

## Wills, Trusts & Estates

The intersection of wealth and family presents myriad legal issues which require considerable knowledge of the law, planning, and sensitivity. A lack of proper planning threatens individuals and families with disruptive family discord, excessive probate and administration expenses, as well as unnecessary taxation and lawsuits.

Ranked regionally and nationally by *U.S. News – Law Firms*, Blankingship and Keith assists individuals with planning for all sizes of estates including large, complicated estates involving business interests and other substantial assets. We draft simple and complex wills and a variety of trusts to meet the needs of the client. We advise clients of various techniques which can be employed to reduce tax liabilities, including marital deduction planning, the use of credit shelter trusts, marital trusts, irrevocable life insurance trusts and family limited liability companies. Practice group attorneys are also recognized by *U.S. News – Best Lawyers*, *Super Lawyers*, and *Virginia Business Magazine* Legal Elite.

We also assist clients in estate administration and probate matters by assisting with qualification of executors, filing of inventories and accountings with the Commissioner of Accounts, and occasionally by serving as fiduciary. We are there to serve as a resource to advise our clients who are serving as fiduciaries and to provide as little or as much help as the situation requires.

In addition to our planning and drafting capabilities, our attorneys in this area are well known for ably representing our estate and trust clients when litigation becomes necessary to resolve disputes.

### Related Attorneys

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- John A.C. Keith
- Michael K. Kim
- Ian J. McElhaney
- Elizabeth C. Morrogh
- Wm. Quinton Robinson
- Robert E. Scully, Jr.

### Related Cases

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- Capitalizing on a Time-Sensitive Commercial Real Estate Opportunity

## Practice Recognition

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### ***U.S. News - Best Law Firms***

#### National Rankings

- Trusts & Estates Law (Tier 2)

#### Regional Rankings - Washington, DC

- Litigation - Trusts & Estates (Tier 1)
- Trusts & Estates Law (Tier 1)

## News & Insights

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- Blankingship & Keith, P.C. Receives National and Regional Recognition in Best Lawyers® 2025 "Best Law Firms"
- Eleven Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Recognized as Top Attorneys in Arlington Magazine's 2024 List
- Twenty-Seven Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Shine in the 2025 Edition of Best Lawyers in America
- Twenty Blankingship & Keith, P.C. Attorneys Named Virginia Super Lawyers and Rising Stars for 2024
- Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Shine as "Legal Elite" in Virginia Business Magazine's 2023 Rankings
- Ten Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Recognized as "Top Lawyers" by Northern Virginia Magazine
- Thirteen Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Recognized as Top Attorneys by Arlington Magazine
- Stack v. Larsen, Record No. 1301-22-3 (Va. Ct. App. Sept. 26, 2023)
- Twenty-two Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Shine in the 2024 Edition of Best Lawyers in America
- Blankingship & Keith, P.C. Attorneys Named Virginia Super Lawyers and Rising Stars for 2023
- 20 Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Named "Legal Elite" by Virginia Business Magazine
- Thirteen Blankingship & Keith Attorneys Named 2022 Top Attorneys by Arlington Magazine
- Fifteen Blankingship & Keith Attorneys are Recognized as Super Lawyers