Curtis J. Shacklett is a shareholder and director of Barber & Bartz.  He obtained a B. S. degree in Zoology from the University of Tulsa in 1967 and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Tulsa in 1979.

He concentrates his law practice in the areas of estate planning, estate and trust administration, and elder law, with particular interest in estate planning using Special Needs Trusts for the disabled.  He is a frequent speaker for public and professional seminars on estate planning, continuing legal education for attorneys, CPAs, corporate trust officers, and parent groups for persons with disabilities, and is a contributing writer to a news magazine for seniors.

He is a past director of the Tulsa Estate Planning Forum, past director and current member of the Tulsa Title & Probate Lawyers Association, and is a member of the [National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA).](http://www.naela.org/) He has served as chairman of the Probate, Trust, & Elder Law Section of the Tulsa County Bar Association, and has been designated as an [Oklahoma Super Lawyer®](http://www.superlawyers.com/) for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012.  He has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America, 19th edition.*  He is rated [AV© Preeminent™ 5.0 out of 5 by Martindale Hubbell](http://www.martindale.com/Curtis-J-Shacklett/1491372-lawyer.htm?view=cr) and [Peer Rated 5.0 out of 5 by Lawyers.com](http://www.lawyers.com/Oklahoma/Tulsa/Curtis-J-Shacklett-1491372-a.html).  Mr. Shacklett is also listed in Oklahoma’s Top Rated Lawyers, 2012; and Tulsa’s Top Lawyers, 2011 and 2012 – Tulsa People Magazine.

He founded the Oklahoma Association of Special Needs Trust Administrators, a non-profit professional association designed to provide educational services to corporate Trustees handling special needs trusts for disabled persons.  He also writes a blog advising parents and professional trustees called [The Special Needs Trust Advisor](http://oasnta.blogspot.com/).

Curt has served as Chairman of the national [Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (USA)](http://www.pwsausa.org/index.html) as well as current Chairman, past President,  and co-founder of the [Prader-Willi Syndrome Association of Oklahoma](http://www.pwsaok.org/).

**Personal Biography**

I was born in Jackson, Mississippi and grew up in Tulsa, attended public schools and thereafter attended and graduated from the University of Tulsa, where I met my wife, Marion, who was born and raised in Toronto, Canada, the daughter of immigrants from Macedonia.  We were married in 1967 and have two adult sons, Jonathan and James.  Our oldest, Jonathan, has a rare genetic disorder known as Prader-Willi Syndrome.

Prior to entering law practice in 1979, I served for two years with Campus Crusade for Christ seeking to minister to college students at Vanderbilt University and other state colleges in Tennessee.  Thereafter, for four years I was a school teacher in Fort Lauderdale, Florida teaching and coaching children with various learning disabilities.

My personal interests include reading, skeet and pistol shooting, and bird hunting.  My wife and I enjoy leading marriage enrichment courses associated with our church and are involved with the [Oklahoma Marriage Initiative](http://www.okmarriage.org), a state authorized program to promote the welfare of marriage and families in Oklahoma.  My wife and I also enjoy providing  biblically based pre and post marriage counseling to engaged and courting couples and enjoy mentoring young married couples.

I find great satisfaction helping families plan for and deal with life transitions, including helping elderly parents cope with issues related to health care planning, planning for the life care of their disabled family members, guardianship matters, and passing their accumulated wealth in a wise manner for the benefit of their loved ones.

**Practice Areas**

* [Elder Law](http://www.barberbartz.com/attorneys/practice-areas/elder-law/)
* [Estate Planning](http://www.barberbartz.com/attorneys/practice-areas/estate-planning-elder-law/)
* [Estate & Trust Administration & Settlement](http://www.barberbartz.com/attorneys/practice-areas/probate-estate-trust-administration-settlement/)
* [Special Needs Trust](http://www.barberbartz.com/attorneys/practice-areas/estate-planning-elder-law/)