

# Preserve Your Assets. Protect Your Family.

*Connors & Sullivan Attorneys at Law PLLC, Estate Planning and Elder Law Firm*

Preserving your assets for transfer to the next generation according to your wishes should be a fairly straightforward matter, but taxes, medical bills and probate fees can all chip away at your estate, leaving little or nothing for your heirs. The right team of attorneys, knowledgeable and experienced in all aspects of estate planning, elder law and related matters, can make a world of difference. Connors & Sullivan, which focuses almost exclusively on this very personal area of law, is such a team.

For over 30 years, the New York firm has been helping individuals and families throughout the region minimize their estate and capital gains taxes, protect their assets from medical bills or nursing home expenses, and avoid probate. Today it serves a wide-ranging clientele, including many people in their 70s, 80s and even 90s, from five offices in Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island.

With 12 attorneys and three accountants, Connors & Sullivan is large enough to offer a full array of trust, estate and elder law services. "At the same time, we're small enough to know everyone who comes in the door as a client or a family member, not a file number," says Michael N. Connors, partner.



Michael N. Connors

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- Wills, Trusts and Estates
- Probate and Administration
- Elder Law
- Tax Law
- Asset Protection
- Estate Litigation
- Real Estate

The firm's large staff – there are four support staff members for every attorney – includes native speakers in Greek, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish, Spanish, Italian and other European languages.

## Holistic Approach

Connors notes, "In New York City a modest home can be valued at \$1 million or more. Without appropriate tax planning the family could face a significant estate tax bill, since any assets over \$3.125 million are subject to New York State estate tax. Our in-house accountants will work with the numbers and do everything legally possible to reduce that estate tax bill, while taking care not to, for example, raise the client's income tax or capital gains in the process.

"Another common concern is the cost of nursing home care, which, in New York averages \$13,000 to \$14,000 a month. An irrevocable trust can help shield assets from these bills.

"Some firms are good at estate planning, but not elder law," Connors says.

"Other firms are good at elder law, but not estate planning. We can put the whole picture together, whether you have \$50,000 in the bank or \$50 million in real estate. Our holistic approach is what sets us apart."

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