

Windfall Recipients May Need Lawyers to Help Protect Them From Themselves

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Laura A. Kelly

You could say Laura Kelly is in the big-money end of the legal profession. But for Kelly, a partner practicing wealth preservation and estate planning at McCarter & English in Newark, New Jersey, much of that money belongs to her often newly wealthy clients.

Kelly advises lottery winners, people who've inherited money and those who have built their own fortune. "I represent a client who was successful in his own right, and we did a regular estate plan," she explains. "Then he called one day and said, 'My relative left me \$50 million.' All of a sudden, it shifts your planning."