4 REASONS WHY NEW HAMPSHIRE ESTATE PLANNING IN YOUR 30S IS IMPORTANT

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NEW HAMPSHIRE ESTATE PLANNING ATTORNEY

Ah, those glorious thirties: it's the decade where we're realizing everything Mom and Dad said were actually true. We've survived our twenties and all of the mistakes that come with being a young adult and we're still young enough to enjoy some good living with a bit of wisdom applied. One of the best decisions we can make in our thirties is to recognize planning matters.

This is the time we should be focused on retirement and estate planning. Many of us begin having children in our thirties; we have to plan for their future as well. We don't abandon the "you only live once" mentality for a more future-focused mindset; we just…balance it better. Here are 4 reasons why estate planning your 30s is important.

SMALL INVESTMENTS GROW

Compared to someone in their 50s or 60s who are just beginning retirement and estate planning, those in their thirties have the luxury of more time to see their investments grow. Even a very small amount invested will have plenty of time to thrive. You don't feel the financial commitment because you're not having to sock away a major portion of your earnings, yet, by the time you do retire, those small investments have had years to evolve into an impressive savings portfolio. Because you are planning for the future, don't forget the importance of having a will. This is what establishes who receives your assets. It also forces us to choose the people who we trust to oversee the administration of our estate.

MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Many have lost faith in government programs such as Medicaid and Medicare. Others want to ensure it's not their only choice, which is important. Now's the time to consider other estate planning documents, such as a living will which will outline your wishes if you become incapacitated due to an illness or injury and are near death.

A medical power of attorney allows you to name someone to make medical decisions such as whether or not a surgery should be performed.

Also, this is an ideal time to consider long term care insurance. Your rates will be more affordable and depending on which type of policy you choose, it can be a powerful asset as it builds value.

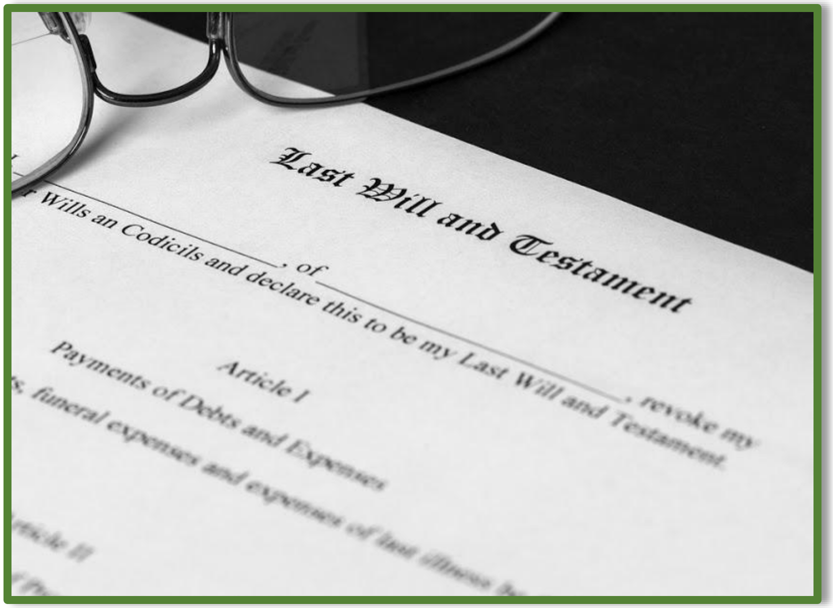
CARE FOR OUR CHILDREN

There's nothing more life changing than having children. It changes us and it changes the way we see the future. Naming a guardian for your minor children is absolutely crucial. The last thing you want is for your little ones' fate to be determined by a court should something happen to you and you're no longer here to care for them. All of our planning is to provide a foundation for our kids – a guardianship should be top priority.

RETIREMENT

If your employer offers incentives for retirement planning, there's no reason why you shouldn't take advantage of it, regardless of your age. Profit-sharing or matching contributions to a 401(k) are two incentives that make planning for the future much easier. Even when you change careers, your retirement plans can follow you into your new job. It makes your financial planning more focused as well. And speaking of finances, a financial power of attorney is another important part of your overall estate plan.

Finally, nothing is static. Marriages made in heaven can fall apart. Remarriages happen – sometimes two or three times over the course of someone's life. Be sure



you make those changes within your estate plan. Remember too that just because you change your documents within your estate plan, the beneficiaries associated with your retirement plan will have to be changed with your employer as the law says whoever is listed on a retirement document takes precedence.

By putting into place important legal documents, such as a will and living will, we're preparing ourselves for a less stressful life. We never know what happens tomorrow, but estate planning in your 30s doesn't have to be a drawn out process. What it can do, though, is help us plan for the unexpected. It can allow us to reduce the tax burdens for our family and it can ease the emotional burdens if an illness strikes or an accident happens.

Life is unpredictable, but once that foundation is in place and you know everything is working to your advantage, you're able to make changes over the years that will change along with your needs. Our kids grow up and have families of their own, we change careers, move to new cities – and for those who did put in a small time investment early on are better able to enjoy every decade of their lives.

To learn more about financial planning and estate planning in your 30s, contact DeBruyckere Law Offices, PC today.

About the Author

Daniel A. DeBruyckere

Attorney DeBruyckere approaches each challenge not just with solid expertise, but also with a passion for helping others plan well for the future. As a husband with three children and two grandchildren, it's his own family experience that provides the motivation to ensure all of his clients are well protected. Besides his extensive background in the issues he specializes in, Dan's clients find that he genuinely cares about them, and that he pays attention to the details that matter to each person and their families.

EXPERIENCE

Attorney Daniel A. DeBruyckere has been practicing law in New Hampshire and Massachusetts since 1998, and has helped hundreds of clients with their estate planning and elder care isssues. He is very well respected in the area of estate planning, probate, trust administration, elder law issues, and business planning.

Admitted in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, Attorney DeBruyckere is a former adjunct faculty member of the Massachusetts School of Law and is a member and past president of the Greater Salem Bar Association. He is also a member of the Essex County Bar Association, Massachusetts Bar Association, New Hampshire Bar Association, as well as a member of the National Association of Elder Law Attorneys.

EDUCATION

Attorney DeBruyckere is a graduate of Southern New Hampshire University, summa cum laude, and Massachusetts School of Law, cum laude. He served as editor of the Massachusetts School of Law's Law Review and was a regional finalist in the American Trial Lawyers' Association Trial Advocacy Competition.

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