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The Importance of Estate Planning

A carefully constructed estate plan is vitally important for two reasons. First, it allows you to distribute your property in the manner, time, and amounts that you wish. Second, it permits you to take advantage of a variety of tax-minimizing techniques that can increase your family's security and make it possible to fulfill your personal desires and objectives.

By taking pen in hand to complete this guide, you provide a source of vital information to those individuals who will be charged with the task of carrying out your final wishes. With careful planning and foresight, you can leave your family and friends with a plan that reflects the same legacy you built during your life.

If at any time you need assistance in the planning of your estate, please accept our invitation to call upon our staff. If you have a question about estate planning, would like the proper "will language," or would like to know the financial advantages of a living trust or a bequest, your answer is as close to you as your telephone.

Three steps to ensuring your legacy:

- **Step 1:** Fill out and complete *A Guide to Planning Your Will in 2019.* Planning for your will takes careful preparation. So consider any outstanding decisions on your final wishes before completing the guide. (Call upon our staff at any time if you have a question about planning your estate.)
- **Step 2:** Once complete, take the guide to your attorney. Your attorney will review your guide, help you make any final decisions, and prepare your will.
- **Step 3:** Review your will regularly. Your plan should always reflect your current circumstances, so review your will regularly to ensure that those you love will be provided for according to your wishes.

The personal and financial information record of

(DATE COMPLETED)	
(DATE COMPLETED)	
(DATE REVISED)	
(DATE REVISED)	
(CATE DELUCED)	
(DATE REVISED)	

I. Vital Statistics

A. Personal information

Name		
Permanent address		
Phone		
Summer/Winter residence		
Phone		
Business address		
Phone		
Date of birth	Place of birth	
Social Security No	Military service No	
Taxpayer identification No.		
B. Marital information		
Current marital/relationship status ☐ single ☐ married ☐ widowed ☐ divorced ☐ sep	- -	
Name		
Date and place married		
Marriage certificate located		
Formerly married to		
Date and place married		
Marriage terminated by □ death □ divorce □ annulme	ent	
Date and place terminated		
Termination papers located		
Comments		

C. Family information*

Father's name	Year of birth
Address	
Mother's name	Year of birth
Address	
Children's names, birth dates, addresses:	
Brothers' and sisters' names, birth dates, addresses:	
*If a family member is deceased, list names followed by "(deceased)."	
Grandchildren's names, birth dates, addresses:	
Personal comments	

II. Employment and Business Interests

Employer	Phone
Address	
	Position
Other business interests:	
■ Name of business	
Type: ☐ sole proprietorship ☐ partnership	☐ closely held corporation
Value of interest \$	
Type: ☐ sole proprietorship ☐ partnership	
Value of interest \$,

Charitable-planning pointer for 2019: A "redeemed" charitable gift. A gift of closely held stock—C, S, LLC, or LLP—will produce a charitable deduction for the fair-market value of the shares and escape capital-gain tax on any appreciation. Later, the business could buy back the shares from the charity for cash.

III. Financial Information

A. Banks

Bank			
Address			
Type of account: □ joint □ individual			
Account No.	Balance \$		
In name(s) of			
■ Bank			
Address			
Type of account: □ joint □ individual			
Account No.	Balance \$		
In name(s) of			
B. Certificates of deposit/money marke	et certificates		
■ Bank	Amount \$		
Туре	Maturity date		
■ Bank	Amount \$		
Туре	Maturity date		
■ Bank	Amount \$		
Туре	Maturity date		
C. Retirement benefits			
☐ Pension plan/profit sharing			
Description			
☐ Deferred-compensation plan			
Payable as lump sum \$ or		for	years
☐ Stock option, type			
Restrictions			

☐ IRA/Keogh plan, other		
Amount invested \$	Type of investments	
Options available		
□ IRA/Keogh plan, other		
Amount invested \$	Type of investments	
Options available		
☐ IRA/Keogh plan, other		
Amount invested \$	Type of investments	
Options available		
☐ Annuities		
Source		
Investment \$	Payment terms	
Source		
Investment \$	Payment terms	
Comments		
☐ Other retirement benefits		
☐ Other retirement benefits		
Comments		

Charitable-planning pointer for 2019: Leave the income-tax problem to charity. Most qualified retirement-plan benefits represent funds that have never been taxed—neither the original contributions nor their earnings. Consequently, distributions represent taxable income when they are paid out—even if they are paid out after death to someone other than the owner of the plan benefits. Collectively, such untaxed amounts are known as "income in respect of a decedent," or IRD.

If you plan to make charitable provisions at death, items of IRD make an excellent choice to fund such gifts. **Reason:** Because charities are tax-exempt, they do not pay income tax on items of IRD. It is far more beneficial to leave items of IRD to charity and other assets to other beneficiaries.

D. Lifetime and testamentary charitable gifts you have made or would like to make

■ Charity		
Type of gift	Date	
Phone		
Charity		
Type of gift	Date	
Phone		
Comments		
Charity		
Type of gift	Date	
Phone		
Comments		
Charity		
Type of gift		
Phone		
Comments		
Charity		
	Date	
Phone		
Comments		

IV. Insurance

A. Life Insurance

Face amount \$	Policy No	
Description of policy		
Date of issue	Premium \$	
	Due on	
Insured	Policy owner	
Beneficiaries: 1st	2nd	
Cash value \$	Loan outstanding	
Settlement options		
ompany		
Face amount \$	Policy No	
Description of policy		
	Premium \$	
Date of issue		
Date of issue	Premium \$	
Date of issue	Premium \$Due on	
Date of issue Insured Beneficiaries: 1st	Premium \$ Due on Policy owner	

Charitable-planning pointer for 2019: "Replacing" the value of a charitable gift with life insurance. There are many creative ways to use life insurance in your charitable giving. For example, you can simply designate our organization as the beneficiary of a policy you already own—or you can designate us the beneficiary of a new policy. If you have a policy that was taken out for a particular purpose that you no longer need—perhaps a policy purchased to ensure the availability of education funds in case of premature death—you can make a gift of the policy itself and obtain valuable deductions.

One of the most creative uses of life insurance in charitable planning is for "wealth replacement": You make a significant charitable gift and use the resulting tax savings to purchase life insurance to replace its value in your estate.

Whether or not such a plan will work for you depends on your age and your insurability. If you are in good health, and depending on your age, you may buy more insurance with the tax savings.

A little additional planning may yield even better results. Through the use of a life insurance trust, it may be possible not only to replace the value of the asset but to remove that value from your taxable estate. You will want to consult carefully with your legal and insurance advisors before undertaking such a plan. The benefits can be substantial.

B. Health, medical, and other insurance policies

☐ Hospitalization	Policy No	
Company		
	Policy No	
Company		
	Policy No	
Company		
	Policy No	
Company		
	Policy No	
Company		
☐ General liability	Policy No	
Company		
	Policy No	
Company		
☐ Automobile	Company	
Description of car	Policy No	
Description of car	DalimaNa	

V. Property

A. Residences

Description	Date acquired
Cost basis \$	Addition to basis
Current value: land \$	+ building \$
= total \$	Date
Mortgagee	Balance\$
Terms	Date
Held: □ jointly □ community □ tenants-in-common	
Names of other owners and percent contributed by each	
Description	Date acquired
Cost basis \$	Addition to basis
Current value: land \$	+ building \$
= total \$	Date
Mortgagee	Balance\$
Terms	Date
Held: □ jointly □ community □ tenants-in-common	
Names of other owners and percent contributed by each	
•	

Charitable-planning pointer for 2019: Make a gift of your home at death and enjoy tax benefits during life. If you are planning to leave your farm or personal residence to our organization at your death, you may benefit from a special plan that makes your gift irrevocable during life. You can make a gift right now of the "remainder interest" in your farm or personal residence, retain a "life estate" that gives you the right to live there for the rest of your life, and claim a sizable current income-tax deduction. The amount of the deduction depends, among other factors, on both the value of your property and your age. Generally speaking, the more valuable the property and the older the donor or donors, the larger the deduction.

B. Investment real estate

Description	Date acquired
Cost basis \$	Addition to basis
Current value: land \$	+ building \$
= total \$	Date
Mortgagee	Balance\$
Terms	Date
Held: ☐ jointly ☐ community ☐ tenants-in-common	
Names of other owners and percent contributed by each	
Description	Date acquired
Cost basis \$	Addition to basis
Current value: land \$	_+ building\$
= total \$	Date
Mortgagee	Balance\$
Terms	Date
Held: □ jointly □ community □ tenants-in-common	
Names of other owners and percent contributed by each	

C. Personal property

Stocks and Bonds			
Company	Shares	Cost basis	Date acquired
	Total cost basis \$		
Mutual Funds			
Company	Shares	Cost basis	Date acquired
			······································
	Total cost basis \$		

U.S. Bonds

Туре	Face amount	Issue date	Maturity date
\$_			
Serial No			
\$ _			
Serial No			
\$ _			
Serial No			
Tangible Assets			
Company/Item	Cost basis		Date acquired
-			
Trusts			
Trustee	Phone	<u> </u>	
Address			
Attorney of record	Phone	<u> </u>	
Address			
Type of trust			
□ revocable □ irrevocable Est. value	\$		
Retained powers, if any			
Trustee	Phone	2	
Address			
Attorney of record			
Address			

Type of trust	
□ revocable □ irrevocable Est. value \$	
Retained powers, if any	
■ Trustee	Phone
Address	
Attorney of record	Phone
Address	
Type of trust	
Retained powers, if any	
What would you like the trusts to accomplish?	
Safe Deposit Box	
Box location	
Box No.	
Key location	
Other Investments	
Description	
Value	
Comments	

Charitable-planning pointer for 2019: Charitable gifts can make capital-gain taxes disappear. Federal tax laws provide some very special benefits for using appreciated securities and real estate to fund charitable gifts. Donors are entitled to take an income-tax deduction for the full fair-market value of the assets but do not have to recognize or pay taxes on any of the paper gain.

VI. Obligations

A. Accounts receivable

■ Due from		Phone
Address		
Amount \$	Terms	Due date
Comment		
■ Due from		Phone
Address		
Amount \$	Terms	Due date
Comment		
■ Due from		Phone
Address		
Amount \$	Terms	Due date
Comment		
B. Liabilities		
■ Due to		Phone
Address		
Amount \$	Terms	Due date
Comment		
■ Due to		Phone
Address		
Amount \$	Terms	Due date
Comment		
■ Due to		Phone
Address		
Amount \$	Terms	Due date
Comment		

The following claims or lawsuits are pending:				
Attorney of record				
Phone				
Attorney of record				
Phone				
D. Credit cards				
Company	Account No.	Line of credit		
E. Net worth				
Total assets—Sections II, III, IV and V:	\$			
Total Liabilities—Section VI:	-\$			
Net worth:	\$			

C. Claims or lawsuits

Notes:

VII. Location of Important Papers

agreements, etc.)

Vital statistics
Last will and testament
Living trust agreement(Some individuals have a living trust in addition to a will. The trust is revocable, and you, or you and your spouse are entitled to all of the income while living. Then assets in the trust will be distributed to named beneficiaries. See Charitable-planning pointer below.)
Durable power of attorney
Living will
(This document, sometimes also called an "advance directive" or "directive to physicians," provides instructions about the care you wish if you are ever in a terminal condition and unable to speak for yourself. A living will should not be confused with a living trust.)
Power of attorney for health care decisions (This is sometimes called a "health care proxy." It empowers someone to act on your behalf regarding general decisions about health care—for example, selection of a long-term care facility. Some people prefer that the person who makes these decisions be different from the person given a durable power of attorney to handle financial matters.)
Guardianship of children and/or elderly parents
Brokerage statements regarding securities investments
Bank statements
Business agreements
Titles and deeds to real estate, vehicles, etc.
Tax returns from past years and tax information for current year
Charitable documents (This would include gift agreements pertaining to the use of any contributions you have made, pledge

Charitable-planning pointer: You might want to consider a living trust if: (1) you want to maintain privacy because the trust is not a public record; (2) you would like to avoid costs and delays associated with probate; (3) you own real estate in a different state from where you live and want to avoid the necessity of separate probate in that state; and (4) you want to provide for the management of assets in the event of incapacity. Even if you choose to have a living trust (which may or may not be necessary, depending on your situation), you still need a will to cover the disposition of property that was not transferred to the trust. You can name a charity as a beneficiary of a living trust as well as under a will.

VIII. Personal Advisors

Physician		
Specialty	Phone	
Physician		
Specialty	Phone	
Clergy person		
Phone		
Attorney		
Phone		
• Accountant		
Phone		
Address		
Phone		

•	Investment broker
	Address
	Phone
	Tax consultant
	Address
	Phone
•	Other
	Address
	Phone
•	Other
	Address
	Phone
•	Other
	Address
	Phone

Notes:

IX. Funeral and Burial Instructions

Funeral director	Phone
Address	
Religious affiliation	
	Phone
Fraternal affiliation	
	Phone
Designation of memorial gifts	
☐ Cemetery plot ☐ Cemetery vault ☐ None	
Name, location	
Phone	
Section No.	Plot No.
Location of deed	

X. Last Will and Testament

Executor under will		
Address		
	Phone	
Address		
	Phone	
Address		
■ Trustee		
Address		
Phone		
Date of last will	Codicil	
Attorney of record		
Phone		
Comments		
-		

XI. Philanthropic Interests

My principal philanthropic interests are in the following organizations (also see page 9):				

Notes to executor	

A Complete Estate Plan Still Needs Periodic Review

Once your plan is complete it should not be filed away and forgotten. Changes in personal and financial circumstances and revisions in the tax laws require frequent review of your plan. Perhaps, in completing this personal and financial information record, you have discovered that such a review might be necessary.

Contact Us to Discuss Your Gift Plans

We would also like to show you how the various forms of outright and deferred giving can be incorporated effectively into your plans. All such consultations will be arranged and conducted confidentially and with no obligation.



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