



Jonathan J. David

Shareholder

1700 East Beltline, N.E.
Suite 200
Grand Rapids, MI 49525-7044
T: 616.726.2243
F: 616.726.2299
j david@fosterswift.com

As an experienced estate planning, probate and trust administration, business, and real estate lawyer, Jonathan (Jay) David focuses on providing high quality legal representation to help his clients achieve their objectives. He understands the importance of responding to a client's needs quickly and efficiently and will begin working for a client immediately upon being retained. His practice areas include:

- **Estate (and Lifetime) Planning:** Providing advice on and preparing a wide variety of lifetime and estate planning related documents including Wills, Trusts (Revocable, Irrevocable and Pet Trusts) Durable Powers of Attorney, Living Wills, Prenuptial and Postnuptial Agreements, and Trust funding documents.
- **Probate and Trust Administration:** Representing personal representatives in the administration of a decedent's probate estate and trustees in the administration of a decedent's trust.
- **Business Entity Selection, Organization and Planning:** Helping clients determine the right type of legal entity and structure for their business and preparing the formation documents.
- **General Business:** Serving as general counsel to businesses, which includes, advising on the governance, management and ongoing operations of the business entity, succession planning, as well as preparing contracts, buy sell agreements, applications for beer, wine and liquor licenses, and documents for merger and acquisition transactions.
- **Commercial and Residential Real Estate:** Preparing purchase agreements, conveyancing documents, mortgage and security documents, leases, and other real estate-related documents for both residential and commercial real estate.

His clients include:

- Dentists and dental practices

PRACTICE AREAS

Estate Planning
Trust & Estate Administration
Entity Selection, Organization & Planning
Real Estate Law
Business Law
General Counsel
Business Contracts
Business Succession Planning
Trusts & Estates

EDUCATION

Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.,
1981
University of Michigan, B.A., 1978,
cum laude

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Michigan
U.S. District Court for the Western
District of Michigan

HONORS & RECOGNITIONS

Best Lawyers in America® 2024
(Trusts and Estates)



- Restaurants
- Retail businesses
- Real Estate professionals
- Health care professionals
- Automobile and boat dealerships
- Manufacturing companies.

In addition to his practice, Jay is a published author on estate planning issues. He regularly contributes a question-and-answer column through a nationally syndicated news service for senior publications.

In response to questions such as, "How can probate be avoided?", "How can I protect my pets?" and "How can I protect my family if something happens to me?", Jay wrote an e-book, *Estate Planning: You Have to Start in Order to Finish*. This e-book is free and available for download below.

A lifelong Grand Rapids resident, Jay is a writer, a voracious reader, a runner and a sports enthusiast. He is married to a dog and animal lover, and they have two adult children.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Farm Succession and Estate Planning, *Michigan Farm Bureau*, April 29, 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Should You Keep a Corporate Minute Book?, *Foster Swift Business & Corporate Law News*, December 3, 2021

Corporate Conundrums, *Foster Swift Business & Tax Law News*, November 19, 2019

Estate Planning for Small Businesses, *Grand Rapids Business Journal*, July 20, 2019

Estate Planning: You Have to Start in Order to Finish, 2019

Legalease: Choosing Correct Power of Attorney for a "Control Freak", *West Michigan Plus*, March 28, 2016

So That's What Those Legal Terms Actually Mean, *go60.us*, July 2015

How to Make Your Eventual Executor Less Stressed Out, *go60.us*, April 3, 2015

Intra-family Loans and IRS Interest Rate Rules, *go60.us Legal Ease Column*, January 2015

The Importance of a Corporate Record Book, *Foster Swift Business & Corporate Law Report*, January 21, 2014

OK to Disinherit a Child – Here's How to Handle It, *go60.us Legal Ease Column*, September 2012

This Nephew Won't Get What His Uncle Wants Him to Have, *go60.us Legal Ease Column*, August 2012

Why it Pays to be Proactive, *go60.us Legal Ease Column*, August 2012

Updating Your Estate Plans When Changes Happen, *go60.us Legal Ease Column*, July 2012



The Four Must-Have Estate Planning Instruments, *go60.us Legal Ease Column*, June 2012

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Legal Affiliations:

- Grand Rapids Bar Association
- Justice Foundation of West Michigan
- State Bar of Michigan

Industry & Professional Associations:

- West Michigan Estate Planning Council, Past Board Member
- RunGR.com, Past Board Member
- ALS of West Michigan., Past Board Member

RECENT BLOG POSTS

Equine Law Blog

Planning Ahead with a Pet Trust

Estate Planning & Elder Law Blog

Legal-Ease: What is the Downside of DIY Estate Planning?

Legal-Ease: What are my Responsibilities as Fiduciary of an Estate?

Parents: The Three Essential Legal Documents Your Child Should Have Before Leaving For College

Executing Estate Planning Documents Outside of Attorney's Office

When It Comes To Estate Planning, Coordination Is Key

Importance of Durable Powers of Attorney

Should Your Family Business Keep a Corporate Minute Book?

Survivor's Checklist: What to do When a Loved One Passes Away

Resource to Keep Senior Caretakers Organized
