## 2024 · WHAT ISSUES SHOULD I CONSIDER IF MY PARENT PASSED AWAY?



| CASH FLOW ISSUES   |  | YES | NO |
|--|--|-----|----|
| <ul> <li>Was your parent married when they paconsider the following:</li> <li>If your parent was receiving Social Secur surviving spouse may be eligible for sun</li> <li>If the surviving spouse is receiving a gov on earnings that were never subjected to they may be subject to the Government</li> </ul> | rity benefits, their<br>vivor benefits.<br>vernment pension based<br>to Social Security taxes, |     |    |
| Did your parent reach their Required Be<br>they taking an RMD (from an inherited<br>death? If so, the beneficiary(ies) must sati<br>amount on behalf of your parent before the   | <b>IRA) at the time of their</b> isfy any remaining RMD  |     |    |
| Was your parent receiving a pension? If or, if your parent was married, be adjusted  |  |     |    |
| ESTATE SETTLEMENT ISSUES   |  | YES | NO |
|  |  |     |    |
| > Do any accounts or other assets require updated?   | e ownership to be  |     |    |
| 1 .  | of your parent's assets to maintain their t beneficiaries have been ssets to shift them to     |     |    |

|   | ESTATE SETTLEMENT ISSUES (CONTINUED)  | YES | NO |
|---|---|-----|----|
|   | ■ If your parent was married, to maintain portability of unused exemption, the estate must file IRS Form 706 (even if a 706 is not otherwise required). If a 706 is filed only to elect portability, it is due within five years of the date of death.  |     |    |
|   | If there is an estate tax liability, was the total value of the estate on the date of death greater than the value at six months after the date of death? If so, you may elect on Form 706 to use the alternate valuation date to reduce estate taxes, valuing all assets as of six months after the date of death (unless sold within that period).  |     |    |
|   | <ul> <li>Could there be property and assets not yet identified? If so, consider the following:         <ul> <li>Look at the "points" feature on credit cards and "miles" with airlines to see if they are transferable.</li> <li>Check for safe deposit boxes but be sure to follow probate rules before opening.</li> <li>Search state agencies and unclaimed property sites that are run by many state treasurers.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |     |    |
| [ | > Do you expect to inherit any assets from your parent or was your parent included in your own estate plan? If so, consider updating your own estate plan.  |     |    |
|   | > Are there digital assets that should be preserved?  |     |    |
|   | INSURANCE ISSUES  | YES | NO |
|   | > Was your parent employed at the time of death? The employer/ union may provide group life insurance and/or compensation related to their employment.  |     |    |
|   | <ul> <li>Was the death accidental or work related? If so, consider the following:</li> <li>Some financial institutions and professional associations may offer a small lump-sum benefit.</li> <li>The employer/union may offer additional death benefits.</li> <li>If your parent was married, the spouse may be eligible for worker's compensation and/or death benefits. (continue on next page)</li> </ul>                               |     |    |

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| INSURANCE ISSUES (CONTINUED)  | YES      | NO    |
|---|----------|-------|
| Some life insurance policies have an "accidental death" profor higher benefits.   | ovision  |       |
| <b>Was your parent a veteran?</b> If so, there may be death and benefits, a survivor pension, and/or other benefits.  | burial   |       |
| Did your parent have a child under age 18 or a child permanently disabled? If so, your parent's spouse and/or t child may be eligible for Social Security benefits.   | he       |       |
| Could there be any life insurance owned by your parent insuring the life of your parent that has not been identif claimed?  |          |       |
|   | VEC      | l via |
| TAX ISSUES  | YES      | NO    |
| Did your parent own a home and were they survived by spouse? If so, the surviving spouse may still qualify for the \$500,000 capital gains housing exclusion if the home is sold two years of your parent's death, and other conditions are m                     | within   |       |
| Did your parent own other property jointly, such as an investment account? If so, the joint owner may receive a st in basis for assets passing from your parent. Reference "Will Receive A Step-Up In Basis For The Appreciated Property I Inherited?" flowchart. |          |       |
| Do you need to confirm that all of your parent's prior ind<br>taxes have been paid? If so, contact the IRS and the state to<br>authorities to check if any back taxes are due and make any<br>necessary payments.   |          |       |
| Did your parent file as Married Filing Jointly? If so, the sur<br>spouse can continue to file as MFJ in the year your parent pa<br>away.  | - 1      |       |
| Was your parent married and did they have a dependent child? If so, your parent's spouse may be able to use the Qui Widow(er) tax filing status for the two tax years following the your parent passed away.  | alifying |       |

| INVESTMENT & ASSET ISSUES  | YES  | NO |
|--|------|----|
| <ul> <li>Did your parent have stock options, grants, or restricted stock units? If so, consider the following:</li> <li>Check employer plan documents to understand how these assets are treated after your parent's death.</li> <li>Beneficiaries should be aware of potential tax ramifications of accelerated stock vesting.</li> </ul>   |      |    |
| Has the change in circumstances altered investment objectives or risk tolerance for family members inheriting assets?  |      |    |
| Was your parent married and did they have carryforward investment losses? If so, consider having the surviving spouse realize investment gains in the year of death. Your parent's carryforwards can be used on their final tax return, but will be lost thereafter.   |      |    |
| <ul> <li>Did your parent own an annuity? If so, consider the following:         <ul> <li>Your parent's spouse (if applicable) may be able to inherit a non-qualified annuity as their own if they were listed as beneficiary on the policy.</li> <li>A non-spouse beneficiary will have to take required distributions from a non-qualified annuity.</li> <li>Non-qualified annuities do not receive a step-up in basis, so be aware of potential tax ramifications with distributions.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |      |    |
| OTHER ISSUES   | YES  | NO |
| OTHER ISSUES   | 1153 | NO |
| <b>Do you need to reduce the threat of identity theft?</b> If so, cancel your parent's email accounts, social media accounts, and driver's license, and notify credit bureaus, the election board, etc.  |      |    |
| Are there any state-specific issues that should be considered (including out-of-state property or estate tax liability)?   |      |    |



## **Disclosures**

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