



# The Discovery Process

Factual Information

#### **Information Needed**

Advanced Estate Planning is much like a chess game with the IRS. The pieces are your assets. You and your family win by keeping, and then passing as many pieces as possible on to your loved ones. The IRS is trying to capture as many as they can (taxes), during your lifetimes and upon your death(s).

Our job along with your attorney and accountant, is to assist you and your family, in retaining as many of your assets (chess pieces) as possible - by moving them past the IRS and directing them to those whom you desire and in the manner you wish.

In order to help you in this endeavor, it is very important that we understand your assets, cash flows and legal position so as to suggest ways you can successfully move your estate to your family - past the IRS.

The items needed for our next meeting include copies of:

- Personal financial statements with current market value, cost basis, liability (if any) and cash flow for each asset. We can develop this together if you don't have one.
- Brokerage statements for Marketable Securities accounts.
- Wills, trusts, family partnership agreements and other legal documents.
- Personal income tax returns for the last three years.
- Business agreements (buy/sell, partnership, employment, etc.)
- Pension, profit sharing, and other fringe benefit information.
- Insurance policies.
- Gift tax returns.

SOURCE DOCUMENTS: In order to make sure that we obtain complete financial information, please provide us with the source document for every asset listed (i.e. statement, agreement, policy, etc.). The source document includes specific information (such as titling, interest rate, initial investment, income received, etc.) that helps us to accurately reflect your financial situation.

We can make copies of these documents, if this is more convenient for you. Please call us if you have any questions.



## Family & Advisors Summary

1. Client Information	Date:
Client Name:	Spouse Name:
Social Security #:	Social Security #:
Date of Birth: / / Age:	Date of Birth: / / Age:
Place of Birth: Citizen?	Place of Birth: Citizen?
Special Health Issues:	Special Health Issues:
Cell Phone:	Cell Phone:
Anniversary: / /	
Home Address:	
Phone:	Fax:
E-mail Address:	
Business Name:	
Business Address:	
Type of Business:	Phone:
<u>Fax:</u>	Email Address:
Other Residence Address:	
Phone: Fax:	
Prior Marriages:	
Overseas Assets:	



2. Professional Advisors	
CPA:	
Firm:	
Address:	
Phone:	Fax:
NOTES:	
Attorney:	
Firm:	
Address:	
Phone:	Fax:
NOTES:	
TOTES.	
Banker, Investment Advisor, Trustee:	
Firm:	
Address:	
Phone:	Fax:
NOTES:	
Other Advisor:	
Firm:	
Address:	
Phone:	Fax:
NOTES:	



Child 1:	Child 2:
Occupation:	Occupation:
Date of Birth: / /	Date of Birth: / /
Special Health Issues:	Special Health Issues:
Spouse:	Spouse:
Occupation:	Occupation:
Grandchildren's Names/Ages	Grandchildren's Names/Ages
<u>1.</u>	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
Notes:	Notes:

Child 3:	Child 4:
Occupation:	Occupation:
Date of Birth: / /	Date of Birth: / /
Special Health Issues:	Special Health Issues:
Spouse:	Spouse:
Occupation:	Occupation:
Grandchildren's Names/Ages	Grandchildren's Names/Ages
1.	1.
<u>2</u> .	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
Notes:	Notes:



Children from Prior Marriage(s):										
Child:	Child :									
Occupation:	Occupation:									
Date of Birth: / / Parent	Date of Birth: / / Parent									
Special Health Issues:	Special Health Issues:									
Spouse:	Spouse:									
Occupation:	Occupation:									
Grandchildren's Names/Ages	Grandchildren's Names/Ages									
1.	1.									
2.	2.									
3.	3.									
4.	4.									
Notes:	Notes:									

Child:
Occupation:
Date of Birth: / / Parent
Special Health Issues:
Spouse:
Occupation:
Grandchildren's Names/Ages
1.
2.
3.
4.
Notes:



## Title: Ownership: CP Community Property RLT Revocable Living Trust HSP Husband's Separate Property Irrev. Tr Irrevocable Trust Wife's Separate Property WSP JT Joint Tenancy Irrevocable Trust TC Irrev Tr Tenancy in Common Community Property-husband's name CPH CPW Community Property-wife's name HSP Husband's Separate Property WSP Wife's Separate Property **Asset and Liability Details:** Name: Date: 1. Cash & Equivalents Cost Basis Annual Interest Ownership Title **Current Balance** Notes Income Rate Notes: 2. Marketable Securities Cost Annual Div/Int Growth Title Market Value Ownership Basis Income a. d. Notes:

Please refer to the following abbreviations for character and titling of the property:



## **Asset and Liability Details continued:** 3. Retirement Plans Market Value Projected Ret. Inc. Name & Beneficiary Growth % Life Exp Calc Annual Contrib Type of Plan Husband's Plans Wife's Plans a. b. Notes: 4. Real Estate (Investment Properties) Market Value Loan Balance Growth % Keep/ Sell Ownership Title Cost Basis Туре a. b. d. Additional Information Growth % of Rents Expenses Growth % Cash Rental Properties **Gross Rents** Depreciation Net Cash Flow Expenses d. e. g.



## **Asset and Liability Details continued:**

**5. Business Interests** Please indicate the type of entity: S Corp., C Corp., PTSP (Partnership), LLC...

	Ownership	Title	Type Entity	Personal Cost Basis	Market Value	% Owned	Personal Equity	Growth %	Cash Flow
a.									
b.									
c.									
d.									
e.									

## 6. Other Investments

	Ownership	Title	Cost Basis	Market Value	Annual Income	Div/Int Growth	Growth %	Notes
α.								
b.								
c.								

## 7. Personal Use Property

	Ownership	Title	Cost Basis	Market Value	Loan Balance	APR & Term Left	Equity	Growth %	Notes
a. Personal Residence									
b. Vacation Home									
c. Vacation Home									
d. Furnishings, etc.									
e. Art & Antiques									
f. Collectables									
g. Cars									
h. Boats/Planes									
i. Jewels, Precious Metals									
j. Other Personal Propery									

### 8. Life Insurance

Company Name	Date Acq'd	Policy #	Face Amt	Cash Value	Type of Policy	Owner	Named Benific	Loans
Husband: a.								
b.								
c.								
d.								
Wife: a.								
b.								
c.								
d.								



Asset a	ınd Liability Details	continuec	l:										
9. Antic	cipated Inheritance,	Trust teri	mination	s, Gift	s, etc.								
10. His	tory of Family Givi	ng											
Year	Description	By whom	To v	vhom	Total C	Gift	Taxible	Gift	An Exempt	nt of ion Used	G	Bift Tax Paid	Notes
			+										
			+										
			`	Т									
	ipated Cash Flo	ws	Frowth %		2005		2006		200	)7	20	80	2009
Cash	n Receipts			_		_							
	Salary/Bonuses			_		+		_					
Divi	dends from Business(es)					_		_					
	Pension Income					+		_					
	Notes Receivable			_		+		_					
	Rental Income			_		+		_					
	Interest & Dividends					+		$\dashv$					
So	cial Security (portfolio)					+		$\dashv$					
	Other Income					+		$\dashv$					
D'-L	Total Income												
Disb	Living Expenses					T							
	Gifts to Family					+		$\dashv$					
Cl	naritable Contributions					+		$\dashv$					
	Other expenses					+		$\dashv$					
	Income Taxes					+		$\dashv$					
	Total Disbursement	+				+		$\dashv$					
	ess Cash Flow												
Exce	.55 GUSII I 10 W												



GENERAL BUSINESS INFORMATION Client Name
Business Name
Business Address
Business Phone ( ) Business Fax ( ) E-Mail
Form of Business (check one)  C Corporation Corporation Database Limited Liability Company Professional Corporation Sole Proprietorship
Nature of Business
Do you have ownership in any other businesses?   Yes   No
Details?
Was the business founded by present owners? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If not, how was the business acquired?
Cost?
When was the business started?
How is the business doing?
State of Incorporation/Establishment Fiscal Year End
Number of Employees
Salaried Commissioned Union Full-time (hourly) Part-time
Owners Name(s) Age Ownership Percentage Officer Y/N Position Annual Salary/Bonus
Are any of the owners related?   Yes   No
If yes, give details



GENERAL BUSINESS INFORMATION (continued)				
Attorney Name				
Address				
Phone ( )				
Accountant Name				
Address				
Phone ( )				
BUSINESS OWNER CONCERNS				
As a business owner, what are your current major concern	s\$			
Below are several financial concerns many business owner	s have. Please	tell us how impo	ortant these are to	уои.
Below are several financial concerns many business owner	Extremely	Very	Somewhat	Not
Below are several financial concerns many business owner  Succession Management				•
	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management  Maintaining (Increasing Profitability)	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management  Maintaining (Increasing Profitability)  Sheltering Business Profits	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management  Maintaining (Increasing Profitability)  Sheltering Business Profits  Business Cash Management	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management  Maintaining (Increasing Profitability)  Sheltering Business Profits  Business Cash Management  Business Organization/Reorganization	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management  Maintaining (Increasing Profitability)  Sheltering Business Profits  Business Cash Management  Business Organization/Reorganization  Business continuation (owner death, disability, retirement)	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management  Maintaining (Increasing Profitability)  Sheltering Business Profits  Business Cash Management  Business Organization/Reorganization  Business continuation (owner death, disability, retirement)  Recruiting and retaining key employees	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management  Maintaining (Increasing Profitability)  Sheltering Business Profits  Business Cash Management  Business Organization/Reorganization  Business continuation (owner death, disability, retirement)  Recruiting and retaining key employees  Providing group benefits at reasonable cost	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management  Maintaining (Increasing Profitability)  Sheltering Business Profits  Business Cash Management  Business Organization/Reorganization  Business continuation (owner death, disability, retirement)  Recruiting and retaining key employees  Providing group benefits at reasonable cost  Key employee insurance	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
Succession Management  Maintaining (Increasing Profitability)  Sheltering Business Profits  Business Cash Management  Business Organization/Reorganization  Business continuation (owner death, disability, retirement)  Recruiting and retaining key employees  Providing group benefits at reasonable cost  Key employee insurance  Providing retirement income for employees	Extremely Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important



GENERAL BUSINESS INFORMATION (continued)
What plans do you have for the business if you or one of the co-owners die or become permanently disabled?
☐ Retain by Family ☐ Sell ☐ Liquidate (Proceed to the section appropriate for the choice made here)
Retain By Family
Who will run the business?
What experience or other qualifications does the person have which will enable him/her to manage the business successfully.
That supplies of the quantum cost no person have the more than to have a supplied to be supplied
Will this create any potential problems with other family members or employees?
Does your current will/trust provide for, or transfer your business interest to the person you want to run the business?
□ Yes □ No
Sell
Who would you sell your business interest to?
Do you have a written buy-sell agreement? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please provide a copy and answer the following:
When was the last time your agreement was updated?
How is the price set in the agreement?
How will this be paid?
Do you think the surviving owner(s) will consider selling the business during his/her lifetime? 🗆 Yes 🔻 No
If you were to buy your business interest today, what price would you pay for it?
If you were to sell your business interest today, what price would you sell it for?
When was the last time your business was valued?
Would this be a good time to determine an estimated value of your business interest? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Liquidate
How much do you think you would get if you liquidated your business today?
Would this create a hardship to your family?