

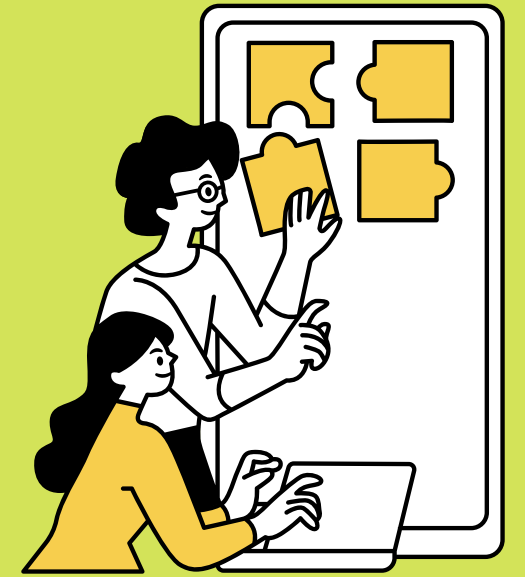
FIVE STEPS OF

ESTATE PLANNING

1

INITIAL ESTATE PLAN CONSULTATION

Give your attorney crucial information on your wishes, who you want to be in charge of your estate or medical decisions.



2

ESTATE PLAN DRAFTING AND DESIGN

Continuous drafting and meetings with the attorney until your wishes have been fulfilled and all documents meet your standard.

3

ESTATE PLAN SIGNING

All documents must be signed in the presence of a notary and two witnesses. We partner with a mobile notary that knows the ins and outs of our documents and will ensure proper signing of your estate plan from the comfort of your home, or location of your choosing.

4

REVIEW FINAL ESTATE PLAN AND DISCUSS NEXT STEPS

Meet with your attorney and discuss the steps necessary to fund your trust. You will also obtain online access to the pdf versions of your documents to store in a safe place.



5

FUND YOUR TRUST

Take the necessary steps to ensure all of your assets are owned within your trust.



Why is it important to fund your trust properly?

Avoids probate

Properly funded trusts bypass the probate process, saving time, money, and ensuring privacy for beneficiaries.



Avoids Legal Disputes

Ensures clarity in asset ownership, reducing the risk of conflicts among heirs or beneficiaries.

Minimizes Taxes

Proper trust funding can reduce estate taxes, gift taxes, or capital gains taxes for beneficiaries.



Ensures Asset Distribution

Funding a trust guarantees that assets are distributed according to the trust's terms and the grantor's wishes.



Protects Assets

Certain trusts can shield assets from creditors or lawsuits.

Protects Beneficiaries

Trusts can provide financial oversight, protect minors, and support individuals with special needs or spendthrift tendencies.

Supports Incapacity Planning

Ensures assets are managed on behalf of the grantor if they become incapacitated.

Simplifies Administration

Ensures the trustee has access to and control of all assets, making trust administration more efficient.

Estate Administration

Follow the trail to show you your path to administer an estate

Did the deceased person have a Trust?

YES

Was the Trust funded properly?

YES

There will be less legal fees, possible tax work, but no court time.

NO

Probate will be necessary to administer the estate.

NO

Does the deceased person have a Will?

YES

There will be fees associated with opening the case in court, publication to creditors, legal fees

NO

There will be fees to obtain a bond, fees associated with opening case in court, publication to creditors, legal fees.

Here is an example of the steps for estate administration

Probate Steps - with Will, but Trust was not properly funded

Opening Estate

Signing initial documents, paying fee to open estate

Publishing Notice

Publishing notice to unknown creditors - given 6 month period to make claims against estate. Estate cannot move forward during this time.

Distributing Estate

Distributing remaining assets to the beneficiaries of the estate and laid out in Will

Opening Account & Sending Notice to Heirs

Obtaining an EIN number. Taking documentation of open estate to bank to open account. Sending notice to heirs and legatees

Paying Creditors & Tax Steps

After claims date, paying unknown creditors, known creditors. Preparing and filing all necessary tax information to IRS.