alexandria, LA 71301  
(318) 445-1488

Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

### **Theus Law Offices, LLC**

<https://theuslawoffices.com/>

1902 Jackson St  
Alexandria, LA 71301

(318) 769-9395

Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

## BATON ROUGE AREA

### **Losavio & DeJean LLC**

<https://www.losaviodejean.com/>

#### **Peter Losavio, Jr.**

8414 Bluebonnet Blvd Suite 110  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810  
(800) 835-5864 toll free  
(225) 769-4200

Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

### **Legacy Estate & Elder Law of LA, LLC**

<https://legacycenterla.com/>

#### **Linda S. Melancon, Betty Raglin**

3956 Government St  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806  
(225) 744-0027

Full service Special Needs Planning

### **Daigle, Fisse & Kessenich**

<https://daiglefisse.com/>

#### **Alison C. Bondurant**

[abondurant@daiglefisse.com](mailto:abondurant@daiglefisse.com)

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Baton Rouge, LA 70810

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(225) 421-1800

Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, and various other areas of practice

**Kadair Law Firm**

<https://kadairlaw.com/>

**Laurie Kadair**

10630 N. Oak Hills Parkway, Suite A

Baton Rouge, LA 70810

(225) 766-5454

Estate planning, trusts/special needs trusts

**Joseph A. Prokop, Jr.**

628 North Blvd

Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5801

(225) 387-2277

Special needs trusts, guardianship, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

**Poche` Estate Planning Law Firm**

<http://pocheestateplanning.com/>

**Laura Poche`**

4960 Bluebonnet Blvd Suite C

Baton Rouge, LA 70809

(225) 224-8099

[info@pochelaw.com](mailto:info@pochelaw.com)

Estate planning, special needs trusts

**Mark R. Callender**

8170 Goodwood Blvd

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

(225) 925-5252

Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

**Newman, Mathis, Brady & Spedale**

<https://www.newmanmathis.com/>

**Bradley J. Spedale**

[bspedale@newmanmathis.com](mailto:bspedale@newmanmathis.com)

3301 North Blvd

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

(225) 343-3456

Estate planning, wills, trusts, special needs trusts

**Milling Benson Woodward LLP**

<https://www.millinglaw.com/>

**Sheila L. Moragas**

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6421 Perkins Road

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Baton Rouge, LA 70808

(504) 569-7219

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Federal, state and local tax matters; estate planning; elder and disability law; gift and estate taxation and planning

**Taylor Porter Law Firm**

<http://www.taylorporter.com/>

**John McDermott**

[john.mcdermott@taylorporter.com](mailto:john.mcdermott@taylorporter.com)

450 Laurel St Suite 800

Baton Rouge, LA 70801

(225) 381-0261

Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, powers of attorney, tax law, and various other areas of practice

**Wendra J. Moran, Attorney at Law**

<https://www.wjmoranlaw.com/>

614 Europe St

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

(225) 228-4445

Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, powers of attorney, guardianship/tutorship for minor children, and various other areas of practice

**Wiener, Weiss & Madison**

<https://www.wtmlaw.com/>

**Richard Lamb**

[rlamb@wtmlaw.com](mailto:rlamb@wtmlaw.com)

445 Louisiana Ave

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

(225) 930-4772

Estate planning, successions/probate, trusts/special needs trusts, wills, and other legal services

## HOUMATHIBODAUX AREA

**John E. Sirois**

<http://houmaestateplanningattorney.com/>

1356 West Tunnel Blvd Suite B

Houma, LA 70360

(985) 580-2520

Estate planning, wills, trusts, Medicaid law, special needs planning, asset protection; Certified Financial Planner

## LAFAYETTE AREA

**Theus Law Offices, LLC**

<https://theuslawoffices.com/>

400 E. Kaliste Saloom Rd

Suite 4200-A

Lafayette, LA 70508

(318) 541-8999

Special needs trusts, estate planning, continuing tutorship, and interdiction

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**Jankower Law Firm**

<https://www.jankower.com/>

**Steve Jankower**

[Steve@Jankower.com](mailto:Steve@Jankower.com)

110 Exchange Place, Suite 101

Lafayette, Louisiana 70503

(337) 289-1745

Medicaid and estate planning for the elderly and for individuals with disabilities and special needs

## LAKE CHARLES AREA

**Lorenzi & Barnatt, LLC**

<https://www.lblegal.com/>

518 Pujo St

PO Box 3305

Lake Charles, LA 70601

(877) 269-8978 toll free

(337) 513-0886

Estate planning, special needs trusts, health care directives and simple or complex wills, powers of attorney, interdictions & continuing tutorships, elder law

**Sigler, Arabie & Cannon**

<https://www.siglerlaw.com/>

630 Kirby St

Lake Charles, LA 70601

(337) 439-2033

Estate planning, wills, powers of attorney, living wills, trusts/special needs trusts, real estate and business law

**Stutes & Lavergne**

<https://www.stuteslaw.com/>

600 Broad St

Lake Charles, LA 70601

(337) 433-0022

207 North Church St

Jennings, LA 70546

(337) 246-9988

[info@stuteslaw.com](mailto:info@stuteslaw.com)

Estate planning, wills, donations, powers of attorney, advanced directives, trusts/special needs trusts, interdictions & continuing tutorships

**Taylor Porter Law Firm**

<http://www.taylorporter.com/>

**John McDermott**

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145 East St

Lake Charles, LA 70601

(337) 436-7787

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Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, powers of attorney, tax law, and various other areas of practice

## MONROE AREA

**Michael J. Rhymes, Attorney at Law**

1005 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St  
Monroe, LA 71201  
(318) 388-4500

Special needs trusts, interdiction, continuing tutorship, and a wide range of legal services

**G. Gregory Green, Attorney & Counselor at Law**

<https://www.lawofficesgggreen.com/>

409 Bres Ave  
Monroe, LA 71201  
(318) 322-4478

[lawofficegggreen@aol.com](mailto:lawofficegggreen@aol.com)

Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, social security & disability, interdictions and continuing tutorships

## GREATER NEW ORLEANS AREA

**Legacy Estate & Elder Law of LA, LLC**

<https://legacycenterla.com/>

**Linda S. Melancon, Betty Raglin**

3801 Canal St, Ste 214  
New Orleans, LA 70119  
(225) 744-0027

Full service Special Needs and elder care planning

**Buchler & Buchler, LLC**

<https://www.buchlerlegal.com/>

**Katherine F. (Katy) Buchler**

3014 Metairie Rd.  
Metairie, LA 70001  
(504) 541-9020

Estate planning, trusts/special needs trusts, business and real estate transactions

**Morrison Law Group PLC**

<https://morrisonlawplc.com/>

**Chip Morrison**

3813 N Causeway Blvd Ste 200  
Metairie, LA 70002  
(504) 831-2348

Estate planning, including trusts/special needs trusts; probate, successions, elder law Medicaid planning

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**John E. Sirois**

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One Galleria Blvd Suite 735

Metairie, LA 70001

*\*Metairie office open by appointment only; see Hammond office for more info*

(985) 580-2520

Estate planning, wills, trusts, Medicaid law, special needs planning, asset protection; Certified Financial Planner

**Ronda M. Gabb & Associates, LLC**

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Metairie, LA 70002

(800) 738-4222

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A Louisiana Estate Planning & Elder Law Practice devoted entirely to Estate Planning, including Wills, Trusts, Successions and Estate Administrations, Elder Law, Medicaid, VA Benefits, Special Needs and Life Care Planning issues

**Sessions, Fishman & Nathan, LLP**

<https://www.sessionsfishman.com/>

**Joel A. Mendler**

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[Estate planning, elder law and special needs planning, bankruptcy law, product liability law, and various other areas of practice](#)

**Milling Benson Woodward LLP**

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Federal, state and local tax matters; estate planning; elder and disability law; gift and estate taxation and planning

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New Orleans, LA 70112

(504) 322-3939

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Estate planning and related legal services to clients of all ages, with a focus on the needs of older or disabled individuals and their families.

**Nicaud & Sunseri Law Firm, LLC**

<https://www.nslawla.com/attorney/j-d-sunseri/>

**J. Douglas Sunseri**

3000 18<sup>th</sup> St  
Metairie, LA 70002  
(504) 662-9596

Services for parents with minor and adult children with disabilities including special (supplemental) needs trusts and continuing tutorship.

**The Law Office of Michael A. Tusa, LLC**

2305 N. Hullen St Suite 11  
Metairie, LA 70001  
(504) 833-0785  
Special needs trusts, taxation, other areas of practice

**Spera Law Group**

<https://speralaw.com/about/molly-sullivan/>

**Molly Sullivan**

2200 Tulane Ave Suite 304  
New Orleans, LA  
(504) 300-9938  
Estate planning, special needs trusts

**Denechaud and Denechaud, LLC**

<https://www.denechaudlaw.com/>

**Otto B. Schoenfeld**

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New Orleans, LA 70170  
(504) 356-9431

Estate planning, special needs trusts; nonprofit organizations, commercial law, corporate law, business law, real estate

**Newman, Mathis, Brady & Spedale**

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**Bradley J. Spedale**

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Metairie, LA 70002  
(504) 837-9040

Estate planning, wills, trusts, special needs trusts

**Chehardy Sherman Williams**

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Estate planning, wills, successions, trusts/special needs trusts, tax law

**Low Profit Law Group of Louisiana, L3C**

<http://www.lowprofitlawgroupla.com/>

**Elizabeth M. Schmidt, Esq.**

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1051 S. Jeff Davis Pkwy., Suite 211

New Orleans, LA 70125

(504) 304-3323 office

(504) 421-1188 cell

Sliding scale fees; Family law, interdiction; Probate/successions; Estate planning, including living wills, trusts/special needs trusts, and medical power of attorney; Bankruptcy; Real Estate and business law

**Loyola University College of Law**

**Cheryl Buchert, Clinical Professor of Law**

(504) 861-5599

Loyola University College of Law is offering Continuing Tutorship services for families that live in Orleans or Jefferson Parish. The Loyola Law Clinic does not charge attorney fees; however, the parents will need to pay for any court costs and/or recording fees. There is a financial eligibility which is 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. Financial eligibility will be discussed with the potential client during a telephone interview. Services are provided by students under the close supervision of Ms. Buchert, and are offered during fall and spring semesters on a first-come, first-served basis.

## NORTH SHORE AREA

**Branton Law Firm**

522 N. New Hampshire St Suite 11

Covington, LA 70433

(985) 807-1410

Family law, wills, special needs trusts

**Vicknair Law Firm**

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1070-B West Causeway Approach

Mandeville, LA 70471

[info@vicknairlawfirm.com](mailto:info@vicknairlawfirm.com)

(844) 908-1206

Estate planning, wills, trust/special needs trusts, probate, tax issues

**Ronda M Gabb & Associates, LLC**

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**Ronda M. Gabb**

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Covington, LA 70433-5903



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(985) 892-0942

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Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, Successions and Estate Administrations, Elder Law, Medicaid, VA Benefits, Special Needs and Life Care Planning issues

**Nicaud & Sunseri Law Firm, LLC**

<https://www.nslawla.com/attorney/j-d-sunseri/>

**J. Douglas Sunseri**

111 North Causeway Blvd Suite 210

Mandeville, LA 70448

(985) 218-0494

Services for parents with minor and adult children with disabilities including special (supplemental) needs trusts and continuing tutorship.

**Daigle, Fisse & Kessenich**

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**Alison C. Bondurant**

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227 Highway 21

Madisonville, LA 70447

(985) 871-0800

Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, and various other areas of practice

**Christie Tournet & Associates, LLC**

<https://tournetlaw.com/>

**Christie Tournet**

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Suite 103A

Mandeville, LA 70471

(985) 951-2177

Estate planning, successions & probate, commercial & real estate law, trusts/special needs trusts, planning for children

**Milling Benson Woodward LLP**

<https://www.millinglaw.com/>

**Sheila L. Moragas**

[smoragas@millinglaw.com](mailto:smoragas@millinglaw.com)

68031 Capital Trace Row

Mandeville, LA 70471

(504) 569-7219

Federal, state and local tax matters; estate planning; elder and disability law; gift and estate taxation and planning

**Chehardy Sherman Williams**

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Hammond, LA 70401  
Office: (985) 284-9743  
Cell: (985) 634-6204  
Estate planning, wills, successions, trusts/special needs trusts, tax law

## SHREVEPORT AREA

### **Gilsoul & Associates, LLC**

<https://www.gilsoul-law.com/>

#### **Joseph Gilsoul**

2950 Fairfield Ave, Ste 300  
Shreveport, LA 71104  
(318) 524-9966  
Full service special needs and estate planning

### **Richie, Richie & Oberle, LLP**

<https://www.rrolawfirm.com/estate-planning/trusts/>

#### **Paul D. Oberle, Jr.**

1800 Creswell Ave  
Shreveport, LA 71101  
(318) 995-3339  
Estate planning, tutorships, interdiction, wills, trusts/special needs trusts

### **Rita K. Bacot, APLC**

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Shreveport, LA 71105  
(318) 868-7426  
Estate planning, wills, trusts/special needs trusts, interdictions, continuing tutorships, family law

### **Weems, Schimpf, Haines, Shemwell & Moore**

<https://www.weems-law.com/>

#### **Kyle Moore, Michael Carney**

912 Kings Highway  
Shreveport, LA 71104  
(318) 674-4977 or (318) 222-2100  
Estate planning, trusts/special needs trusts, wills, social security denials, continuing tutorship, interdiction, and a wide range of other legal services

### **Wiener, Weiss & Madison**

<https://www.wtmlaw.com/>

#### **Richard Lamb**

[rlamb@wtmlaw.com](mailto:rlamb@wtmlaw.com)

330 Marshall St Suite 1000  
Shreveport, LA 71101  
(318) 226-9100  
Estate planning, successions/probate, trusts/special needs trusts, wills, and other legal services

***TAKEN FROM Legacy Estate & Elder Law of LA, LLC website:***

Do you have a child or adult who is physically or mentally disabled? If so, it is very likely that you will need to create a special needs trust as a part of your estate planning. Very often, those with special needs are receiving needs-based government assistance in the form of Supplemental Security Income “SSI” and/or Medicaid. If your loved one receives an inheritance from you, that inheritance may disqualify them for their SSI or Medicaid. To ensure this does not happen, you will need to create a special needs trust to hold their inheritance. This type of special needs trust is called a third-party special needs or supplemental needs trust because it is created with the assets of someone other than the person receiving government benefits. When you create the special needs trust, you appoint a trustee to manage the assets in the trust for the benefit of the special needs trust beneficiary. In this way, the assets in the special needs trust can be used for your loved one’s benefit, but the assets will not disqualify them from receiving SSI or Medicaid.

Often, someone who is receiving SSI or Medicaid receives an inheritance or is involved in an accident and receives a settlement, the receipt of this money will disqualify them from receiving those SSI or Medicaid benefits. To allow them to continue receiving those benefits, a first-party special needs trust (also known as a self-settled or a d(4)(a)) can be created and the assets received in the inheritance or settlement can be placed in this trust so the SSI and/or Medicaid benefits can continue to be received. This type of trust is called a first-party special needs or supplemental needs trust because it holds the assets of the person who is receiving the benefits.

In addition to creating special needs trusts, there are also many other considerations that families with special needs members should consider as a part of their overall estate planning. One of the most important things to consider is ensuring the special needs person will have the necessary income and assets they will need to live comfortably during their lifetime. A life insurance policy naming the special needs trust as its beneficiary is a good way to ensure the special needs person has those necessary resources. There are also special considerations when retirement plan assets are left to a special needs trust as it could create adverse tax consequences or the inadvertent loss of SSI or Medicaid when distributions have to be made from those retirement assets.

Another important consideration in special needs planning is the use of a letter of intent. Although not a legal document, a special needs lawyer can assist you in drafting a letter of intent. This document memorializes the information that only you may know about your special needs child’s medical history, habits, likes and dislikes, experiences and wishes so those who come behind you as your child’s caregiver can have this invaluable knowledge to assist with your child’s care.

It is also possible that your child with special needs will need to have a legal guardian (what is known in Louisiana as a curator or a tutor) appointed for them when they turn 18 since Louisiana law will presume they have legal capacity to make decisions for themselves even if this is not the case. They may also need someone to act as their legal representative after you are no longer able to do so.

These and many more issues should be addressed for families with a special needs person. At Legacy Estate & Elder Law, our attorneys are well-versed in special needs planning and we are members of the [Academy of Special Needs Planners](#), an organization devoted to providing

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resources to families with special needs members and attorneys who practice in this area of the law.

Creating a detailed plan for the disabled individual can eliminate stress and confusion in the long-run and can provide you peace of mind now in knowing that you have planned for your loved one with special needs when you can no longer provide care and financial support for them.

*Any information provided by Families Helping Families (FHF) and/or Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center (LaPTIC), its staff, and/or its volunteers is intended for informational and educational purposes only. Any information expressed or implied is not intended nor should be construed as legal, medical, or other professional advice. FHF and/or LaPTIC do not render legal, medical, or professional advice or recommendations nor is legal, medical or other professional advice implied by any information given. Any information provided should not replace consultations with qualified legal, educational, medical, or other professionals to meet individual or professional needs. Reference to any program, service, therapy, or treatment option does not imply endorsement by FHF and/or LaPTIC or by its organizational staff members and should not be construed as such.*



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PARENT TRAINING & INFORMATION CENTER

Changing Lives Every Day