

Tippie College of Business

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# Getting Your Ducks in a Row:

The documents you need and the challenging discussions you need to have

**Life Lessons Webinar Series**

November 8, 2022

# Reminder:

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**Life Lessons webinars are designed to provide an overview of matters you may wish to consider at different stages of life.**

**The webinar information does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal or financial advice; instead, all webinar information, content, and materials are for general information purposes only.**

**Please contact your personal financial advisor or attorney to obtain advice with respect to your specific circumstances.**

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# Topic Overview

**CYNTHIA NANCE**

**DEAN & NATHAN G. GORDON PROFESSOR**

**UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SCHOOL OF LAW**

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# Estate Planning

**TOM GELMAN**

**PHELAN TUCKER LAW LLP**

# Estate Planning – Principal Objectives

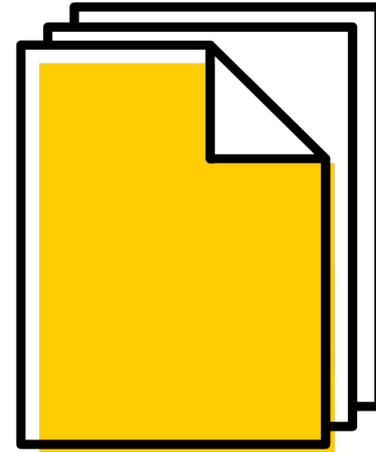
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1. Disposition of Assets
2. Death Tax Mitigation and Income Tax Planning
3. Administrative Process
4. Incapacity Planning
5. Management of Assets/Investments
6. Charitable Gift Planning

# Documentation is King

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- Disposition of Assets
  - During lifetime and/or upon death
- Incapacity Planning
  - During lifetime
- Administration of your assets
  - During lifetime and after death
  
- Special Circumstances
  - During lifetime or after death



# “Tools” for Disposition of Assets

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## → Non-Probate Administration

- Joint Tenancy with Right of Survivorship
- Contractual Beneficiary Designations
  - IRAs, QRPs, life insurance, annuities, etc.
- Payable on Death/Transfer on Death registrations
  - Bank and Brokerage accounts
- TOD or Beneficiary Deeds
- Inter Vivos Trusts
  - Revocable/irrevocable

# More “Tools” for Disposition of Assets

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- Probate Administration - statutory court process
  - Last Will and Testament
  - Intestate (without a will)
  
- Written Statement for special items of Tangible Personal Property

# “Tools” for Incapacity Planning

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## → Financial

- General Durable Power of Attorney (POA)
- Trust assets

## → Healthcare

- Healthcare Power of Attorney
- Living Will



# “Tools” for Special Circumstances

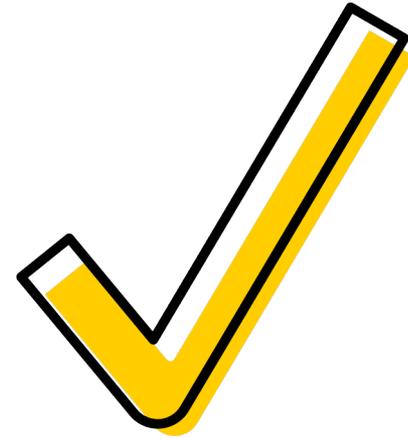
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- Charitable gift planning
- Other tools
  - Death tax mitigation / tax planning
  - Do not resuscitate orders
  - Organ donation
  - Letter of wishes for post-death matters
  - Premarital agreements

# Proper use of the “tools”

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- Must be used thoughtfully and appropriately
- Get guidance from qualified and reputable advisors familiar with your specific circumstances and objectives



# Making it easier for your loved ones

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- POA agent, trustees
- Keep a comprehensive, up-to-date list of assets and liabilities (see handout)
  - Bank/brokerage accounts, insurance, IRAs, retirement accounts, annuities, real estate, personal property, other assets
- Have accurate contact information lists
  - Family, beneficiaries, POA agents
  - Lawyers, accountants, investment managers, bankers, trust officers

# “Who knows the safe combination?”

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- Disclose the location of important documents
- Keep records up to date, organized, secure, and available
- Confirm documents for elderly parents or disabled beneficiaries



# Get organized

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- Digital: passwords, online accounts
- Credit card accounts
- Autopay charges on credit cards, bank accounts
- Real estate documents
- Social Security info
- Timeshares, Mineral Rights
- Other information unique to your circumstances

# Simplify

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- Liquidate assets (but know the tax implications)
- Consolidate accounts
- Unneeded life insurance contracts
- Out-of-state real estate, timeshares, etc.
- Reduce debt
- Downsize belongings

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# Trusts & How Assets Pass

**KYLE IRVIN, SR VICE PRESIDENT AND TRUST OFFICER**  
***SECURITY NATIONAL BANK, WEALTH MANAGEMENT***

# What Type of Trust?

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- Revocable Trust aka “Living Trust”:  
The most common
- Considered a Will Substitute
- How does it work?



# Things a Revocable Trust Can't Do

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## Misconceptions of Revocable Trust

- Only high net worth
- Tax effects
- Nursing Home
- Creditors

# Positives of a Trust

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- Avoids a Conservatorship during life and a Probate at death
- More privacy after death
- More flexible administration that can go more quickly
- Multi-state transfers.
- Can stay in place for a long time

# Negatives of a Trust

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- More time to complete on the front end
- More \$ to set up
- Less oversight after death because no court

# What about an Irrevocable Trust?

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- Often the person is gifting or giving up all or pretty much all of their control over the assets they put into the trust
  - Very specific purposes
  - Large Gifts
  - Creditors
  - Tax
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- Typically more costly

# Many assets pass via beneficiary designation or joint tenancy

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- Life Insurance Policies, Annuities, Bank Accounts and Stock Accounts can have beneficiary designations on bank signature cards (payable on death=POD) or investment account agreements (transfer on death=TOD) that supersede the will.
- A Bank or Stock Signature Card is a contract between you and the bank: First Question: Is this account payable on death (POD or TOD?)
- The POD or TOD trumps your Will or Trust
- Joint Tenancy property passes to the surviving joint tenant.

# Business Succession Documents

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Operating  
Agreement

Shareholders  
Agreement

Buy-Sell

Estate  
Planning  
Documents

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# Having the discussion

**SARAH NEARY, SOCIAL WORKER  
OAKNOLL RETIREMENT RESIDENCE**

# Upcoming Tippie Alumni Webinars

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Final three installments in the Life Lessons Webinar Series

- **Wednesday, January 11:** Ready, Set, Retire: Planning for your Golden Years
- **Wednesday, February 8:** Death is in the Details
- **Wednesday, March 1:** Last But Not Least: Tax Considerations for Life's Milestones

 [tippie.uiowa.edu/alumni](http://tippie.uiowa.edu/alumni)

# Get the Handouts

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→ [tippie.uiowa.edu/life-lessons](http://tippie.uiowa.edu/life-lessons)

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