A SOUND ESTATE PLAN: THE BEST GIFT FOR LOVED ONES

You will rarely read a newspaper article about the perfectly planned estate, since leaving behind a well-executed estate plan is not generally newsworthy. However, it is not at all unusual to read salacious stories about the individual who left behind a quagmire for family to wade through; recent examples include Prince, Alan Thicke and Muhammad Ali. While most individuals do not have large and complex estates like those of these deceased celebrities, even the smallest estates will benefit from some level of planning.

No matter the size of your estate, a will decreases the uncertainty and stress that may arise during the administration of your estate. Most of the time, a last will and testament is not enough. It’s important to also work with your attorney to create a revocable living trust and a living will and also work with your attorney to create a perfect estate plan. The court will also appoint an administrator who is responsible for collecting the property, paying the debts and distributing what’s left to other family members.

When meeting with your attorney to get your estate in order, be sure to provide statements on your bank, investments and retirement, current life insurance policies, beneficiary designations and business documents, and inventory of any valuable collectibles, artwork or jewelry.

Regardless of wealth, some of the most challenging estates often stem from those with no plan in place for post-death administration. Without a will, state law determines the distribution of assets and guardianship of any minor children. The court will also appoint an administrator who is responsible for collecting the property, paying the debts and distributing what’s left to other family members.

By preparing an estate plan early and updating it often, the only article that will be led by a law professor and a criminal law expert. Discussion will focus on conversations about the Eighth Amendment, and the rights of those accused of criminal conduct. Discussion will be led by a law professor and a criminal law attorney. Details at www.cbalaw.org.

SCALPING TICKETS: LEGAL RISKS FOR SELLERS AND BUYERS

Ticket scalping is the act of re-selling tickets for entertainment events. When purchasing tickets from scalpers, buyers incur the risk of dealing with scammers who may be selling counterfeit or stolen tickets. Some cunning scalpers even re-sell authentic tickets that already scanned at the venue gate, nullifying re-entry.

However, with event promoters’ licensing, well-known online ticket brokers are legitimized.

The Ohio State University’s Athletic Department has established a policy for students, faculty and staff for re-sale of tickets for OSU games, including the following warning: “This privilege [to purchase OSU sports tickets] does not entitle anyone to abuse the ticket policy by scalping or reselling tickets they purchase.”

While Ohio statutes do not specifically prohibit ticket scalping, one enactment authorizes municipalities to regulate re-sale of tickets for “theatrical exhibitions, public shows, and athletic games”. Another statute similarly empowers township trustees.

The Columbus City Code also does not specifically prohibit ticket scalping. Rather, it regulates a “peddler” selling “upon any street, road, alley, doorway, sidewalk, or upon vacant lots or other tracts of land” inside the City. For a peddler unlicensed by the City, the code imposes a minor misdemeanor for first offenders and a first degree misdemeanor for repeat offenders. Will the City enforce against unlicensed scalpers? Not likely.

If you’re contemplating re-sale of tickets for an “away” OSU football game, beware. The State-Up-North’s statutory code prohibits ticket scalping. It figures.

EDUCATION & EVENTS

Thursday, Sept 7 • 1:30 – 4:45 p.m.
What Does Professionalism Have to Do with me? 3.0 NLT and Professional Conduct CLE Hours

Friday, Sept 8 • 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Marital Financial Infidelity 1.5 CLE Hours

Friday, Sept 8 • 12:30 – 4 p.m.
Legal Practice Lab: Session One 3.0 CLE Hours

Tuesday, Oct 3 • 8:30 – 10:30 p.m.
Muffins and Medicare

All classes listed are offered at the Columbus Bar Associations offices, 175 S. Third St. Ste. 1100. To register, call 614-221-4112 or enroll online at www.cbalaw.org.

Interested in learning more about estate planning and probate? Attend our Probate Law Institute: (614) 221-4112.

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SEPTEMBER
14

Due Process and the Constitution

Join us on September 14 at the Columbus Bar Association for our next Constitutional Conversation on the topic of due process.

We’ll talk about the Fifth Amendment, Eighth Amendment, and the rights of those accused of criminal conduct. Discussion will be led by a law professor and a criminal law attorney. Details at www.cbag.org.

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“The best candidates are not necessarily the most popular. Before you vote this November, visit www.JudgeTheCandidates.org for detailed information about Franklin County Judicial Candidates.”

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