

# **14 Important Reasons Clients Ask David L. Smith and John D. Mabley to Protect Their Assets -- and Why We Hope You Will, Too!**

**Reason #1: Highest Rating for Legal Ability and Ethics.** Martindale-Hubbell, the international legal directory, has rated the law firm of Smith & Mabley, PLC, as “AV”. This means the firm’s Legal Ability Rating is “very high to preeminent”, the highest rating given to any law firm. In addition, the firm’s General Ethical Standards are rated as “very high”, again, the highest rating given to any law firm. No law firm in the United States has ratings higher than those awarded to Smith & Mabley, PLC.

**Reason #2: Both Law Partners Have Over 30 Years of Experience Practicing Law.** Dave Smith has practiced law for 42 years. John Mabley has practiced law for 36 years. Seldom do you find a law firm where the two founding partners have this much experience and are still actively practicing law and are easily accessible to clients.

**Reason #3: Full Range of Asset Protection and Estate Planning Legal Services.** Dave Smith and John Mabley’s law practice provides the full range of Asset Protection and Estate Planning services including planning for Special Needs Beneficiaries, Trust and Probate Administration, and Trust and Probate Repair. John also focuses his practice on Trust and Estate litigation and on matters that go to court.

**Reason #4: Deep Roots in the Community.** Both Dave Smith and John Mabley graduated from Wayne State University School of Law, Dave in 1966 and John in 1973. Each lawyer has served clients in the Detroit area for over 30 years. In fact, in one instance, three generations of one family have hired Smith & Mabley’s services. You can depend on Smith & Mabley to be available when you need them.

**Reason #5: Bar Association Memberships.** John is a member of the Michigan Bar Association, Past Chairperson of its section on Probate and Estate Planning, and a member of the Bar’s Tax Section and Technology Committee. Dave is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and its sections on Probate and Estate Planning, and Taxation. Also, he is a member of the Oakland County Bar Association.

**Reason #6: Professional Memberships and Awards.** John is a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. Plus, beginning in 1991, John was named one of the Best Estate Planning and Trust Lawyers in America. Dave is a recipient of the United States Jaycees Distinguished Service Award.

**Reason #7: Recognized Authorities on Estate Planning and Asset Protection.** Dave participated in Ford Motor Company’s Pre-Retirement Seminars for 10-1/2 years. In addition, Dave designed a refresher course for Ford, which he presented for five years. John’s articles have been published by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education (Ann Arbor), Journal of Taxation of Estates and

Trusts, Estate Planning Magazine, Wayne Law Review, and the Michigan Probate and Estate Planning Journal, in addition John has presented over 50 courses on Estate Planning, Probate and Trust Administration and Practice Management issues to Michigan Attorneys.

**Reason #8: Focus: Family Asset Protection Trust.** One of Smith & Mabley's primary asset protection tools is the Family Asset Protection Trust. This trust protects inheritance left to children and other family members from creditors, divorce settlements, and estate taxes. In addition, this trust has a myriad of other benefits.

**Reason #9: Client Services Guarantee.** Dave and John have dedicated their law practice to providing the highest level of service to their clients. Each provides his clients with a written copy of his Client Services Guarantee, in which he guarantees the quality of service they will receive.

**Reason #10: Prominent Clients.** John and Dave count among their clients some of the most well-known executives, professionals and families in the Detroit Metropolitan Area.

**Reason #11: Affordable, Reasonable Fees.** If you are serious about protecting your assets for yourself and your loved ones, the last thing you want to do is shop for the lowest price. It's easy to find companies selling cheap living trusts, but remember this: You will never know how bad your estate plan is because your loved ones will be left to clean up your mess. At Smith & Mabley, we do not charge low fees. Instead, we'll ask you to pay a reasonable fee because we take every step necessary to make sure the job is done right. When you leave our office, you'll know that your loved ones are well protected and that your estate plan will do everything you want it to do. So if you want to make sure that you, your family and your assets are protected – and if you appreciate the value of peace of mind – you're invited to call. We'll be pleased and proud to help you so your assets will be used for the benefit of yourself and your family, and not to pay taxes, creditors, divorce settlements, or probate costs – and so you don't become a burden to your children.

**Reason #12: Client Communication.** The key to Dave's and John's successful career has been the quality of their relationships with clients. Effective communication helps clients understand their problems and the legal solutions Dave and John can provide. Their primary focus is to listen to clients and evaluate their individual needs so they can offer the most effective, efficient solutions for protecting their assets.

**Reason #13: Family Values.** Both John and Dave have raised their families in the Detroit area. They have supported family, civic and charitable activities for many years.

**Reason #14: Free Consultation.** Dave and John gladly offer an initial consultation without charge. So please don't hesitate to call.