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3rd Quarter
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Make Sure Your Estate Plan Is Updated To Reflect Our Changing Times

As the Coronavirus continues to alter our daily way of life, more people are realizing the importance of getting their estate planning documents in order. Certain people are particularly at risk for developing complications from the novel coronavirus infection. This holds especially true for our aging parents and grandparents in our lives right now. We face questions including, but not limited to, what are their pressing needs right now? From helping them to avoid isolation to learning technology that is new to them to simply ordering groceries from the grocery store, there is much we can do to ensure that our loved ones are provided for. Having in place documents -- including a durable power of attorney, a health care proxy, a medical directive, a HIPAA release and a will -- is essential in the event that illness strikes.

As we move past May there was special significance as we thought about older Americans as we celebrated National Older Americans Month and National Elder Law Month, and Memorial Day. We understand their challenges and work alongside our clients to find solutions to their evolving needs, even now as Covid-19 has altered many of them. Covid-19 and other national issues pose very real health risks to seniors and at-risk individuals. It is important that everyone have an estate plan that includes health care documents. These health care documents should not only give legal authority to a trusted decision maker but also describe the health care that the person would want should he or she be unable to speak for him or herself. In addition, it is important that you plan states under what conditions life-sustaining treatment should be maintained or terminated. Many estate plans contain a prohibition on intubation, which can be used to prolong life, even in a vegetative state. However, in the case of Covid-19, intubation and placement on a ventilator can actually save a patient's life (although many patients who are intubated still die). If your estate plan contains a blanket prohibition on intubation, you may want to rethink that.

Also remember, a Last Will & Testament has no legal authority until after death, and does not help manage your affairs when you are incapacitated, whether by illness or injury.

Talk to your loved ones to ensure they each have a plan, and assess if it needs to be updated. We know this topic may raise more questions. We encourage you to get the answers you need for yourself and your loved ones. We realize that people don't want to put themselves or others at risk, so we have devised creative solutions to provide you the answers, such as virtual Zoom meetings, to eliminate contact. We also are taking special precautions with office meetings for clients that still prefer to meet in person. Do not hesitate to contact us now, to register for an upcoming workshop or schedule a meeting with Shirley Derke. We are here to take care of your needs.

Upcoming Estate Planning Workshops

"Get Answers to Your Estate Planning Questions"
A solid estate plan is necessary in these changing times!



Reserve Your Seat Today
Call 702-386-6800 or
email ShirleyDerke@gmail.com
Seating is Limited for Social Distancing!

Thursday, June 11th: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Saturday, June 20th: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Thursday, July 9th: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Saturday, July 18th: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

