

Newsletter

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The Boppre Law Firm Family



The Boppre Law Firm's mission is to provide high quality legal services and keep pace with and to anticipate the needs of existing and potential business and individual clients. We are North Dakota attorneys, serving in a manner that adheres to the highest standards of excellence and integrity, in a timely manner, at fees that our clients are willing and able to pay and that are fair to our firm. In pursuit of this mission, we will hold to these values: Excellence - we strive to become one of the most sought-after providers of legal services in this region; Service - we endeavor to meet or exceed the expectations of our clients in all aspects of their legal representation. Community - we will pursue our belief that individuals with a sense of family and community and with interests outside the practice of law are better for it.

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Anthony holds a Juris Doctor from the University of North Dakota and became a North Dakota licensed Attorney in April 2020. He is a 26-year United States Air Force veteran. He is married with two beautiful children and has lived in the Minot Community since 2006. He joined the firm as a law clerk in 2018, before being hired as an attorney in April 2020. Anthony's practicing areas of law are Medicaid Planning, Medicaid Application and Submission, Real Estate Law, Estate Planning Business Law, and Probate Law.

Is Estate Planning Right for You?

An estate plan is essential for any individual or family, regardless of their age or net worth. Unfortunately, some of us may not have children or, believe we are too young, or too healthy to think about planning for the future. Some, neglect planning because they are uncomfortable planning for what happens when a loved one dies. Remember, if you do not have a plan, the state has a plan for you.

A basic estate plan may include a will, power of attorney, and a healthcare directive or any combination, depending on your specific needs. These needs may also require you to consider using a trust. You should always consult an attorney to fully address your unique circumstances. However, the decision as to whether estate planning is right for you, is a personal one. Major life events, such as the birth of your first child, buying a home, or investing in a business are some examples of a major event that should be taken into account when deciding on estate planning. You may want to consider the following in your decision-making process:

1. What is a trust? A trust is simply a relationship whereby property is held by one party for the benefit of another. A trust is created by an owner, who transfers property to a trustee for the benefit of the beneficiaries. There are two types of trusts: revocable and irrevocable. *In a revocable trust*, the owner of the trust usually manages the trust and can make changes at any time. Although the owner has flexibility in managing the trust, the trust assets are not protected from creditors as in an irrevocable trust. On the other hand, *an irrevocable trust* is rigid and cannot be managed or changed by the owner. Once created, the assets are permanently in the trustee's hands for the benefit of the beneficiaries.

2. Do you have children? How would you provide for them if one or both parents were to die? A properly

drafted will or a trust allows parents to name their choice of a guardian/conservator to take care of a child and their assets if something were to happen before they reach the age of majority.

3. Do you intend to leave property to a minor child?

A minor cannot inherit property outright. Due to state law, any inheritance left to a minors will need someone to guard and manage his or her money until the child reaches the age of majority. A trust can avoid additional court proceedings and paperwork. The trust can also hold onto the assets until the child is an adult or it can distribute amounts for the child's well-being before his or her reach adulthood.

4. Do you need to manage your adult child's inheritance? Maybe you have a child who has reached the age of majority but has trouble managing money. A trust is a great tool to control distribution without excluding them from their inheritance.

5. What happens if you remarried? If you remarried, you may want your current spouse cared for, while at the same time, ensure you leave something for children from prior marriages if something were to happen. A trust can ensure that a spouse is cared for and has access to everything they need while still dictating what happens to those assets after the surviving spouse dies.

6. An estate plan could save you probate cost!

Another good reason to have an estate plan is to minimize the probate process and its expense. Probate is a court process that occurs after someone has died and ensures that their assets goes to the proper parties. With a well drafted trust, your heirs can avoid having to go through the probate process to settle your estate after you die.

7. Are you prepared if you become incapacitated? A properly drafted durable power of attorney allows you to name someone to help with your financial affairs in the event you are unable to manage them

yourself. It can be drafted to take effect immediately or once you become incapacitated. Additionally, a health care directive allows someone to make health care decisions on your behalf.

8. Are you wanting to give some or all your assets to charity after you die? A will or a trust may be a good vehicle to ensure your assets are distributed according to your expressed will.

9. Finally, have you considered what happens to your assets if you, your spouse, or both are required to enter a long-term care facility?

One area that we sometimes neglect to consider is what happens to our assets if we need to enter a long-term care facility. Your assets can simply be your home that you hope to convey to a family member or friend after you die. Long-term care later in life might be hard to consider, especially if we are in good health. Although it is never too late to plan for such event, the earlier you start the better. It should be clear that no estate plan is complete without some planning for things like long-term care. When you are healthy, it is hard to fathom the need to plan. Although it is never too late to plan for such event, the earlier you start the better.

Families and financial situation are often complicated and unique. Having a well-prepared estate plan should put your mind at ease and make life simpler. While there is no ideal age at which to begin the process, we at the Boppre Law Firm always suggest you begin as soon as possible. In our experience, late life planning can sometimes lead to crisis management planning.

At the Boppre Law Firm, we understand the need to protect your assets. In our planning process we will review your assets and income and make recommendations for the long-term. You can trust us to help you navigate the legal process. We have knowledgeable, experienced counsel, and you can rest easy knowing that you will have guidance every step of the way.

Check us out online or give us a call at 701-852-5224 to speak with one of our attorneys and let us serve you.

BOPPRE LAW FIRM'S FAMILY PICNIC

Thank you, to our Accounting Manager, Darla, and her husband, for hosting this year's picnic. We all had such a great time: we took a vote and decided we will be back next year!

Its Karaoke Time!



Delicious food! Awesome company!

Dave and Darla not only hosted us, they also fed us! The food was delicious and some of us had seconds and thirds. Dave's secret recipes! Juicy steak and chicken!

All Say Cheese!



The Perfect Day!

It was a picture-perfect day!! We could not have asked for a better day! The winds were calm, and the temperature was perfect! We were all winners!



The Boppre Law Firm Facebook Giveaways

In an effort to give back to our community, the Boppre Law Firm has launched several Facebook Giveaways.

Hops for Hooves

We donated two gift baskets to Twilight Equine's 1st Annual Hops for Hooves.



Our Summer Giveaway

Summer was fast approaching, and we wanted to get in the warm weather spirit by doing a summer giveaway. We randomly chose the lucky winner from those who liked, commented, and shared our Facebook post.



Our Teachers Giveaway

We wanted to celebrate our teachers, so we decided to give two teachers each a basket of back to school essentials. We invited our Facebook friends to tag their favorite teacher and we randomly selected two.

