DIY ESTATE PLANNING

BEFORE YOU START

IS DIY ESTATE PLANNING RIGHT FOR YOU?

PELE LAW GROUP, INC.
Estate Planning for Families and Special Needs

Before beginning, determine if DIY Estate Planning is the right choice for you.

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

- [ ] My family situation is very simple (e.g., no blended family, no likely disputes, no family members with special needs).
- [ ] I have very basic assets (e.g., no real estate, no businesses, no cryptocurrency, and no financial holdings).
- [ ] I am not concerned about my loved ones going through the time and expense of finding my assets or navigating the court process if I can't make decisions for myself or after I die.
- [ ] I am not concerned about my loved ones disagreeing with any of my choices.

If you checked ALL of the boxes, DIY could be the best option for you. If not, you likely need support from a lawyer to ensure you leave a plan that works.

ACTION STEP

If you left any box unchecked, or aren't sure what to do, book a 15-Minute Discovery Call with me, using this QR code:

1 STEP 1 HEALTHCARE DIRECTIVE

What is a Healthcare Directive? A legal document that names the person who will make medical decisions for you if you cannot.

TRUE OR FALSE?

Every adult 18 years and older needs a healthcare directive.

A: True! Even young adults should have a healthcare directive so someone else can step in during an emergency.

THINK about this: Who do you trust to make healthcare decisions for you?

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

DO YOU HAVE PREFERENCES ABOUT:

- ☐ Life support? Hydration or nutrition?
- ☐ Specific people you want to be able to visit you?
- ☐ Alternative medicine or supplements?
- ☐ Two or more people having a different opinion about your wishes for your health?
- ☐ Someone you'd never want to make decisions for you?

If you checked any of the boxes, you may need extra guidance from a trusted attorney who can ensure your wishes are properly documented.

ACTION STEP

> Visit FiveWishes.org to create your healthcare directive for free.
> Call your doctor's office and request their HIPAA release form.

2 STEP 2 DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY

What is a Durable Power of Attorney? A legal document that names the person who will make financial decisions for you if you cannot.

TRUE OR FALSE?

Adding someone to your bank account means their creditors can access your money in the account.

A: True! If that person goes through a divorce, bankruptcy, a legal judgment, or has anyone they they owe money to, that creditor can go after the money in the bank account.

THINK about this: Who do you trust to handle your financial affairs?

Name: _____

Relationship to you: _____

ACTION STEP

> Google "name of your state" durable power of attorney. Download it, and fill it out.
> Call your bank(s) to ask if they require an in-house POA form.

3 STEP 3 CREATING YOUR WILL

What a Will Does: Names who will receive your assets.
And, your will names the person to find your assets and "administer" your estate.

TRUE OR FALSE?

If I have a will, my loved ones won't have to go to probate court.

A: False. A Will must go through probate. A living trust, however, may bypass the court process, if your assets are properly titled.

THINK about this: Who will inherit your assets?

Beneficiary 1: _____

Beneficiary 2: _____

ACTION STEP

> Visit FreeWill.com to create a free will.
> Make sure you execute your will properly.
> Consider whether you need a trust instead of a will. Call us if you aren't sure.

4 STEP 4 NAMING GUARDIANS FOR YOUR CHILDREN OR CAREGIVERS FOR YOUR CHILD WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

Why It's Important: If you don't choose, a judge, who is a complete stranger to you and your children, will decide who raises them.

TRUE OR FALSE?

If your children have godparents, the godparents will automatically start raising your kids if something happens to you.

A: False. Choosing godparents is not a legal arrangement. You need to legally document your choices in the form of guardian nominations. If you havea child with special needs, siblings do not automatically step into your shoes and conservatorship or institutional placement could be chosen by a court.

THINK about this:
Who should care for your children if you are gone?

Guardian/Caregiver, 1st choice: _____

Guardian/Caregiver, Backup choice: _____

ACTION STEP

Visit KidsProtectionPlan.com to complete a free guardian nomination.

5 STEP 5 INVENTORY YOUR ASSETS

Why This Matters: Your loved ones need a roadmap to find your bank accounts, property, digital assets, and valuables.

TRUE OR FALSE?

My loved ones know exactly what I have and where to find all my assets.

A: Only you know the answer! If the answer is false, you take the risk that your assets will be lost and end up in the state's Department of Unclaimed Property instead of going to the people you want in the way you want.

ACTION STEP

> Use **PersonalFamilyLawyer.com** to create your **Personal Resource Map**.
> **Share** your Personal Resource Map with the person or people you've chosen to handle things for you.

YOUR **NEXT STEP**

Congratulations! Now you know the 5 steps to take to create your own estate plan documents for free. If, after all you've learned, you're happy to create your own plan and KNOW YOU WILL ACTUALLY DO IT, then get er done! Just make sure that you do it within the next month. The biggest risk to your loved ones is your procrastination.

If, however, you think you need support to get your plan in place (or you want to ensure your assets are protected and not lost, or you want to ensure your kids are never taken into the care of strangers or anyone you wouldn't want), here's what to do:

BOOK A **LEGACY DESIGN PLANNING SESSION** NOW IF ANY OF THESE IS TRUE FOR YOU:

1. You feel overwhelmed by all you need to do to get your plan in place
2. You want to make sure your plan works when you and your loved ones need it to
3. Your situation is more complex than you initially thought
4. You don't think you can (or will) get your legal documents done in the next month, and need support

When you book now and commit to getting prepared, your planning session is only $100 (instead of $750) which is credited to the work we do with you!

Simply click here to book your session:
If you have any questions at any time, I'm here for you.

PELE LAW GROUP, INC.
FAMILY AND ESTATE PROTECTION LAW