



UPSTATE ESTATE LAW

Preparing for your Initial Consultation - Estate Planning

HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PREPARE FOR YOUR INITIAL ESTATE PLANNING CONSULTATION WITH UPSTATE ESTATE LAW, PA

1. Bring copies of any current estate planning documents you have.
2. If applicable, bring a copy of any prenuptial, postnuptial, cohabitation, or domestic partnership agreement.
3. If applicable, bring a copy of formation documents, by-laws, and operating agreements for any small businesses you own an interest in.
4. Prepare a list of assets (if married, designate whether each asset is held jointly or separately).
5. Prepare a list of debts (if married, designate whether each debt is held jointly or separately).
6. Bring any type of statement of net worth or financial statement, if you have one. Please be sure to include all retirement assets and life insurance policies.
7. On your statement of net worth, identify: (a) any significant inheritance you anticipate receiving; (b) any interest you currently have as a beneficiary in any trust.
8. Prepare a list of your concerns and questions about your estate plan. Here are some examples of questions many clients have during their consultation:
 - What percentage of your practice is devoted to estate planning?
 - What happens to my estate if I do not have a will?
 - What is a revocable or living trust?
 - What is probate?
 - How will my estate be affected by estate and income taxes?
 - How much can I gift each year?



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- How can I provide for beneficiaries who are minors or who have special needs?
- How can I appoint someone to make decisions for me regarding my medical treatment?
- How often do I need to update my estate plan?
- Will anyone else be working on my case?
- How are your hours billed?



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Estate Planning Concerns Checklist and Net Worth Estimate

Name: _____

Date: _____

Check Any Items That Are A Concern To You:

- Young, Immature, or Financially Irresponsible Beneficiaries
- Protecting Beneficiary's inheritance from taxes, divorce, addiction, or mental illness
- Guardianship for Minor Children
- Beneficiary With a Disability or Special Needs
- Probate Avoidance
- Addressing concerns related to re-marriage; children from prior relationship
- Real Estate Ownership in Multiple States or Counties
- Declining Health (Yourself or a Potential Beneficiary), Medical/Nursing Home Care Expenses
- Disinheriting a Close Family Member (spouse, child)
- Charitable Giving
- Plan for the transfer and survival of a family business
- Lack of Choices for Estate Personal Representative/Trustee (3 alternates are suggested)
- Unusual Assets (art collection, musical instruments, classic cars, firearms, cryptocurrency, etc.)
- Preserving Wealth for Multiple Generations
- Avoiding a conservatorship ("living probate") in case of a disability
- Provide that your death shall not be unnecessarily prolonged by artificial means or measures
- Other (_____)

Please check the box that most accurately reflects your estate's net worth (include life insurance payoffs after your death and retirement accounts when making your choice)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$0 - \$500,000.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000.00 - \$2,000,000.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000,000.00 - \$5,000,000.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000,000.00 - \$11,000,000.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$11,000,000.00 - \$25,000,000.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000,000.00+ |