

FIDUCIARY AND TRUSTEE SERVICES

An integral part of Cummings & Lockwood's services to private clients involves counseling with respect to the management of inheritances received by beneficiaries. The care of property for another is called "fiduciary" service. Family members often lack the time, flexibility and expertise to take on these responsibilities alone and discharge such duties adequately. In addition, friends and family members acting as fiduciaries expose themselves to personal liability, often without realizing it or taking appropriate measures to protect themselves.

We are often called on by individuals acting as fiduciaries to provide legal and administration advice in the discharge of their duties. In addition, the Cummings & Lockwood attorney who has established a personal relationship with a client during the estate planning process may be a good choice as a fiduciary in certain situations. The attorney also can serve as co-fiduciary with a responsible family member, other individual or institution and share responsibility for the administration of the estate or trust. When serving as a Personal Representative/Executor or as a Trustee, Cummings & Lockwood attorneys would either retain the same investment advisers used by the client, or, when necessary, identify other appropriate outside investment advisers for investment and portfolio management advice.

Whether acting as fiduciary, co-fiduciary or legal counsel to other fiduciaries, the attorneys in Cummings & Lockwood's Trusts and Estate's practice, together with our dedicated fiduciary accountants and paralegals, can meet all of the legal, tax and accounting requirements of the trust or estate.

Currently, Cummings & Lockwood attorneys act as fiduciaries for over 1,000 trust and estate clients and have over \$9 billion in assets under administration.

Cummings & Lockwood - *The Choice* for sophisticated legal counsel.