



BUILDING AN ESTATE PLAN

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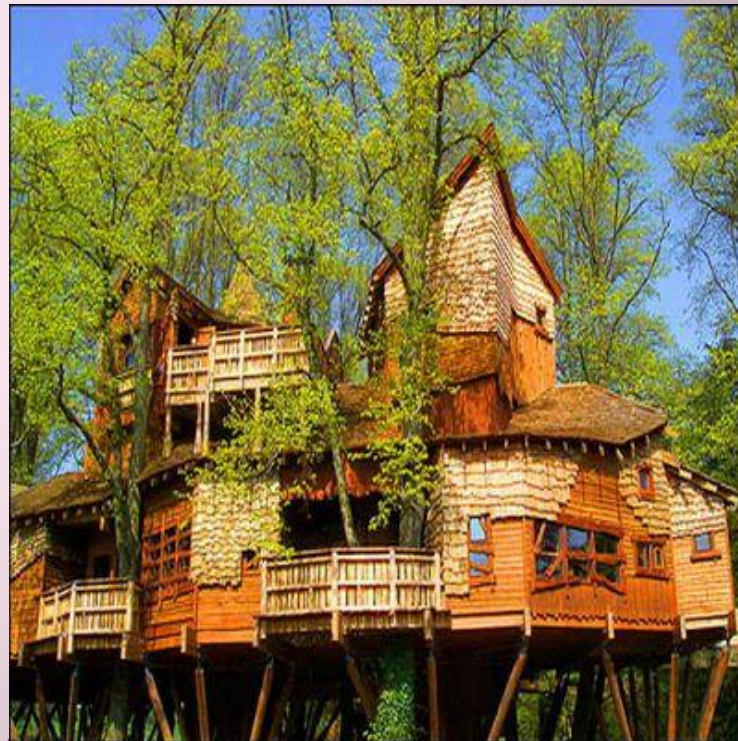
Is like building a
house



MAKE YOUR WISHES KNOWN WHILE YOU STILL HAVE MENTAL CLARITY AND LEGAL CAPACITY!



Do you want a tree to grow in front of your home or . . .



Do you want a tree to grow through your home?

PREFAB FILL-IN -THE-BLANK FORMS OR GENERIC FORMS THAT DO NOT COVER ALL THE CURRENT STATE LAWS



Should you just go on the internet and buy a premade plan . . . will it fall apart when you most need it to shelter your assets in your estate?



**Does it have the proper foundation?
Are all the laws of the State in which you live in complied with?**

LIFE PLANNING IS ALSO GOOD ESTATE PLANNING



IF you become ill, who
will make YOUR
health decisions?

IF you need assistance
with general banking,
selling a house,
selling stocks . . .
who do YOU want and
TRUST to help you
with these tasks?

LIKE A COVERED BRIDGE WE NEED A FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT US WHEN WE ARE ALIVE . . .



NOT JUST AFTER WE HAVE PASSED AWAY - Do you have a Health Care Proxy with Advance Medical Directives AND a Durable Power of Attorney that also names a Guardian and Conservator to avoid Court interference if you are not able to support yourself verbally and financially?

AFTER YOU HAVE POURED A GOOD SOLID FOUNDATION TO BUILD YOUR ESTATE PLAN . . .



Like a slab house,
do you need a simple Will?
sturdy but basic or . . .



do you need a foundation
allowing for basement storage?

. . .

a Will with a Testamentary Trust
storing monies for minor
children, a disabled person, or
future Medicaid protection for
yourself and/or a spouse

THE FIRST FLOOR SHOULD BE YOUR LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT



A Simple Will

**to disinherit someone or make
sure a charity or non- relative
is included in your estate**



**Or one with a Testamentary Trust
to protect assets for minor children
or people with special needs**

WHAT DOES A TRUST DO?



Having no Trust is like living in a glass house, everyone will know your business . . . all probate assets are public records . . . That is not always a bad thing!



A Will and a Trust . . . Some of your business will be in the public records but most will be privately kept in the trust for only your Trustee and Beneficiary to know about

A HOUSE MADE OF SAND OR A HOUSE MADE OF STICKS



An Unfunded Trust is useless!
It is like building a pretend
sand castle . . .

It gives a false sense of
security - when a big wave
comes it offers no shelter for
your assets in an emergency



A FUNDED Revocable Trust will
shelter assets, can offer tax savings
to married couples . . . Can be taken
apart, built onto/amended,
but keep in mind that in a disaster
such as needing to apply for
Medicaid it can be demolished

THIS IS THE STORY OF THE THREE LITTLE PIGS . . .

**Medicaid/MassHealth
is like the big bad
WOLF!**

**If you are disabled,
have a special needs person in
your family,
or are over age 70,
You may want to think about
IRREVOCABLE TRUSTS . . .**



**Which are like Solid BRICK
Houses . . . indestructible and
can be as simple or as
complicated and intricate as is
necessary**

PUT YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER SO YOU CAN AGE WITH DIGNITY



Find an elder law or estate
planning lawyer . . . put
yourself in their competent
hands to build you a good
strong house 😊😊

