

What is estate planning?

Estate Planning sounds intimidating, doesn't it? It's a lot easier to avoid it than to plunge into a world of unfamiliar terms like "probate," "testate" and "durable power of attorney." You have a busy life, a long life ahead of you and don't have time right now to deal with it. And who wants to think about dying anyway?

There are actually a lot of good reasons to plan your estate now, before it becomes urgent. For the majority of people, estate planning can be quite simple. A good estate plan makes sure that your property goes to the people you want to receive your property, minimizes taxes and expenses, and in the highly unlikely event that your children need a guardian, it will be someone you trust. In your estate plan you also select who makes important decisions on your behalf if you are unable to make them.

A simple Estate Plan includes 4 documents:

1. Last Will and Testament
2. Durable General Financial Power of Attorney
3. Health Care Power of Attorney
4. Living Will



Preparing for Estate Planning

Before meeting with a lawyer, there are some things to consider:

For your Last Will and Testament

- Who gets your assets? This is your beneficiary.
- Who do you want to carry out your Will? This is your executor.
- Do you have minor children? Who will be their Guardian?

For your Durable General Financial Power of Attorney (FPOA)

- Who do you want to make financial decisions for you if you are unable to make them? By choosing an FPOA, someone you trust will be looking out for you, avoiding the need to go to Court to have a Guardian appointed.

For your Health Care Power of Attorney (HPOA)

- Who do you want to make medical and health-related decisions for you, if you are unable to make them? By providing your HPOA with guidelines, you can get the care and treatment you want.

For your Living Will (a.k.a. Advanced Directive, Declaration or End of Life Document)

- How do you want to be treated if you are in an irreversible coma or vegetative state with no realistic hope of recovery? Your Living Will provides your HPOA with directions on what to do if you are in the most critical and dire medical circumstances.

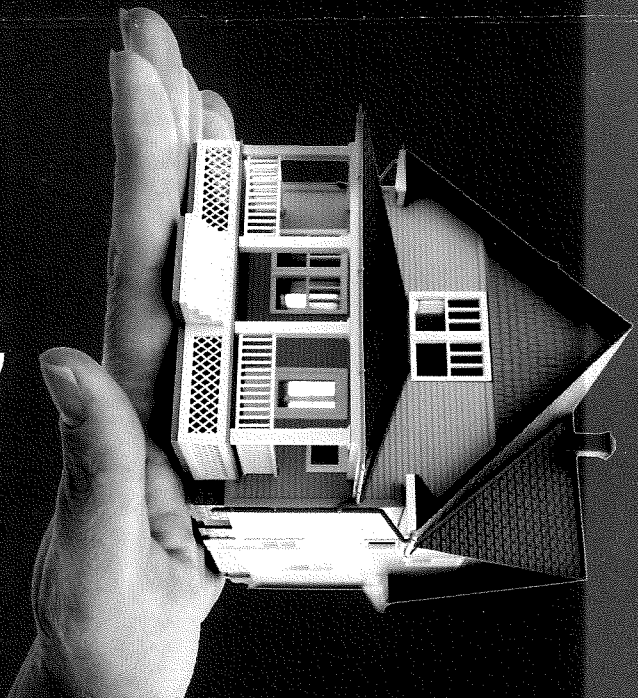
The best time to plan your estate is now.

Although it seems like a distasteful chore, planning your estate now has many benefits:

- You have time to take stock of your financial well-being.
- You decide who gets your assets and who will carry out your instruction.
- You can minimize estate taxes.
- You have the satisfaction of knowing that you are taking care of your family by having clear and legally binding directions on how to care for you if necessary.

Next steps:

1. Go to rentschlerlawllc.com and download the Estate Planning questionnaire. Or call our office at **610-639-1666** and we will email the form to you.
2. Fill out the Estate Planning Questionnaire.
3. Return the Questionnaire to Rentschler Law LLC by regular mail at the address below or by email to info@rentschlerlawllc.com as a PDF.
4. Rentschler Law LLC will contact you to review your Questionnaire.



Call **610-639-1666** for special estate planning rates for Union Members, for simple estate planning, and more complex estate planning issues.

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