



Elizabeth Ross-Jones, Esq.

What Parents of Special Needs Children Need to Know

If you are the parent of a special needs child, you probably have a lot of questions about how to plan for your child's future. I can help by advising you about your legal options. Some areas to consider may include:

- **Guardianship** (either limited or general) over your child once he or she becomes 18 years old.
- **Durable Power of Attorney** may be an option to Guardianship depending on your child's circumstances.
- **Family estate planning** that properly provides for your child.
- **A Special (or Supplemental) Needs Trust** may protect and benefit your child

ROSS-JONES LAW OFFICE

About The Attorney

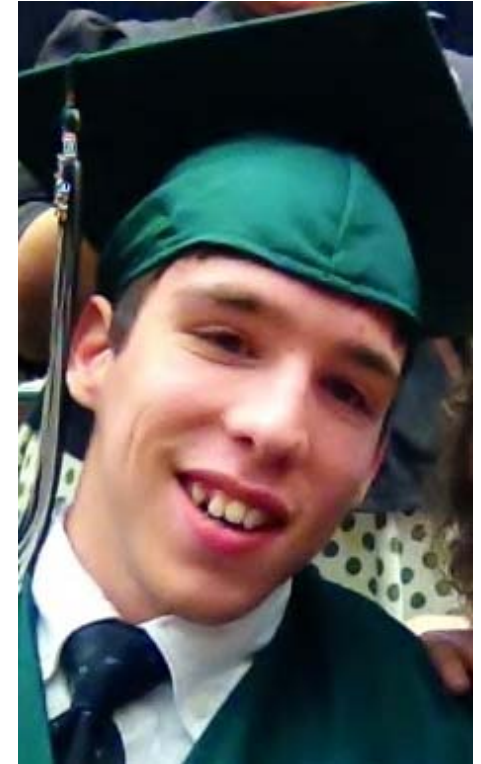
Elizabeth Ross-Jones is an estate planning attorney in Edmond, Oklahoma who assists parents of special needs children throughout Oklahoma. She and her husband Jeff are also proud parents of an adult special needs child.

Contact the Office

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SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING FOR PARENTS

*By Elizabeth Ross-Jones,
Attorney at Law*



SPECIAL NEEDS PLANNING FOR PARENTS

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Elizabeth's son, Evan, welcomes you to the office

Did you know?

In Oklahoma, until a special needs child is 18 years old, parents have the legal authority to make decisions (personal, medical, financial, etc.) for their child. The minute the child turns 18 years of age, the child is an adult and the parent's authority legally stops. Guardianship is the court-approved legal means for parents to have the authority to continue to make decisions for their adult special needs child.

Leaving a bequest from your Will or Trust directly to your special needs child can disqualify your child from government benefits at the time the child receives the bequest. Leaving a bequest to a Special Needs Trust (SNT) will not disqualify your child from government benefits. You can use a SNT to provide your adult child with supplemental income in order to ensure your child does not live in poverty after your death.

It's never too early to start planning.

Whether your child is getting ready to graduate from high school, graduated long ago, or hasn't yet started school, I can advise you regarding your and your child's specific legal circumstances.

Should you consult with an attorney?

Every child is unique and the law is complex. Regardless of family income level, it can be in the best interest of the entire family when parents work with an attorney who practices in Special Needs Planning. Parents have the comfort of knowing that they have become educated as to their legal options and that they have done all they can to protect their special needs child and to provide for their child's future.

One-Hour Initial Consultations are always free at my law office for parents of special needs children! I'm happy to answer your questions.



ROSS-JONES LAW OFFICE LOCATION

My law office is located in Edmond on West 33rd Street between Santa Fe and Kelly in the Bristol Office Park.

ROSS-JONES LAW OFFICE
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Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm
Evening and Weekend appointments are available upon request.

Primary language spoken: English
Other languages used: American Sign Language