

SERVICES

Revocable Living Trusts

Simple Wills

Probates Services

Trust Administration Services

Guardianships and
Conservatorships

(for Minors and Adults)

Financial Power of Attorneys

Medical Care Power of Attorney

Mental Health Care Power of
Attorney

Life Insurance Trusts (ILITS)

Charitable trusts

Codicils/Amendments and
Restatements to current Estate
Plans

Advance Tax Planning

Trust Funding Services

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ESTATE PLANNING

*What
You Need to Know*



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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The purpose of Estate Planning is to ensure that you will be able to make use of and enjoy your property to the fullest. An effective estate plan allows you to pass your estate to your loved ones.

REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST

A Trust based estate plan is a mechanism whereby the Trustmaker continues to control their own property and affairs during their lifetime but allows for a private (non-court) way for a successor Trustee to manage their property for the benefit of one or more beneficiaries. A revocable living trust may be amended or revoked during the Trustmaker's lifetime, and if properly drafted may provide substantial tax, creditor and remarriage protection in addition to providing opportunities for the care and protection of your children and grandchildren.

LAST WILL & TESTAMENT

You should include a Will in any estate plan. A Trust based estate plan needs to incorporate a "pour over" Will, which accounts for things that were not properly transferred to a Trust during lifetime. Under a Will based estate plan, the Will is the document that will enable your assets to be distributed and your affairs handled pursuant to your personal instructions. It's important to note that if any property is passing through either type of Will, it must also go through the court driven probate process. The Will also documents your wishes concerning who shall be the guardian and or conservator of your minor children and whether you prefer to be cremated or buried.

GIFTING

Gifting outright or to an irrevocable trust is a wonderful estate planning tool that may allow a family to reduce their death tax liability, protect against creditors, all the while benefiting loved ones.

MEDICAL & MENTAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

The medical & mental power of attorney creates the right for your agent to make medical & mental health care decisions if you are unable to do so. These powers can be revoked or changed at any time prior to your incapacity. Each medical or mental power of attorney should now include a privacy release under the Federal HIPAA laws.

LIVING WILL

A medical power of attorney may not be enough authority for your agent to make the decision whether or not to keep you alive artificially. Creating a "living will" ensures your wishes are followed and can be revoked at any time.

DEFINE ESTATE PLANNING

I want to control my property while I am alive and able, take care of myself and my loved ones if I become disabled, and give what I have to whom I want, the way that I want, and when I want, while saving every tax dollar, professional fee and court cost possible.



ESTATE PLANNING FOR THE BLENDED FAMILY

According to the statistics over one-half of all marriages will end in divorce. An increasing number of those will end up in second, third or even fourth marriages, thereby creating a "blended family." The unique circumstances that come with blended families can be endless... Let us help you plan for your blended families. The following are questions many blended families have:

- Do I need to amend my current plan or revoke it and create a new plan?
- What rights does my new spouse have over my estate if I do not update my current estate plan?
- Can I disinherit my new spouse completely and leave everything to my children?
- Who is going to serve as my Trustee or Personal Representative?
- Will my new spouse treat my children fairly after I am gone?
- Can my new spouse delete my children as beneficiaries after I'm deceased?
- Who will take care of me during a disability?
- Will my new spouse have the ability to spend my children's inheritance during his/her lifetime?
- What if my new spouse remarries again after my death? Will this further remove my children from their inheritance?
- These are only a few of the many things to consider when creating your personal estate plan.

WE CAN HELP YOU WITH CLIENT EDUCATION ABOUT

- With client education about estate planning issues, revocable trusts, irrevocable trust, trusteeship, wills, power of attorneys, etc.
- With helper (family) education

Call us today!
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