Einhorn Barbarito Partner, Gary Botwinick Responds To NJ.Com Query “How To Avoid Inheritance Fight With Neighbor's Kids”

Q. My elderly neighbor just told me he has added me to his will. I help him around his property sometimes and with shopping. His adult children live far away. I'm nervous that they will think I made him change his will. What can I do to protect myself from a possible legal mess?

A. The easiest way to avoid the suspicions of the children is simply to allow your neighbor to plan his affairs without your participation, said Gary Botwinick, an estate planning attorney and chair of the taxation/trusts and estates department at Einhorn Barbarito in Denville.

Your neighbor should retain his own lawyer who he will consult with, and you should avoid participating in the process, he said.

Read the NJ.Com ‘Biz Brain’ article here.