

RUBIN

LAW A Professional
Corporation

Special Needs Legal & Future Planning

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Legal and future planning for our fellow Illinois families of individuals with special needs, including intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, physical disabilities and/ or mental illness. It is not one thing we do – it is the only thing we do. It is not one area of our practice, but our only area of practice.

WHAT WE DO...

- Special Needs Trusts - (Both 1st Party & 3rd Party)
- Government Benefits Planning (Medicaid/ SSI/ Medicare/ SSDI)
- Estate & Estate Tax Planning – Wills & Trusts
- Estate, Probate and Trust Administration
- Guardianships & Alternatives
- Powers of Attorney/ Supported Decision Making
- Letters of Intent
- Consulting on Special Needs Family Divorces
- Consulting on Special Needs Medical-Malpractice/ PI Settlements
- Navigating the Illinois “MAZE” of Children & Adult Services

ATTORNEYS

Brian Rubin (Parent) ~ Benjamin (Benji) Rubin (Sibling)
Judith (Judie) Smith ~ Melanie Hoffman ~ Jolie Kaplan (Sibling) ~ Lisa Wisowaty

SUPPORTSTAFF

Michelle Fettner, Paralegal ~ Donna Poidomani, Paralegal
Karen Muschkat, Legal Assistant ~ Linda Rubin, Legal Assistant (Parent)
Vasiliki Chronopolous, Legal Assistant (Parent) ~ Kristen Meyers, Legal Assistant
Holly Garcia, Office Manager
Mitchell Rubin, Clerical Support (who has Autism)

Attorney Brian Rubin, the founder of Rubin Law, a former IRS Agent, and former IRS Attorney, has been a practicing attorney since 1976, is the parent of three children one of whom, Mitchell, has Autism. Brian's law practice, since 1982, when Mitchell was one year old, has been dedicated to serving the legal and future planning needs of his fellow Illinois families of children and adults with intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, and/or mental illness. Brian is a Past President (2017-2018) of the Special Needs Alliance, the national, non-profit, association of experienced special needs planning attorneys (membership is by invitation only), served on the Special Needs Law Section Steering Committee of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, was a Charter Member of the Academy of Special Needs Planners, and is a Faculty Member and Text Book Author for the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education (IICLE) on the topic of special needs legal and future planning, as well as a Speaker for the American Bar Association and the Illinois State Bar Association on those topics. Brian has been elected as a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC), and has received the highest attorney rating from Martindale-Hubbell, AV® Preeminent™, and AVVO's highest attorney rating of Top Attorney. Brian is a Past President of The Arc of Illinois (2007-2011), served on The Arc of Illinois Board for 15 years (2004-2019), is a Past Chairman of the State of Illinois Statewide Advisory Council on Developmental Disabilities (2002-2004), is the Immediate Past Chairman of the State of Illinois Autism Task Force (Chairman 2005-2015) established by the Illinois Legislature in 2005, serves as a member of the State of Illinois Guardianship & Advocacy Commission since 2013, served on the State of Illinois Department of Human Services Office of Inspector General Quality Care Board for 6 years, among many other State of Illinois Committees and Commissions. Brian has been a member of the Board of Directors of Clearbrook (an organization serving more than 8,000 individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, including his son, Mitchell) since 1989, is a member of the Board of Trustees of Life's Plan, Inc. which serves as Trustee of both Pooled Special Needs Trust and individual Special Needs Trusts, served as a member (Past Chairman) of the Board of Directors of the Special Leisure Services Foundation, the foundation supporting the Northwest Suburban Special Recreation Association (NWSRA), served as the founding Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Foundation of The Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL Foundation), served on the Board of Directors of KESHET (Jewish Parents of Children with Special Needs), served previously on the Advisory Council of Encompass (Encompass in partnership with Jewish Child & Family Services, Jewish United Fund, JVS Chicago, JCC Chicago, Keshet, and The Center for Enriched Living and Center for Independent Futures), served for 7 years on the Board of Directors of Pact, Inc., now known as DayOne Pact, which serves as Trustee of Special Needs Trusts as well as Guardian for individuals with intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities and/or mental illness, and served on the Board of Directors of Northpointe Resources, also an agency serving individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.





Attorney Benjamin (Benji) Rubin, Brian's youngest son, Mitchell's "little/big" brother, has been a member of the Law Firm since 2010, and is now President of the professional corporation. Benji graduated from the University of Illinois College of Law, Magna Cum Laude, received his undergraduate degree from Northwestern University, and his Graduate Law Degree, an LLM (Tax), with honors, also from Northwestern University. Benji is a member of the Academy of Special Needs Planners, a member of the national Board of Directors of the Special Needs Alliance, the national, non-profit, association of experienced special needs planning attorneys (membership is by invitation only), is Vice-Chair, American Bar Association Elder Law and Special Needs Planning, Prior Chairman of the American Bar Association Special Needs Planning Committee, past President of

SIBS (Supporting Illinois Brothers and Sisters), the Illinois chapter of the national Sibling Leadership Network, an organization of adult siblings of individuals with intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities and/or mental illness. Benji served as a member of the Board of Directors of The Arc of Illinois and is a member and on the Board of Directors for Clearbrook, an organization serving more than 8,000 individuals with disabilities, including his brother, Mitchell. He also serves on the Board of Directors of NSSRA (Northern Suburban Special Recreation Association) which facilitates and provides year round recreation programs and services to individuals in Deerfield, Glencoe, Glenview, Highland Park, Kenilworth, Lake Bluff, Northbrook, Northfield, Wilmette and Winnetka; Highwood and Lake Forest, and Riverwoods. He also serves on the Board of Directors of DayOne PACT, which serves as Trustee of Special Needs Trusts as well as Guardian for individuals with intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities and/or mental illness, serves on the Board of Directors of the Foundation of The Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL Foundation), served previously on the Advisory Council of Encompass (Encompass in partnership with Jewish Child & Family Services, Jewish United Fund, JVS Chicago, JCC Chicago, Keshet, and The Center for Enriched Living and Center for Independent Futures). Benji is also a Faculty Member for the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education (IICLE) on the topic of special needs planning, as well as a Speaker for the American Bar Association and the Illinois State Bar Association on those topics and has been elected as a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC) Having Mitchell as a brother profoundly shaped who Benji is today, and thus the type of law he chose to practice. His firsthand experiences as a sibling offer a unique perspective into the responsibilities that come with caring for a sibling with special needs. Now as an adult, those sometimes present and future responsibilities he has regarding his brother's care are a concern that he shares with all brothers and sisters of individuals with special needs.