

Estate Planning Deficiencies Check-Up

Did you know...?

If you don't have a valid will or trust, then state laws will determine how your assets pass, to whom they pass, and when they pass. This could lead to unnecessary estate and income taxes, your estate being consumed by creditors, your estate being tied up in probate court (possibly for years...), and other undesired results, and is perhaps the most costly and emotionally draining way to pass assets to your loved ones.

Circle One

Do you have a Will or a Trust in place?..... Yes No Don't Know

Even if you circled "Yes" above, Congress, state legislatures, and the courts are constantly changing the rule book. In fact, there have been several major estate and income tax law changes in recent years. Depending on your circumstances, an out-of-date estate plan might be missing valuable planning opportunities and could cost your family dearly in extra taxes and administration costs.

1) Has your Will or Trust been professionally reviewed in the last two years? Yes No Don't Know

2) Does your current Health Care Power of Attorney permit the person of your choosing (spouse, child, family) to make emergency health care decisions for you in the event you are unable to do so?..... Yes No Don't Know

3) Does your current estate plan contain a customized plan to determine your mental incapacity/disability (in the event it ever happens to you)?..... Yes No Don't Know

4) Does your current estate plan give instructions for your care and the care of your loved ones in the event of disability?..... Yes No Don't Know

5) Are you certain that your current estate plan will minimize possible federal and state estate taxes at your death, including taxes on your house, life insurance and IRAs? Yes No Don't Know

6) If you have a Revocable Living Trust in place as part of your estate plan, is your trust fully funded so that your family can avoid the delays and expenses of probate? Yes No Don't Know

7) Have you taken steps to avoid possible will contests and disputes during the administration of your estate?..... Yes No Don't Know

8) Does your current estate plan protect your children's inheritance in the event your surviving spouse chooses to remarry?..... Yes No Don't Know

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Circle One

- 9) Have you recently checked the beneficiary designations of your retirement plans and life insurance policies, and are you confident that you have not listed your estate or any minor children as either primary or secondary beneficiaries?..... Yes No Don't Know
- 10) Does your current estate plan provide creditor and lawsuit protection for assets passed to your surviving spouse?..... Yes No Don't Know
- 11) Does your current estate plan provide creditor and lawsuit protection for assets passed to your children?..... Yes No Don't Know
- 12) Are you confident that your current estate plan is income tax efficient?..... Yes No Don't Know
- 13) Does your current plan protect your children's inheritance from a divorcing spouse? Yes No Don't Know
- 14) Are you satisfied with the persons you named as guardians of your minor children in your current plan?..... Yes No Don't Know
- 15) Are you satisfied with the persons selected as executor and trustee in your current estate plan?..... Yes No Don't Know
- 16) Are you confident that your executor, power of attorney, and successor trustee are prepared to act on your behalf when asked to? Yes No Don't Know

If you circled **No** or **Don't Know** anywhere on this check-up – you may benefit greatly from discussing your particular situation with an **estate planning attorney**.

If you are not working with any other attorney at this time, and would like to address your issues during a **complimentary consultation**, please complete the bottom of this form and send it to us by **email, fax, or mail**.

We will contact you to schedule your complimentary consultation.

Yes! I'd like to receive a **complimentary consultation** with the **LAW OFFICE OF LANA BLACK** to discuss my estate planning deficiencies.

Your Name: _____ Date: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

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