# IT'S YOUR MONEY IT'S YOUR ESTATE WORKSHOP

- POWER OF ATTORNEY FINANCIAL MATTERS
- ADVANCED HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE
- CONSERVATORSHIPS

Presentation by: Kenneth B. Wassner Attorney & Counselor at Law Mission Viejo, CA 949-581-6232 ken@kenwassner.com

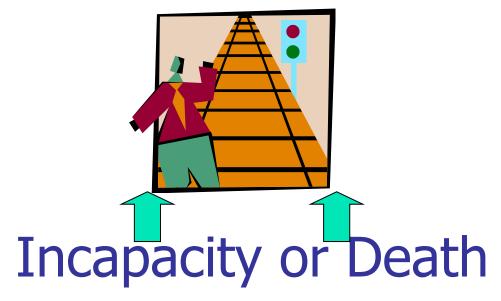


#### **Outline of Remarks**

- Two rails of Estate Planning
- Capacity
- Power of Attorney Finance
- Advance Health Care Directives
- Conservatorships
- Private Fiduciaries



#### The two rails of Estate Planning



## Capacity

- The <u>Legislature</u> declares that:
  - Capacity is presumed
  - May still be able to make decisions
  - Determination based on <u>evidence</u> rather than on <u>diagnosis</u>.





#### **Mental Deficits**

- Alertness and attention
- Information Processing
  - Thought Processes





## Other ways to determine Incapacity

- Mini-Mental Test
- Evaluation by Psychologist/Psychiatrist
  - Attorney is not willing to prepare documents



#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

#### **Financial Matters**

- What is it
- What does it do
- Who is involved
- When does it end





## Is it legal?



- A power is sufficient if:
  - Principal has capacity
  - Date of execution
  - Signed by the Principal or by another in the Principal's presence and at P's direction.
  - Acknowledged or witnessed
  - Tip: Have it notarized





- Act as a fiduciary
- Tip: Have the agent sign accepting the fiduciary duty





#### **Advance Directive**

- Also known as Advance Health Care Directive
- Means either an individual health care instruction or a power of attorney for health care



## Reasons for Advance Directives

- Right to control health care decsions
- Right to have life-sustaining treatment withheld or withdrawn
- Right to avoid artificial prolongation of life
- Remove isue from courts



#### Health Care Decisions

- What are health care decisions
- What are not health care decisions





## Statutory Form (PC 4701)

- Can view online
- Tip: Review form to consider your own choices.
- Tip: Make your wishes known in writing.
- Tip: Consult your attorney





#### Picking a someone to act

- Designation of Agent
- Successors
- Tip: Pick several and authorize signature by one of them.





## **Agents or Surrogates**

- Attorney-in-Fact
- Agent
- Surrogate







### Make your wishes known

- End of Life Decisions
- Tip: Exclude Pain medication from extraordinary measures





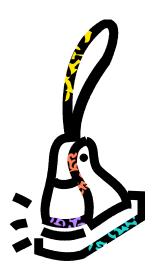
### **Organ Donation**

- Yes or No
- Any Organs
- Specific Organs
- Uses
- Tip: As your doctor



### Is it Legal

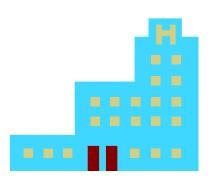
- Copies
- Signature (Acknowledgment)
- Signatures (Witnesses)
- Nursing Home
- Domestic Partners



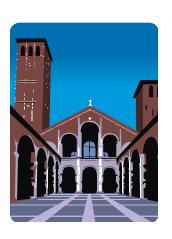


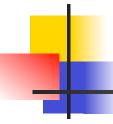
### Duty to Comply

- Duty to Comply
- Duties upon declining









#### Conservatorships

- Guardianship vs. Conservatorship
- Types
  - General Probate (including temporary)
  - Limited Developmentally Disabled
  - LPS Gravely Disabled



### General Probate Conservatorship of the Person

Persons













## General Probate Conservatorship of the Estate

#### Estate









#### **Termination**

- A conservatorship terminates upon the death of the conservatee.
- A conservatorship can terminate upon restoration of the conservatee's capacity and competence.
- The court retains jurisdiction until the final accounting is approved.

## Private Professional Fiduciaries

- California Professional Fiduciaries Bureau
- A new state agency created to license and regulate private fiduciaries, including specified conservators, guardians, trustees, and agents under durable power of attorney for healthcare and finances.