

“Own It All: Wills, Trusts & Beneficiaries Without the Drama”

PLANNING CHECKLIST



www.betterinvesting.org/chapters/west-texas

YOUR 7-DAY STARTER PLAN

- ☐ Review and update your beneficiaries
- ☐ Freeze your credit
- ☐ Create/update asset inventory
- ☐ Tell at least one trusted person where your estate document is kept
- ☐ a will or trust review with your attorney, financial adviser or accountant

1. CORE DOCUMENTS

- ☐ Will
- ☐ Durable Power of Attorney
- ☐ Medical Power of Attorney
- ☐ Advance Directive / Living Will
- ☐ HIPAA Release
- ☐ Guardianship designations

2. BENEFICIARIES

- ☐ Retirement accounts
- ☐ Life insurance
- ☐ Annuities
- ☐ Bank accounts (POD)
- ☐ Brokerage accounts (TOD)
- ☐ Contingent beneficiaries

3. TOD / POD DESIGNATIONS

- ☐ Bank accounts (POD)
- ☐ Brokerage accounts (TOD)
- ☐ CDs
- ☐ Real estate (if allowed)
- ☐ Vehicles (if allowed)

4. ASSET INVENTORY

- ☐ Real estate

- ☐ Vehicles
- ☐ Bank accounts
- ☐ Investments
- ☐ Retirement accounts
- ☐ Insurance policies
- ☐ Business interests
- ☐ Loans / debts
- ☐ Safe-deposit boxes / safes

5. DIGITAL ASSET INVENTORY

- ☐ Email accounts
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Cloud storage
- ☐ Crypto wallets & keys
- ☐ Online banking / bill-pay
- ☐ Domains / websites
- ☐ Password manager access

6. IDENTITY PROTECTION

- ☐ Freeze credit (Equifax)
- ☐ Freeze credit (Experian)
- ☐ Freeze credit (TransUnion)
- ☐ Secure SSN documents
- ☐ Limit obituary details
- ☐ Monitor accounts

7. WHEN TO UPDATE

- ☐ Marriage / divorce
- ☐ Birth / adoption
- ☐ Death in family
- ☐ Property changes
- ☐ Business changes
- ☐ Major financial changes
- ☐ Every 3–5 years

8. TALK WITH YOUR PEOPLE

- ☐ Tell executor where documents are
- ☐ Explain key decisions
- ☐ Share digital access instructions
- ☐ Confirm executor/trustee roles

9. PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

- ☐ Estate planning attorney
- ☐ Financial advisor
- ☐ Tax professional
- ☐ Digital asset specialist