



September is moving along fast. Recent news to consider:

Aretha Franklin died without a will

How can this be? Could she not have learned from Prince and Kurt Cobain who died without wills? She had a funeral that was fit for heads of state. An \$85+ million estate. A lot of planning went into the funeral, but not a thought for afterwards. We continue to see the line of celebrities that do not have any plan for their life’s possessions. They leave their estate to the courts and a long probate process for heirs to battle over rights, money and other possessions. We all know this story – the only ones who win are the attorneys. Families get divided when it comes to money. Have you updated your will? Do your spouse and/or family members know of your intentions?

I have seen too many stressed-out families and have a passion to help people be proactive in planning for times of stress and despair. Please give me a shout back if you are interested in keeping your financial house in order and revisit your estate plan.

Kids are off to school and college these past couple of weeks. Do you know that once they are 18 you as a parent cannot legally get medical or health information pertaining to your adult child? Of course, they still need your guidance even if they are out of the house. Here is a link to have a free directive to download. Hopefully, you will never need it, but it may save a lot of frustration and time if you and your child consider filling this out:

<http://www.caringinfo.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3289> *

Same goes for parents- Do you know if your aging parents have an updated health care directive and where they store it? Grandparents- have your directives been updated and discussed with your adult children? Proactive conversations in families may provide for stronger healthier communication in times of stress.

Until next time,

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