



Valued Clients & Friends,

With the current crisis unfolding in our world today, we are urging you to create or revisit your estate plan.

If today's circumstances have taught us anything, it is that we do not have a crystal ball. The future is full of uncertainty. However, you have the ability **now** to complete essential documents while you still have the capacity to do so.

**REMEMBER: Without proper planning, a family member with disabilities may lose their government benefits (SSI, Medicaid) if they receive even a small inheritance.**

A basic estate plan includes the following:

- **Last Will & Testament** --> you determine how property you own at your death will be distributed
- **Health Care Proxy** --> designates an individual to make your health care decisions if you become unable to make them yourself
- **Durable Power of Attorney** --> designates an agent of your choosing to act on your behalf to make financial decisions for you
- **Living Will** --> document which tells others your personal wishes on end of life medical treatment
- **HIPAA Release**--> designates a third party to retrieve medical records.
- **Supplemental Needs Trust** --> holds assets for the benefit of a family member with disabilities

For those of you that have an existing estate plan, now is time to revisit your documents:

- \* Does your current Will reflect your wishes?
- \* Have there been any major life changes that would affect your plan?
- \* Are your advanced directives (health care proxy, living will, power of attorney) up to date?
- \* Have you considered long term care insurance?
- \* Are you concerned about Medicaid planning for you or a loved one?
- \* Do your documents reflect the current updates in the law, especially in regard to the recently passed SECURE Act and CARES Act?

We have been successful in establishing estate plans through the use of Zoom and web conferencing so that our clients can work with us from the comfort of their own home.

We are here to assist you. If you have any questions or would like to set up an appointment, please contact us at **516-822-3397** or at [smg@smgesq.com](mailto:smg@smgesq.com).

Stay healthy and happy,

Saundra Gumerove & Associates