

Arnold Bloch Leibler

Lawyers and Advisers

Wealth management



Asset protection

- corporate, trust and business structures
- family disputes
- asset and liability management

Estate planning and implementation

- wills, testamentary trusts and letters of wishes
- will and trust-related litigation
- custodial services

Business succession planning

- asset and business succession and control
- succession documentation for trusts and companies
- inter-generational transfer of asset control and ownership
- family and governance agreements and constitutions
- management buy outs

Taxation planning and advice

- tax advice
- planning, general or specific transaction structuring
- Australian Taxation Office (ATO) audits and disputes
- GST, stamp duty and land tax issues

Charitable giving

- gifting
- private ancillary funds
- special purpose philanthropic entities and funds

Comprehensive wealth management advice

For clients of Arnold Bloch Leibler's wealth management practice, legal advice is not just business. It's personal.

We are the firm of choice for Australia's wealthiest and most influential individuals and family groups, many of whom are referred to in the 'rich lists' published by *Business Review Weekly* magazine.

Our wealth management lawyers are trusted advisers, attuned to the specific requirements of the private client. They offer discreet and practical advice that is based on an understanding of the dynamics of family businesses and the significant challenges that accompany significant wealth, whether inherited or self-made.

Arnold Bloch Leibler assists clients achieve their wealth management objectives through comprehensive commercial and taxation advice. We understand that there is more than just money at stake. Whether clients are seeking to preserve family businesses, realise equity positions or make provision for future generations, we offer effective solutions.

Our lawyers are experienced in structuring and establishing family agreements and constitutions to facilitate the effective participation by family members in, and management and ownership of, family businesses. Our extensive knowledge of direct and indirect taxes and the laws governing trusts and companies assists in creating enduring structures to manage and control family and business assets over succeeding generations.

Where necessary, we draw upon the expertise and experience of other lawyers from other areas of the firm. The wealth management team also works closely with other professional advisers, including accountants, financial planners, investment advisers and private bankers, to manage and transfer wealth effectively in accordance with client objectives.

Our services

Arnold Bloch Leibler's wealth management practice offers a comprehensive range of commercial and taxation services, aligned with clients' overall personal and financial objectives. These services include:

Asset protection

Loans and guarantees, family and domestic partner legislation and a growing list of 'at risk' pursuits involving directors' duties, professional practice risks and underlying business risks, can undermine the capital base of a business and erode family wealth. Arnold Bloch Leibler is experienced in the structuring and implementation of strategies with an emphasis on effective risk and liability management to minimise the risk of loss of family wealth.

Estate planning and implementation

Arnold Bloch Leibler is experienced in the formulation and implementation of appropriate strategies to ensure clients' testamentary wishes are fulfilled while addressing critical tax considerations and minimising the risk of disputes and family acrimony. We are also highly experienced in representing key stakeholders in disputes and litigation involving estates and trusts, including testator family maintenance claims and other litigation dealing with beneficiary claims.

Business succession planning

Effective business succession planning involves not only the transfer of control or ownership of a business, but also satisfying tax objectives and the requirements of stakeholders so that they are, to the greatest extent possible, fulfilled. Arnold Bloch Leibler has substantial experience in business succession issues, often advising clients in multi-generational family situations. Our wealth management practice has devised strategies for clients whose businesses are going through a transitional phase so that the appropriate control mechanisms and agreements are set in place in situations where either independent managers, or a particular family member, are appointed to run the affairs of the business. We also assist clients wishing to transfer business ownership to specific individuals in a manner that is fair and equitable to all family members and that ensures succession occurs as smoothly as possible.



Inside spread (l-r)
Mark Leibler AC
Henry Lanzer
Andrew Silberberg
Michael Dodge
Nicole Gordon

Front cover (l-r)
Ross Paterson
Joey Borensztajn

Taxation planning and advice

With the Australian taxation regime and the regulatory environment governing the inter-generational transfer of wealth being among the most complex in the world, an effective wealth management strategy is vital in protecting assets from the potentially erosive effects of taxation. This is particularly so given the ATO's continued targeting of high-net-worth individuals and family groups for investigation and audit.

Arnold Bloch Leibler's reputation in the area of tax is unrivalled. We provide advice about estate and succession planning, the identification of potential tax audit issues, the possible impact of taxation reform programmes on existing succession arrangements and the proactive structuring of assets in an active business environment.

The firm's extensive experience in dealing with senior tax officers and the vigour with which our lawyers negotiate on behalf of clients ensure we add value and achieve the best possible tax outcome.

Charitable giving

A large number of our private clients support various social causes through the establishment of charitable funds and special purpose philanthropic interests.

Arnold Bloch Leibler is at the forefront of this area of law, being widely experienced in planning for charitable giving from the perspective of both the donor and the recipient organisation and assisting in the establishment of special purpose philanthropic entities. Of particular note is our work in establishing private ancillary funds (PAFs), a Federal Government initiative to promote corporate and personal philanthropy. In addition, partners of the firm act as trustees on several client PAFs, and more broadly, advise on the tax-effective allocation and management of charitable funds.

To date, the firm has been involved in the establishment of a significant proportion of Australian PAFs, which provide for a combined potential capital base of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Key clients

Our clients are intensely private individuals and we respect their right to maintain a low profile in their business and personal dealings. We do not disclose specific details of our wealth management clients, or the assistance that we provide to them. However, among them are:

- major shareholders of Australia's largest privately owned and family run companies;
- family groups in which a number of members are independently wealthy;
- the founders of successful start-ups;
- charitable and not-for-profit foundations;
- trustees of large private funds;
- accountants, investment advisers and other professional services providers; and
- chief executive officers and senior executives of major corporations.



Contacts

If you would like assistance with any wealth management-related issues, please contact Ross Paterson on 61 3 9229 9747 or rpaterson@abl.com.au, or Joey Borensztajn on 61 3 9229 9639 or jborensztajn@abl.com.au.

Practice areas

Arnold Bloch Leibler offers a range of commercial and corporate advice, including:

- banking & finance;
- commercial & corporate;
- litigation & dispute resolution;
- native title & public interest law;
- property & development;
- public companies;
- reconstruction & insolvency;
- taxation;
- technology & intellectual property;
- trade practices;
- wealth management; and
- workplace advisory.

At Arnold Bloch Leibler, clients are regularly updated on current topics of legal and business interest. For copies of recent publications, or for further information about the firm, please visit the Arnold Bloch Leibler web site at www.abl.com.au.

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