



Hatley Law Group APC

Estate planning viewed through the lens of asset protection.™



Creating your family's financial, intellectual & spiritual wealth legacy.

Practice Areas

Advance Health Care Directives
Asset Protection
Charitable Planning
Estate & Generation-Skipping Tax Planning
Gift Tax Planning
Legacy Planning
Powers of Attorney
Trust Administration
Wills

Trusts

Revocable Living Trust (RLT)
Intentionally Defective Grantor Trust (IDGT)
Irrevocable Life Insurance Trust (ILIT)
Qualified Personal Residence Trust (QPRT)
Domestic Asset Protection Trust (DAPT)
Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT)
Grantor Retained Annuity Trust (GRAT)
Spousal Lifetime Access Trust (SLAT)



Our Goal is to Make a Difference in People's Lives

Status quo estate planning traditionally focuses only on financial wealth – which is both limiting and short-sighted.

At **Hatley Law Group** we provide a framework for a more holistic approach to family wealth planning. We help our clients pass on their values, insights, stories, and experiences to their children and grandchildren. Making sure all are preserved – creating a living legacy.

Using trusts, wills, powers of attorney, asset protection, tax planning, charitable planning, and more, we help families preserve their wealth and values for future generations. As an experienced asset protection law firm, we work with our clients to minimize estate taxes, avoid probate and conservatorship, structuring ownership of assets so they are safeguarded from creditors and predators.

Putting off planning ahead to preserve your assets for your loved ones can result in both heartache and financial loss.

Our clients gain peace of mind knowing they have protected themselves and their families in the event of their incapacity or their passing.



Rodney J. ("Rod") Hatley
J.D., LL.M. (Taxation)
Attorney & Counselor at Law

The founder of Hatley Law Group AP.C., Rod Hatley, began his journey to becoming an estate planning attorney with a devastating, drawn out seven-year probate.

Rod's father had been ill for a while before he died. Though Rod knew that his father needed to set up a trust and undertake additional advanced planning to prepare for his eventual passing, his father could not bear the thought of parting with legal title to the assets he had spent his life accumulating. As a result of this lack of preparation, it took Rod and his sister seven years to get through probate in their hometown of Memphis, Tennessee.

Rod began his legal career working in personal injury litigation and then for the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps, first as a Criminal Defense Counsel and Legal Assistance Attorney and then as a Staff Judge Advocate and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney. During this time he twice received the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

In 1995, based on his experience with his father's seven-year probate, Rod decided he wanted to learn more about tax law and to find out the best way to ensure that family wealth wouldn't be devastated by confiscatory estate taxes and the costs and delays of probate. After coming off of active duty in the JAG Corps, Rod pursued a Master of Laws from the University of San Diego School of Law's acclaimed graduate tax program and shifted into estate planning, trust, and probate law. Rod is licensed to practice in California and his home state of Tennessee.

When he isn't busy with his practice, Rod enjoys scuba diving (he is open water certified), snorkeling, and surfing (which he does very badly) in San Diego. He is a fan of Mid-Century Modern architecture and volunteers his time to the Rotary Club (he is a Paul Harris Fellow) and the Nice Guys San Diego charity.