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### **Rising Star Finds His Passion in Estate Planning**

By Tabatha Deans

***From the time he was a young boy, Tom Clark knew he wanted to make a difference in this world. "I always knew I wanted to be an attorney and contribute to my community," Clark explained.***

Early on, he was uncertain on which areas of the law he would predominantly focus, or exactly how he would make a difference. But now, ten years after finishing law school, Clark says his career has revealed an underserved, yet very important aspect of everyday life: estate planning.

Clark spent the first several years of his career working on pharmaceutical litigation. He then transitioned to representing patients who had been harmed by pharmaceuticals, ultimately working on a large-scale, national lawsuit that resulted in more than 5,000 patients or their family members receiving a settlement.

The next three years, Clark noted, made him realize how important estate planning can be to a family. Because many of the patients affected by the lawsuit had already passed away, administration of the settlement and distributing the settlement funds became tedious and time-consuming, in part because the patients had no legal explanation of what they wanted done with their settlement money and without Court involvement, no one had the power to accept their settlement.

"There was no way to distribute the settlement. Without proper planning, payments were delayed and patients and family members suffered," Clark explained.

After finally disbursing the majority of the settlements, Tom Clark knew he had found his passion in helping individuals and families plan properly for the future.

“Estate planning is a conversation that is difficult to start,” he said. With that in mind, his firm offers a free “Estate Planning Checkup” tool on his website.

While Clark is passionate about estate planning, Clark Legal Services also provides help in the areas of general litigation, probate, small business law, criminal defense, elder law and DUI/DWAI defense.

Tom Clark has been recognized as a “Colorado Super Lawyers” Rising Star in 2012, 2013, and 2014. As a Life Member of The Million Dollar Advocates Forum, he ranks among the elite trial attorneys for personal injury and mass tort litigation nationwide.

A Colorado native, he is the father of four children and also regularly offers his services to speak to groups about the legal process and legal history.

Call 720-358-4768 or visit [www.clarklegalservices.com](http://www.clarklegalservices.com) for more information.

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