Jeffrey S. Dible

Counsel

jdible@fbtgibbons.com | 317.237.3811

111 Monument Circle
Suite 4500
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Practice Areas

Corporate Law

Tax

Wealth Planning & Family Office

Bar Memberships

Indiana

New York

Jeff concentrates his practice in estate planning, taxation and business entity and real property law. He prepares wills and trusts, supervises the administration of estates and trusts, represents various parties in guardianships and contested will or trust litigation, prepares gift and estate tax returns, and provides gift tax and estate planning advice to professionals and business owners in the larger context of business succession. Jeff regularly lectures to attorneys and other estate planning professionals on a variety of estate planning and tax topics.

Jeff has frequently testified before committees of the Indiana General Assembly in favor of or against various bills to amend Indiana's trust, estate and guardianship laws, including the 2012-13 repeal of the Indiana inheritance tax, the 2018 electronic wills statute, and the 2019-2021 changes to the Indiana Probate Code and Trust Code. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and has been certified as an Indiana Trust and Estate Lawyer by the Indiana Trust and Estate Specialty Board (TESB).

Other Info About Jeff

Experience

Designs and drafts numerous irrevocable grantor and non-grantor trusts (SLATs, SLANTs, dynasty trusts for descendants, QPRTs, CLATs, CLUTs, CRUTs) for use by high-net-worth clients in taxable gift planning and installment sales

Helps family business owners design and form or restructure new or existing limited liability companies for use in tax planning and succession planning

Represents beneficiaries, fiduciaries of estates or trusts, and creditors in contested trust and estate litigation

Assists other lawyers and clients in analyzing, identifying, and addressing problems in the wording and administration of existing irrevocable trusts

Served as the chairperson of the Indiana State Bar Association's Electronic Documents Task Force (2017-2018) and as the principal drafter of Indiana's electronic wills, trusts and POAs legislation (2018 House Enrolled Act 1303, P.L. 40-2018).

Served as the principal drafter of Indiana's new 2021 health care advance directive statute (2021 Senate Enrolled Act 204, P.L. 50-2021).

Chaired the subcommittee which drafted the 2021 amendments to Indiana's statutes to permit electronic witnessing of wills with remote presence.

Appellate court victory on visitation issues in contested adult guardianship case.

Expert witness work in numerous trust and estate litigation matters, including expert affidavits supporting summary judgments in favor of clients

Numerous trust modifications, reformations, and trust and estate litigation settlements accomplished through trust decanting, non-judicial settlement agreements, and proceedings in probate courts.

One U.S. Tax Court trial and two successful pre-trial settlements.

Certified as a specialist in Indiana in estate planning and administration since 2007.

Representation of businesses in administrative appeals and in the Indiana Tax Court regarding Indiana income tax and sales and use tax disputes.

Advice to and representation of new and existing nonprofit charitable entities with respect to initial formation, qualification for 501(c)(3) status, reorganization, and internal governance.

Authored and annually updated three Indiana law resources for *Practical Law* (Indiana Probate Q & A, Ancillary Probate Administration in Indiana, and Indiana TOD Deeds).

Education

Indiana University School of Law, J.D., 1979, *magna cum laude*
Order of the Coif

Purdue University, B.S., 1976, *with highest distinction*
Phi Beta Kappa

Recognition

Indiana Lawyer, Leadership in Law Awards, Distinguished Barrister, 2017

Patricia Paxton Wagner Award for Excellence in Estate Planning and Administration, from the Indianapolis Bar Association's Estate Planning & Administration Section, 2011

Selected for inclusion in *Indiana Super Lawyers®*, 2007–2026

Named in "Indiana Top 50" in *Indiana Super Lawyers®* magazine, February 2014, February 2015, February 2018

The Best Lawyers in America®: Trusts and Estates, 2011-2027, "Lawyer of the Year," 2012, 2016, 2018, 2024; Litigation – Trusts and Estates, 2011–2027, "Lawyer of the Year," 2016, 2019, 2024; Litigation & Controversy – Tax, 2012–2027, "Lawyer of the Year," 2017, 2022

Indiana State Bar Association, Presidential Citations, 2002 and 2015

Professional Affiliations

American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, Fellow, 2006; Indiana State Chair for ACTEC, 2015-2020

Estate Planning Council of Indianapolis, Board Member, 2005-2013; Vice President, 2010-2011; President, 2011-2012

Indianapolis Bar Association, Estate Planning and Administration Section, Executive Committee, 2004-2012

Indiana State Bar Association, Taxation Section, Past Chair; Investment Committee, 2008-present; District 11 Representative to the Board of Governors, 2011-2012; Probate Review Committee, 2011-present; Finance Committee and Investment Committee, Member; Probate Review Committee of the Probate, Trust & Real Property Section, Chairperson

Indiana Trust and Estate Specialty Board (TESB), 2006-2015; Co-Chairperson, 2012-2014; author/presenter or author of certification training course materials, 2012, 2016, 2020, and 2024

Civic Activities

Lacy Foundation Board Member

The Indiana Patient Preferences Coalition

Presentations

ESTATE PLANNING COUNCIL OF INDIANAPOLIS, INC. 03/19/2026 – *Incorporating Younger Generations in Estate Plans*

Major Publications

"House Enrolled Act 1209 Increases Multi-Generational Trusts' Maximum Duration." *Res Gestae*, Vol. 67, No. 10, June 2024.

Important Proposed Changes in IRA Distribution Rules for "10-Year Payout" Beneficiaries, *Employee Relations Law Journal*, 2023

"New, Flexible Methods Available for Signing Indiana Wills." *Indiana Lawyer,* Vol. 32, No. 17, Oct. 13-26, 2021.

"Top Ten Takeaways About Indiana's New Health Care Advance Directive." *Res Gestae,* Vol. 65, No. 4, November 2021.

Featured Articles

One Big Beautiful Bill Act Enacts a Permanent Increase in the Estate and Gift Tax Lifetime Exclusion Amount for 2025 and Later Years

[Important Proposed Changes in IRA Distribution Rules for "10-Year Payout" Beneficiaries]

[When and Where Can I Sign My Will With "Remote Witnessing"? [Estate Planning Lessons Learned From the Pandemic]]