



# ESTATE PLANNING

With careful estate planning now, donors can be assured their family, friends and favorite charities are taken care of after their death, and according to their wishes.

**WHY ESTATE PLANNING IS VITAL** Planning your estate is an opportunity to transfer assets to the people and organizations you care about most, in the proper amount and with the proper timing—all in the most tax-efficient way possible.

**Here are just a few things to keep in mind:**

*Planning an estate is often complex and should always involve the assistance of an attorney who specializes in this area.*

*While tax reduction is a legitimate and proper consideration, the benefits of estate planning are not limited to people with taxable estates.*

*The planning process should begin early. Death often comes unexpectedly, so it is best to be prepared.*

*Charitable giving techniques in an estate plan can help achieve personal goals and reduce taxes—as well as advance a favorite charity.*

**WILL** A will is the basis for your estate plan. Your will decides which individuals or charitable organizations will benefit financially at your death, who will manage your estate and who will provide for those dependent upon your care.

**YOUR ESTATE** Estate plans you make now affect the lives of many people and institutions you care about, and your decisions should be thought through carefully.

**TRUSTS** During your lifetime you may also wish, as part of your estate plan, to create a trust. The trust may be revocable, meaning you can revoke or amend the trust at any time. Trusts are often used to avoid probate, the legal procedure used to validate your will.

**DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY** A durable power of attorney permits the holder of the power to act on behalf of another individual with respect to financial issues.

**LIVING WILL/HEALTH CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY** A living will lets you decide if you wish to have heroic medical measures taken to save your life when you are terminally ill or in a coma. A health care power of attorney allows you to choose someone to make a broad range of health care decisions for you if you are unable to communicate your wishes.



## COMPREHENSIVE ESTATE PLAN CHECKLIST:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Do you have a living will and durable power of attorney?  | Does your estate plan benefit your favorite charitable organization?                               |
| Are your assets sheltered from tax in your surviving spouse's estate?                                     | Do your insurance and retirement plans reflect current beneficiaries?                              |
| Have you taken advantage of the estate tax marital deduction?   | Is your executor qualified to manage your estate, resolve claims, minimize taxes and pay legacies? |
| Does your will reflect any changes in your family situation?  | Are your assets held in the correct titles?  |
| Have you adopted strategies to reduce the future tax exposure of your qualified retirement plans or IRAs? | Have you named a guardian for any dependents under your care?                                      |

## YES, PLEASE SEND ME INFORMATION ON WFIT PLANNED GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:

Your Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Amount:  \$10,000  \$25,000  \$50,000  \$100,000 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I want to know more about gifts to WFIT that provide me with a guaranteed income for life.

Send information on including WFIT in my will.  I have already included WFIT in my will.

**For more information, contact:**

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**Or mail this form to:**

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