Special Needs Law & Advocacy

GrayRobinson recognizes the numerous and diverse issues confronting children with special needs, their families, guardians and caregivers. These can include:

- Obtaining appropriate evaluations and arriving at a diagnosis;
- Identifying medical and therapeutic partners and obtaining services;
- Navigating the educational system (both with respect to public and private schools, preschool, elementary school and beyond), including obtaining and updating an Individual Education Plan (IEP);
- Dealing with criminal charges (which in some cases may be related to school behavior);
- Identifying age and ability-appropriate training and apprenticeship programs;
- Financial planning;
- Locating housing options;
- Creating Special Needs Trusts;
- Establishing Guardian Advocacies;
- Estate Planning; and
- Negotiating the appropriate amount and duration of child support and drafting Parenting Plans tailored to address the special needs of the child in Family Law cases.

The list above is not exhaustive, and children with special needs face additional obstacles on a daily basis that sometimes seem insurmountable. Our team strives to aid our clients by setting well-thought-out goals, developing both short and long-term plans, fighting necessary legal battles, and finessing solutions to complicated problems to ensure, to the best of our collective ability, the success of the children we serve.

Our attorneys are well versed in federal, state and local laws dealing with special education, employment, trusts and estate planning and family law. We employ these laws to assist our clients in obtaining special education services, and aid in negotiating and advocating for on their behalf. Planning for the future of a child with special needs can be a difficult and ongoing process – and attorneys are not always the solution. For this reason, we also seek to engage with community partners that can offer our clients additional targeted assistance beneficial to the development of the children we serve. These community partners may be physicians, therapists, non-profit service providers, and educators among others.

If you are in need of any of the services described above, GrayRobinson’s team stands ready to provide you (as parents, guardians, and caregivers of children with special needs) with legal and advocacy services to address your needs related to education, discrimination, financial and estate planning, criminal law and family law.