

## What's Really Important in Your Life?

Facing difficulties in life sharpens our focus. When tragedy strikes, we recognize what's important in our lives: Our family, our friends, and our values.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, the famous 19<sup>th</sup> century American poet, said "Into each life some rain must fall." We have all had "rain" in our lives. Our tragedies typically are quite personal: the death of someone close to us, a life-threatening illness, or a violent crime. Sometimes our tragedies are shared by countless others: Hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes, terrorist attacks, tornadoes, or floods. But, regardless of the type of tragedy, our thoughts immediately go to what's most important in our lives.

Most traditional "Estate Planning" deals with the passing of assets from one generation to the next. But, in dealing with my client, I've recently found that it is important to my clients that the planning goes beyond the traditional. This new realm, sometimes called "Legacy Planning," deals not just with passing material wealth, but also passing what's most important in our lives. Legacy Planning relates to transferring our "wealth" in the form of our values, wisdom, guidance, and protection, as well as monetary assets. These are the things that come to mind when we are confronted with tragedy or other important events.

For many years, the most popular vehicle for transferring material wealth has been a living trust. However, I now see that clients want their living trust to include protections that, in the past, may have only been considered by the wealthy. Such a living trust can encompass one of several protection levels each of which will protect your children better than just handing them the nest egg you worked a lifetime to create.

A "divorce protection" trust gives greater protection by keeping the inheritance separate from your child's other assets. For this reason, the trust can provide protection for your child even when you cannot be there to do so yourself.

Another option is the "creditor protection trust", which offers an additional level of protection. The "creditor protection trust" offers not only divorce protection, but it also provides another layer of creditor protection and management. When you can no longer be there to protect your children, the trust may be the next best thing. For example, this trust can protect your child's inheritance in the following situations:

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- ✓ A political activist going door-to-door slips on your son's steps and files suit against him.
- ✓ Your daughter lends her car to a friend who is involved in accident because the brakes failed. Both her "friend" and the occupants of the other car involved file suit against your daughter.

Regardless of the protection level you choose, a properly designed living trust can shield those left behind from the risks of everyday life, while passing on your true legacy and values. If you are interested in scheduling an appointment to meet with Larry Deason, Esq., please call Mary at (928) 783-4575.

**At the Deason Law Firm** we are dedicated to providing intelligible, timely information about elder law, nursing home law, and all other issues pertaining to elder law. Elder law is becoming more important as baby boomers approach their golden years. Elder law is a distinct practice, designed to help the elderly with nursing home law issues, for instance, as well as Medicaid and other health care.

Visit us online at [www.yumaelderlawattorney.com](http://www.yumaelderlawattorney.com) where you will find a plethora of information about elder law and necessary care for the elderly, as well as Medicaid eligibility, or, call our office to receive a free report.

In accordance with the American nursing home law, Medicaid was implemented in the 60's to assist the elderly with nursing home costs. Understanding elder law can be difficult at times. It is important to have someone who understands nursing home law at your side.

Your loved ones deserve the best elder care available. Contact us today we're here to protect your family. Let us help you understand elder law and Medicaid eligibility. Call our office at 783-4575 to schedule a free 15-minute Medicaid consultation with Robert Michael Way, Esq.



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ADMIT ONE



## Annual Client Family Seminar

**Date:** January 12, 2008

**Show Time:** 2:00p.m.  
(doors open at 1:30p.m.)

Historic Yuma Theatre  
254 S. Main Street

**R.S.V.P. seating: 783-4466**

*Seating is limited - call Mary today!*

*\*Clients Only\**



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### Upcoming Seminar Schedule:

**Tuesday, January 8, 2008**

9:30a.m. or 6:30p.m.

Yuma Civic & Convention Center  
1440 Desert Hills Drive (East Wing)

Effective estate planning is neither a simple one-time event, nor a burdensome, endless task. It isn't restricted to individuals of specific age, profession, income or asset base. However, even those who recognize the value of long-term planning often have more questions than answers.

The Deason Law Firm is here to help. At our informative seminars you will find out, in simple terms how with proper estate planning you can protect against probate, guardianship, creditors and taxes. **Don't wait, reserve your seats today with Mary: 783-4575.** Take the first step toward providing financial security for you and your family's future and eliminating the uncertainty and confusion surrounding your estate. **Estate Planning... It's What We Do!**

This is a complimentary newsletter. If you are NOT interested in receiving this information in the future, please contact Mary at 783-4575.

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