

What A Living Trust Can Do For You

It Eliminates Guardianship Proceedings.

If you become disabled or are unable to manage your estate, your funded living trust avoids the need for a court mandated guardianship. The successor trustee you've named will step in and manage your affairs without government interference and expense.

It Avoids Probate.

With a funded living trust your assets will go directly to your beneficiaries after your death. There will be no probate attorney's fees or court costs. There will be no court delay in distributing your assets, and all your estate planning wishes will be completely private.

You Can Use It To Reduce or Eliminate Federal Estate Taxes.

With funded living trusts, a married couple can pass \$4,000,000 absolutely state and federal estate tax free to their heirs. A single person can pass \$2,000,000 estate tax free.

It Can Protect Children From Earlier Marriages.

Both the surviving spouse and the children from a previous marriage can receive fair

treatment and protection under the terms of your living trust.

It Can Insure That Your Wishes Are Carried Out and Less Likely To Be Attacked.

It is generally accepted that living trusts are more difficult to contest than wills. Disgruntled heirs are not "invited" to attack your estate plan. Only beneficiaries have a right to see your trust.

It Allows You to Restrict How Your Estate is Managed and Spent Even After Your Death.

It can provide for the care, support and education of your children or grandchildren by turning over assets to them at an age chosen by you. Insurance proceeds can be paid to the trust so your successor trustee can manage them for the benefit of your family without court supervision.

It Gives You Peace of Mind.

When your living trust is completed and funded, you and your family will relax knowing that your estate will be managed and distributed by someone you have selected and trust.

COMPARISON BETWEEN TRUSTS and WILLS

	<u>Trust</u>	<u>Will</u>
Property distribution after death	✓	✓
Disability planning options	✓	
Private	✓	
Avoids probate (which can be expensive, time consuming)	✓	
Reduces attorneys' fees at death	✓	
Good in every state	✓	
More difficult for heirs to attack	✓	

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