

## Estate Planning

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#### Why does a person need estate planning?

- How the asset is titled may help or hinder the passing of it to the appropriate person.
- The law has a hierarchy that is used if you do not have a will or if you do not title the asset correctly.
- You may title many assets in ways that keeps that asset out of probate.
- If you have a will, probate costs can be reduced especially if you title the property to transfer outside of probate.



## Why do you need a will?

- 1) You decide how your estate will be distributed.
- 2) You decide who will take care of your minor children.
- 3) To avoid a lengthy probate process.
- 4) Minimize estate taxes.
- 5) You decide who will wind up the affairs of your estate.
- 6) You can disinherit individuals who would otherwise stand to inherit.
- 7) Make gifts and donations.
- 8) Avoid greater legal challenges.
- 9) Because you can change your mind if your life circumstances change.
- 10) Because tomorrow is not promised.



### What is a Power of Attorney

- Medical with advance directives and HIPAA:
  - State your preferences about certain kinds of life-sustaining treatments
  - Allows someone you trust to tell the doctor those preferences
  - HIPAA Release allows the doctor to tell your family.

- Durable also know as financial
  - The person can handle paying bills, managing bank accounts, overseeing investments, and preparing and filing tax returns on your behalf.
  - It can be immediate or when you become incapacitated.



#### What is a Declaration of Remains?

- The law has a hierarchy for the person to decide what happens to your remains.
- You may want someone else to decide your final resting place and ceremony.
- You may want to prevent people on the same level from fighting.
- You may want to prevent stress of the loved one with a written plan in place.
- You may want to decide to be cremated when others want you buried.



# Why have a Declaration of Guardianship?

- The law has a hierarchy for the person to decide what happens to you and your estate if your become incapacitated.
- You may want someone else to decide your life after becoming incapaciated.
- You may want to prevent people on the same level from fighting.
- You may want to prevent stress of the loved one with a written plan in place.
- You may want to decide that certain people should NOT have that ability.



#### What other documents or actions?



THERE ARE MANY TYPES OF PROPERTY DEEDS THAT CAN BE FILED TO KEEP IT OUT OF PROBATE.



SOME ACCOUNTS AND PERSONAL ASSETS CAN BE TITLED CERTAIN WAYS TO KEEP IT OUT OF PROBATE.



THE MANY TYPES OF TRUSTS ARE USED FOR MANY REASONS TO KEEP IT OUT OF PROBATE.



#### The Plan



Complete the Worksheet online.



Send it to Robinson Law through the Portal.



Have a meeting with Cristal Robinson about the worksheet and your wishes.



Robinson Law will complete the forms.



Have a meeting with Cristal Robinson about the completed forms.



You will have a meeting to sign the forms with a notary in your area.



## Cristal Robinson, JD/MBA

#### Website

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or

•www.ALT789.com

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