

Estate Planning Essentials

Enodare

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Enodare : Estate Planning Essentials before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Estate Planning Essentials:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Detailed and easy to read. Covers pluses and minuses of various options.By Ali Julia"Estate Planning Essentials" is easy to read, it has rich content and is quite extensive. I am including a complete table of content at the end of this review so you can see exactly how extensive it is and what is covered.I think this kit is useful whether you plan to go to a lawyer or do it yourself. Even if you go to the lawyer this book is helpful because, for example, it will help you determine what type of will you need. It talks no only about advantages of Living Trusts, but disadvantages as well. A few years ago my company had a benefits fair where they invited some legal firm to talk to us, and I recall that company tried convince everyone that they needed to set up a trust. I had a suspicion that they were just trying to sell an expensive option to everyone not just to the people who

really needed it. If I had this book it would have given me an unbiased explanation who needs a trust and who does not. In addition to wills and trusts, it covers probate and probate avoidance measures. As well as a section on avoiding estate taxes. There are a lot of tips and small details that I would not have thought of on my own. This book includes not only explanations but worksheets and forms. It also has line by line instructions on how to fill out the official forms. This is the second addition of the book. The basic information in the book will continue to be educational and correct even with the passing of time, but some laws such as taxes may change. Keep this in mind as the publication date gets further away in time. Overall, I found this to be a very helpful book. Not only was it helpful with the forms, but it helped me organize my thoughts and served as a reminder of the things to think about.

Ali Julia review

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This is is an excellent reference for those who want to delve into the generalities of estate planning ...By D. FowlerIn this day and age, most people don't have assets that require the legal expertise of specialized lawyers, but could use a little guidance in the estate planning department. However, there are other things you need to consider if you are thinking of estate planning. For example, if you have young children you should consider designating a guardian or conservator in the event that you and/or your spouse or partner suddenly die or become incapacitated. I do remember the conversations surrounding this issue and there was some controversy. Issues such as this one are important and are, so to speak, part of the whole estate planning package. There are encyclopedic books on estate planning, but essentially this one is geared toward the average person who should take the issue under consideration. The publisher claims that their aim is to "provide access to quality legal information and products at an affordable price." Much of the information in this book is presented in a conversational, easy-to-read manner that many will appreciate. It does steer away from the legalized type jargon that can be mind-boggling. Once you begin to read, if you have any questions, I'd recommend researching your state statutes (they can vary from state-to-state), or in some cases you just may decide that you do indeed need to retain a lawyer.CONTENTS:CHAPTER 1: ESTATE PLANNING BASICSWhat is Estate Planning?What's Included in Your Estate?How to Plan Your EstateDo I Need to Plan My Estate?Children and GuardiansChoosing BeneficiariesLast Will and TestamentRevocable Living TrustsExecutors and ProbateAssets that Don't go Through ProbatePlanning for Incapacity - Power of Attorney for Finance and PropertyPlanning for Incapacity - Advance Healthcare DirectivesLiving WillsHealthcare Power of AttorneyReducing Taxes on Your EstateFuneral ArrangementsConclusionCHAPTER 2: CHILDREN, GUARDIANS AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENTWhat is a Guardian?Sole and Joint GuardiansAlternate GuardiansAppointment of a GuardianWho Can be a Guardian?Should You Appoint Guardians for Your Minor Children?What to Consider When Choosing a Guardian for Your ChildWhat Happens When No Guardian is Named in Your Will?Management of Children's PropertyOptions for Property ManagementAppointment of a Property GuardianUniform Transfer to Minors' ActIndividual Child TrustsChildren's Pot TrustsProviding for Children with Special NeedsWhom Should You Choose as a Trustee?Trustee's DutiesCHAPTER 3: GIFTS AND BENEFICIARIESGifting Your AssetsHow to Make a GiftTypes of GiftsSpecific Item GiftsCash Gifts (also known as monetary or pecuniary legacies)Gift of the Residuary EstateTypes of BeneficiariesSpecific Gift BeneficiaryAlternate BeneficiaryResiduary BeneficiaryWho May Not be a Beneficiary?Changing BeneficiariesGifts to SpousesCommunity Property StatesCommon Law StatesGifts to MinorsUnmarried or Same-Sex CouplesGifts to CharitiesFailed GiftsImposing Conditions on the Receipt of GiftsDisinheritanceDisinheriting a SpouseDisinheriting a ChildMatters Affecting the Distribution of Your AssetsSimultaneous DeathHomestead AllowanceFamily Allowance for SupportThe Exemption for the Benefit of the FamilyRight to Remain in the Family HomeRight to Receive Family ResidenceRight to AutomobilesRight to

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APPENDIX: ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHEET INDEX

As I stated before, I do like the conversational style of this book. It is a general reference and not intended to be encyclopedic. It does give the reader a pretty good idea of what should be discussed and dealt with now or in the future. What I did find especially useful was the estate planning worksheet in the appendix. I'd recommend giving this material a once-over before reading anything in the book. Additional copies of the form can be downloaded from the enodare website by using an "Unlock Code." Interspersed throughout the book are sidebars that highlight important information. For example, one is a cautionary note that states in part that "If you are in a registered domestic partnership and considering a move to another state, you should pay close attention to the laws of the state into which you are proposing to move as the 'new state' may not recognize the property rights which you had in your 'old state.'" This is not an all-encompassing book, but is an excellent reference for those who want to delve into the generalities of estate planning. This book courtesy of the publisher.

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Makes Estate Planning Easy!

By Karl H

This comprehensive book takes you through every aspect of estate planning paying particular attention to the rights of spouses and making long term management provisions for children. It also introduces you to wills, living wills, living trusts, powers of attorney, probate avoidance, estate taxes and many other aspects of estate planning. It's a great place to start for anyone new to the topic of estate planning while at the same time is more than comprehensive enough for those actively wishing to make their own estate plan.

Estate planning may be described as the process of providing for the future management of your affairs should the time come when you are unable to do so yourself. It is also the means by which you arrange your affairs in a manner that will maximize the value of your estate passing to your desired beneficiaries following your death. In this book, we introduce you to some of the ways in which you can plan your estate. We will talk to you about the devices that you can use to plan your estate such as wills, trusts, powers of attorney, healthcare directives, probate free transfers of assets, and so on. We'll also talk to you about beneficiaries, children, disinheritance, incapacity, taxes, and much more. We will get you thinking about your own personal situation and how you would like to have your affairs organized and by the end of the process, you should have a solid understanding of estate planning and the techniques involved.

Estate Planning Essentials: Provide for the Management of Property during Incapacity Understand How to Distribute Assets Learn About Taxes Discover How to Avoid Probate Learn About Property Management for Minors

About the Author

ENODARE, the international self-help publisher, was founded in 2000 by a group which included lawyers, entrepreneurs, business professionals, authors and academics. Our aim was simple - to provide access to quality business and legal products and information at affordable prices. Our publications provide customers with the confidence and knowledge to help them deal with everyday issues such as setting up a company, running a business, preparing a tenancy agreement, making a last will and testament and much more. By providing customers with much needed information and forms, we enable them to protect both themselves, their families and their businesses through the use of easy to read documents and forward planning techniques.