



Estate Planning

Why Develop An Estate Plan?

When talk turns to taxes, most people think of income taxes. Yet for many, estate taxes will be the largest single tax they'll ever face. With estate tax rates running at their current level, the value of your estate left for your family could be diminished significantly. Without proper planning, you could lose more than half of what you've spent a lifetime building to estate taxes.

What An Estate Plan Can Do For You

Estate planning is the logical next step to the financial planning you've done over the years. With the help of a qualified team of experts that may include your attorney, financial advisor, trust officer and accountant, you can plan for the distribution of your assets and significantly minimize taxes, expenses and probate costs. By carefully planning now, you control how much property your family receives and when they receive it.

Your estate plan can be as simple or as complex as your needs dictate. What's important is that you coordinate all of the tools that are available to accomplish your goals, taking into consideration your will, contracts, property ownership arrangements, trusts, charitable gifts and life insurance policies.

A Good Estate Plan Should Offer:

- An organized and timely transfer of your estate, assuring that all of your assets are distributed according to your wishes.
- Income for your survivors, so they won't face the added strain of a cash-flow problem at your death and before distribution.
- Liquidity to meet expenses so that your family isn't forced to sell valuable property or assets at a heavy loss.
- Reduced taxes and costs, by settling your estate quickly and efficiently, minimizing the money your heirs pay to the government or courts.
- Effective management of your estate—an important benefit that makes sure your estate will be managed prudently with the expertise of competent professionals.
- Flexibility to adapt to changes throughout your life.

**“Don't leave
a lifetime of
careful financial
planning
incomplete.”**

Don't leave a lifetime of careful financial planning incomplete. Preserve and enhance what you've created over your lifetime with an estate plan that can leave a legacy for generations to come. Contact a TFG financial professional today!

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