



## **BENEFITS OF A LIVING TRUST**

- ❑ **Unlike a Will, a Living Trust avoids probate** at death, including multiple probates if you own property in other states
- ❑ **Prevents court control** of assets at incapacity
- ❑ **Brings all your assets together** under one plan
- ❑ Provides **maximum privacy**
- ❑ **Quicker distribution of assets** to beneficiaries
- ❑ **Assets can remain in trust** until you want beneficiaries to inherit
- ❑ Can reduce or eliminate federal estate taxes
- ❑ Inexpensive, easy to set up and maintain
- ❑ Can be changed or canceled at any time
- ❑ **Difficult to contest**
- ❑ **Prevents court control** of minors' inheritances
- ❑ Can protect dependents with special needs
- ❑ **Prevents unintentional disinheritance** and other problems of joint ownership
- ❑ Can have professional management with corporate trustee
- ❑ **Peace of mind**

### **LAW OFFICES OF RALPH J. SCHUMANN**

# Business

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

## No estate plan? Expensive error

Refusing to make an estate plan may be the most expensive financial planning mistake you can make. Yet it's estimated that 70 percent of American families don't have such a plan.

Sure, no one likes to think about dying. But not having a plan is just going to cost your heirs money. Even if you haven't accumulated a fortune, it makes sense to protect what you've worked so hard to get. It also makes sense for your loved ones to pay the smallest amount of taxes and fees at your death.

Before you rush out to call your attorney and make a will, you might want to take a look at just how much money dying will cost you, or, actually, your heirs.

First, there are federal estate taxes. Since Jan. 1, 1987, the government has charged no federal taxes on estates under \$600,000. For estates above that amount, the tax rate ranges from 37 to 55 percent.

You can pass an unlimited amount to your spouse tax-free. But the government will be right there when your spouse dies to collect estate taxes. If your spouse outlives you for several years, the estate could grow substantially, increasing the eventual tax bite.

But estate taxes aren't the only cost of dying. This will surprise many people, but probate costs could take up to 15 percent of your assets.

Probate has nothing to do with taxes. It's simply the process of shepherding your will through the court system, changing title to the assets, and distributing them.

In the Cook County Probate Court, there is no limitation to the fees attorneys can charge your estate for this service as long as the judge does not consider them "unreasonable." Attorneys can bill hourly rates or charge a percentage of your assets (8 percent to 15 percent is said to be about average).

When they figure the size of your estate, they calculate the gross value, without subtracting any mortgages or loans against property value. Plus, the executor may have to post a bond based on the value of your estate. There also are court costs and fees.

The process of probate makes your estate very public. Anyone can check the records to find not only the amount of your assets, but the names and addresses of your beneficiaries and how much they're going to receive. Plus, probate is very time-consuming. It could take from nine months to two years to "settle" your estate, even longer if someone contests the provisions of your will.

But, don't give up on the idea of estate planning.

It's simply that there are more cost-effective ways to pass on your assets.

You can hold property in joint name (joint tenancy), and when the first person dies the property will pass to the other owner without probate. However, this means a portion or all of the \$600,000 estate tax exclusion may be wasted. The estate doesn't go through probate until the survivor dies. This means there also will be a much larger estate tax incurred.

That's why more and more people are creating living trusts (technical name:

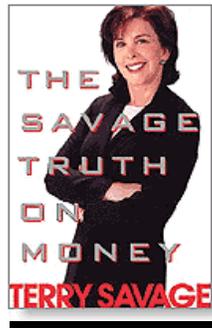
Revocable Intervivos Trust).

You simply transfer title to all of your assets (such as real estate, stocks, personal property) to the name of your living trust. You still retain control over your assets because you are both the trustee and the beneficiary of the trust. The provisions of the trust can be changed any time during your lifetime.

**The big advantage of a living trust is that it avoids probate.** When you die, your assets after death go directly to your beneficiaries. There are far lower attorney's fees and court costs. There is no delay in distributing your estate, and there are no public records of the distribution. If you should ever become incompetent or disabled, having your assets in a living trust will eliminate the need for a court to take over and name a guardian. When you create the trust, you'll name a successor trustee who can automatically carry on your financial tasks.

Properly set up, a revocable living trust may be used to reduce estate taxes, provide for the support and education of your children, and protect children from previous marriages.

You'll still need a will, called a "pour-over" will, to transfer to the living trust any assets you forgot to transfer during your lifetime. Unfortunately these assets will be subject to probate, so make sure you include a complete asset list or update the list of assets in your trust frequently.



NOTE: This article written by Terry Savage a while ago is one of the best summaries of the risks and costs of probate I have seen.

Federal and State thresholds are subject to change. Time is of the essence.

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Advertising Material.

# ESTATE PLANNING INFORMATION



<b>CLIENT(S) LAST NAME:</b>	
<b>REFERRED BY:</b>	
<b>DATE COMPLETED:</b>	

### Instructions

**This form can be used to begin the planning process. Please complete the applicable sections, sign where indicated, and return it to our office at least two business days prior to your scheduled appointment. If you have any questions about the form, please call.**



Law Offices of  
**RALPH J.  
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## INTRODUCTION

This form should be filled out as completely as possible and forwarded to our office for review prior to a personal conference. Although reasonable value approximations are acceptable, it is important to be certain of the identity of assets and how they are owned. The form provides for identification of assets as owned solely by husband, solely by wife, or in joint tenancy. Please indicate, however, where there exist other conditions such as tenancies in common or by the entireties or community property with rights of survival.

Prior to the conference, you also should consider (but need not answer on this form) the following questions, to the extent they are applicable to your situation:

1. Guardian for Minor Children. If you have children under age 18, who would you want to serve as guardian to take care of them and see to their upbringing and education in the event of your death? What about a successor guardian if the first does not or will not act? Would you want the same individuals to manage your children's property?

2. Personal Representative/Executor. Who would you want to be the personal representative/executor of your will? This is the person or financial institution in charge of paying final debts and taxes and distributing your estate as directed in your will.

3. Trusts and Trustees. Trusts are often utilized for tax savings and asset management, either as part of a will, or in addition to a will. If a trust is appropriate for you, who would you want to have as the trustee: Yourself? An individual such as your spouse, brother or sister, child or friend? A financial institution? A combination of a financial institution and an individual? Who would be the successor trustee if the initial trustee fails or ceases to act?

4. Specific Gifts. Do you wish to provide in your estate plan for cash gifts, or gifts of other specific property, to individuals or charitable organizations? If so, you should make a list of such individuals and organizations, paying careful attention to exact given names, spellings and addresses.

5. Disaster. If all members of your immediate family are deceased, to what individuals or charities should your assets be given?

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**ESTATE PLANNING DATA**

**I (we) understand that this questionnaire is designed to provide the LAW OFFICES OF RALPH J. SCHUMANN with important information for estate planning purposes and that the firm's ability to advise clients with respect to lifetime and testamentary disposition of assets, with minimization of adverse tax consequences, depends on the accuracy and completeness of such information. I (We) hereby confirm that the information provided herein is substantially correct and complete.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature]*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature]*

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PART I: INFORMATION AND DIRECTION**

	HUSBAND	WIFE
<b>NAME</b>		
<b>Residence Address</b>		
<b>City, State, Zip</b>		
<b>Citizenship*</b>		
<b>Residence Telephone</b>		
<b>EMPLOYER/BUS. NAME</b>		
<b>Business Address</b>		
<b>City, State, Zip</b>		
<b>Position</b>		
<b>Business Telephone</b>		
<b>BIRTH DATE</b>		
<b>Place of Birth</b>		
<b>Social Security Number</b>		
<b>MARRIAGE</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Place:</b>
<b>Pre-marital agreement?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. (Please supply copy.)	<input type="checkbox"/> No.
<b>Husband previously married?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. ( No. of times: ____ )	<input type="checkbox"/> No.
<b>Wife previously married?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. ( No. of times: ____ )	<input type="checkbox"/> No.

For each prior marriage of either spouse, indicate name of prior spouse, date of marriage, date of termination, reason for termination (divorce, death) and, if divorced, whether spouse is living. Please supply copy of any divorce decrees.

\* It is very important to plan carefully for tax or property consequences that may result from any interstate or international aspects of your estate. If you travel extensively or own residential property in more than one jurisdiction, please be prepared to discuss your views regarding what you consider to be your principal residence.

List children in order of birth; indicate if any adopted or deceased. (List additional children on reverse.)

CHILDREN	ADDRESS	BIRTH DATE	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	SPOUSE
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

Indicate grandchild's parent by placing the corresponding number of the parent of each grandchild (from chart immediately above) to the left of each grandchild's name. Indicate if any adopted or deceased. If more space is needed, use reverse side.

	GRANDCHILDREN	ADDRESS	BIRTH DATE	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	SPOUSE

Provide information as to any adopted children or grandchildren, children of prior marriages and other relatives or friends to be considered in estate plans.

	HUSBAND	WIFE
<b>Personal Banker</b>		
Bank		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
<b>Accountant</b>		
Firm		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
<b>Stock Broker</b>		
Firm		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
<b>Insurance Agent</b>		
Firm		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
<b>Physician</b>		
Firm		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
<b>Safe Deposit Box:</b>		
Bank		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Box Number(s)		
Rented by (H, W, Jt.)		
<b>Other Storage:</b>		
Company		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Rented by (H, W, Jt.)		

**Please indicate whether husband and wife have current wills or trusts, including dates of execution:**  
*Please supply copies of current wills and trusts.*

<b>Husband:</b>	<b>Will:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Date of execution: _____)	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<b>Trust:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Date of execution: _____)	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<i>Location of Document:</i>		
<b>Wife:</b>	<b>Will:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Date of execution: _____)	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<b>Trust:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Date of execution: _____)	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	<i>Location of Document:</i>		

**KEY ESTATE PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS****I. WILL AND TRUST DESIGNATIONS:****A. Executor(s) under husband's Pour-Over will:**

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<b>First Executor</b> (Usually Spouse)			
<b>First Successor Executor</b>			
<b>Second Successor Executor</b>			

**B. Executor(s) under wife's Pour-Over will:**

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<b>First Executor</b>			
<b>First Successor Executor</b>			
<b>Second Successor Executor</b>			

**C. Trustee under husband's revocable living trust:**

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<b>First Trustee</b> (Usually Husband)			
<b>First Successor Trustee</b> (Usually Spouse)			
<b>Second Successor Trustee</b>			
<b>Third Successor Trustee</b>			

**D. Trustee under wife’s revocable living trust:**

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<b>First Trustee</b> (Usually Wife)			
<b>First Successor Trustee</b> (Usually Spouse)			
<b>Second Successor Trustee</b>			
<b>Third Successor Trustee</b>			

**E. Guardian for minor children, if any:**

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<b>First Guardian</b>			
<b>First Successor Guardian</b>			
<b>Second Successor Guardian</b>			

**ADDITIONAL MATTERS**

**II. AGENT(S) for HEALTH CARE decisions with DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTH CARE:**

(Person(s) you wish to have speak on your behalf regarding health care decisions if you cannot express your wishes yourself):

**AGENTS(S) FOR HUSBAND:**

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<b>First Agent</b> (Usually Spouse)	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):		
<b>First Successor Agent</b>			
<b>Second Successor Agent</b>			

***AGENT(S) FOR WIFE:***

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<b>First Agent</b> (Usually Spouse)	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):		
<b>First Successor Agent</b>			
<b>Second Successor Agent</b>			

**III. AGENT(S) for PROPERTY and Asset matters with DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PROPERTY:**

(Person(s) you wish to have act on your behalf regarding property transfers, gifts, distributions and the like in the event of disability or other circumstance rendering you unable to express your wishes yourself.)

***AGENTS(S) FOR HUSBAND:***

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<b>First Agent</b> (Usually Spouse)	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):		
<b>First Successor Agent</b>			
<b>Second Successor Agent</b>			

***AGENT(S) FOR WIFE:***

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<b>First Agent</b> (Usually Spouse)	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):		
<b>First Successor Agent</b>			
<b>Second Successor Agent</b>			

**OPTIONAL INFORMATION****IV. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF FAMILY MEMBERS:**


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**V. SPECIFIC BEQUESTS:**

SOURCE (H OR W)	ITEM	BENEFICIARY

**VI. BEQUESTS TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS:**

NAME	TYPE OF ORGANIZATION; ADDRESS	BEQUEST

**VII. Details regarding burial arrangements, if any: \_\_\_\_\_**


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**VIII. Details regarding anatomical gifts, if any: \_\_\_\_\_**


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**IX. Details regarding intrafamily loans in excess of \$10,000, if any: \_\_\_\_\_**


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**X. Details regarding other special circumstances, if any: \_\_\_\_\_**


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**XI. General comments and pertinent information about business interests, other assets and liabilities:**


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# DIRECTION

## REGARDING DISTRIBUTION OF ESTATE ASSETS:

To:

NAME	ADDRESS	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

*in equal shares.*

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**“Catastrophic” Distribution [Optional]:**

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***-or-***

To:

NAME	ADDRESS	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
___ % to:		

*in the indicated percentages.*

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**“Catastrophic” Distribution [Optional]:**

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **PART II: *FINANCIAL CONDITION***

It is very important to complete this page (and the following accompanying schedules). An estimate of the approximate values of your assets is a necessary prerequisite to any accurate estate planning. It is also important to indicate the exact manner each asset is currently owned (by either individual solely, or in joint tenancy). Please give careful consideration to how each asset is owned.

It is most desirable to have all of the following schedules completed, with totals carried back to this summary page, to assist us in considering the effects of lifetime and testamentary transfers and the tax consequences thereof. If you are not able to complete all of the schedules, however, you should nonetheless complete this page.

*Provide estimated values, in multiples of \$1,000.*

ASSETS	IN HUSBAND'S NAME ALONE	JOINT TENANCY	IN WIFE'S NAME ALONE
Cash & Notes (Sched. A)	\$	\$	\$
Real Estate (Sched. B)			
Securities (Sched. C)			
Proprietorships/ partnerships (Sched. D)			
Life Insurance (Sched. E)			
Retirement assets/ plans (Sched. F)			
Tangible personal property (Sched. G)			
Miscellaneous (Sched. H)			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Mortgages (Sched. I)			
Loans/Notes (Sched. I)			
Other Liabilities (Sched. I)			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>NET WORTH</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>

**SCHEDULE A - CASH & NOTES**  
 Provide estimated current values, in multiples of \$1,000.

CASH ACCOUNTS		Type: (CHKS, SAVS. C.D., MONEY MKT.)	HUSBAND	JOINT TENANCY	WIFE
<b>Bank or Other Institution</b>					
<b>SUBTOTAL CASH ACCOUNTS</b>			\$	\$	\$
<b>LOANS OR NOTES RECEIVABLE</b>					
<b>OBLIGOR</b>	<b>RATE</b>	<b>DATE DUE</b>			
			\$	\$	\$
<b>SUBTOTAL LOANS AND NOTES</b>			\$	\$	\$
<b>TOTALS</b>			\$	\$	\$
<b>Comments:</b>					

**SCHEDULE B - REAL ESTATE**

For valuation purposes, use your best estimate of current total values, without regard to any mortgages that may be outstanding. Mortgage information should be described in Schedule I. Please indicate if any property is a condominium, co-op or other restricted form of ownership.

Provide estimated current values, in multiples of \$1,000.

ADDRESS/LOCATION		HUSBAND		JOINT TENANCY		WIFE	
		COST BASIS	VALUE	COST BASIS	VALUE	COST BASIS	VALUE
1.	Residence 1 Address: _____ _____ _____ Property Permanent Index Number (Tax I.D. No.): _____	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2.	Residence 2 Address: _____ _____ _____ Property Permanent Index Number (Tax I.D. No.): _____						
3.							
4.							
5.							
<b>TOTALS</b>			\$		\$		\$

**SCHEDULE C - SECURITIES**

Provide estimated current values, in multiples of \$1,000.

ASSET TYPE	HUSBAND		JOINT TENANCY		WIFE	
	COST BASIS	VALUE	COST BASIS	VALUE	COST BASIS	VALUE
Publicly traded stocks	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
S corporation stocks						
Other close corporation stocks						
Corporate bonds						
U.S. government bonds, notes & bills						
Municipal bonds						
Mutual funds						
Other						
TOTALS		\$		\$		\$

Please supply copies of any buy/sell agreements, related insurance arrangements, or other documents affecting any of the above securities.

<b>Comments:</b>

**SCHEDULE D - PROPRIETORSHIPS/PARTNERSHIPS**

(Including limited partnerships and tax shelters)

Provide estimated current values, in multiples of \$1,000.

ASSET TYPE	HUSBAND		JOINT TENANCY		WIFE	
	COST BASIS	VALUE	COST BASIS	VALUE	COST BASIS	VALUE
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>TOTALS</b>		\$		\$		\$

Please supply copies of partnership agreements.

<b>Comments:</b>

**SCHEDULE E - LIFE INSURANCE**  
 Provide estimated current values, in multiples of \$1,000.

INSURING LIFE OF <b>HUSBAND</b>								
COMPANY	POLICY NO.	TERM, VARIABLE LIFE, OR UNIVERSAL LIFE, OR WHOLE LIFE	FACE VALUE	CASH VALUE	LOANS	ANNUAL PREMIUM	OWNER	BENEFICIARY
			\$	\$	\$	\$		
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$					

INSURING LIFE OF <b>WIFE</b>								
COMPANY	POLICY NO.	TERM, VARIABLE LIFE, OR UNIVERSAL LIFE, OR WHOLE LIFE	FACE VALUE	CASH VALUE	LOANS	ANNUAL PREMIUM	OWNER	BENEFICIARY
			\$	\$	\$	\$		
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$					

INSURING LIFE OF <i>HUSBAND AND WIFE (SECOND-TO-DIE)</i>								
COMPANY	POLICY NO.	TERM, VARIABLE LIFE, OR UNIVERSAL LIFE, OR WHOLE LIFE	FACE VALUE	CASH VALUE	LOANS	ANNUAL PREMIUM	OWNER	BENEFICIARY
			\$	\$	\$	\$		
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$					

**SCHEDULE F - RETIREMENT ASSETS/PLANS**

**Provide estimated current values/account balances, in multiples of \$1,000.**

<b>RETIREMENT ASSETS</b>	<b>HUSBAND</b>	<b>JOINT TENANCY</b>	<b>WIFE</b>
<b>IRA/Keogh Accounts</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Pension Plans</b>			
<b>401k Plans</b>			
<b>Profit Sharing Plans</b>			
<b>Deferred Compensation</b>			
<b>Other</b>			
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$	\$	\$

**SCHEDULE G - TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Provide estimated current values, in multiples of \$1,000.

	HUSBAND	JOINT TENANCY	WIFE
<b>Furniture and furnishings</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Automobiles</b>			
<b>Artwork or art collections</b>			
<b>Other collections</b>			
<b>Goods in storage</b>			
<b>Jewelry</b>			
<b>Furs</b>			
<b>Other</b>			
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$	\$	\$

<p><b>Describe collections, antiques, heirlooms, etc. that may require special estate plan considerations, and provide any other pertinent comments:</b></p>

**SCHEDULE H - MISCELLANEOUS**

List estates and trusts where an outright inheritance is expected, and provide estimated value thereof. Also list values where you have powers to control the dispositions of the assets.

Provide estimated current values, in multiples of \$1,000.

	HUSBAND	WIFE
<b>Interests in pending probate estates</b>		
<b>Interests in existing trusts</b>		
<b>Expected interests in future estates/trusts</b>		
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$	\$

Please supply copies of relevant wills and trusts.

Ever filed U.S. Gift Tax returns? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, please supply copies.

<b>Indicate any fiduciary positions held by either husband or wife (executor, trustee, guardian, custodian).</b>

**SCHEDULE I - LIABILITIES**

List here only major liabilities, such as mortgages on real estate, notes or loans due to others, charitable pledges, etc.

Provide estimated current values, in multiples of \$1,000.

	HUSBAND	JOINT TENANCY	WIFE
<b>Mortgages (Use same property numbers as in Schedule B)</b>	\$	\$	\$
1. Residence 1			
2. Residence 2			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Loans/Notes (Identify creditor)</b>			
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Other liabilities (including charitable pledges)</b>			
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$	\$	\$



Law Offices of  
**RALPH J.  
SCHUMANN**



## **Ralph J. Schumann**

*Concentrating in*

***Estate Planning (Wills and Trusts) and Real Estate Law***

• **Past Vice President and Director, Northwest Suburban Estate Planning Council**

• **Frequent Speaker, Seminars on Estate Planning Issues for ISBA, NWSBA, and others**

• **Named by Peers A "Top 10" LEADING LAWYER: Real Estate**



• **Director and Past President, Illinois Real Estate Lawyers Association**  
([www.irela.org](http://www.irela.org))



• **Member, Multi-Board Residential Real Estate Contract Drafting Committee**

• **Member and Past Chair, ILLINOIS STATE BAR ASSOCIATION (ISBA) Real Estate Law Section Council**

• **Member, ILLINOIS STATE BAR ASSOCIATION (ISBA) Unauthorized Practice of Law Task Force.**

### **LAW FIRM DESCRIPTION**

The LAW OFFICES OF RALPH J. SCHUMANN is a full-service law firm with developed concentrations in estate planning, estate administration, residential and commercial real estate, corporate and business law, and litigation. We have the expertise to assist in developing estate plans designed to avoid probate and reduce or eliminate estate taxes, as well as extensive experience in administration and efficient resolution of those estates which do pass through probate. Ralph J. Schumann graduated with honors from Chicago-Kent College of Law. We utilize the benefits of current technology to make our practice and the delivery of our legal services more efficient and more economical. You can reach us by telephone or by e-mail ([rjs@SchumannLaw.com](mailto:rjs@SchumannLaw.com)). Visit our web site at [www.SchumannLaw.com](http://www.SchumannLaw.com) for information and planning forms.

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## Ralph J. Schumann

RALPH J. SCHUMANN, Law Offices of Ralph J. Schumann, Schaumburg, Illinois | Mr. Schumann is a solo practitioner in Schaumburg, where he concentrates his practice in estate planning, trust and probate administration, real estate law, business succession planning and corporate law.

**Professional Affiliations and Education.** Mr. Schumann has been admitted to the Illinois bar and the Northern District of Illinois, and the U. S. Court of Appeals. He is **Past President** and a **Director** of the Illinois Real Estate Lawyers Association (IRELA), and is a **Member** and **Past Chair** of the ISBA Real Estate Law Section Council. Mr. Schumann also serves on the **Multi-Board Residential Real Estate Contract Drafting Committee** as the IRELA Representative, and is a Title Examiner and Agent with Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Inc. He has been selected as an industry representative member of IDFPR's **TRID Working Group** addressing issues relating to CFPB regulations and forms implementation, and serves as a member of the **Illinois Realtors® Broker/Lawyer Committee**. Mr. Schumann was selected by his peers as a **Member** of the **LEADING LAWYERS NETWORK** in the area of **Real Estate Law: Residential**. *Chicago-Kent College of Law, J.D. with honors.*

**Publications and Speaking Engagements.** Mr. Schumann has prepared hundreds of estate plans, and has participated as a panelist and speaker at numerous seminars regarding various estate planning and real estate law issues, and has authored numerous articles on real estate issues, among them *"How Real Estate Lawyers Can Use Technology to Guard Against Security and Compliance Threats"* for the American Bar Association's GPSOLO Magazine, *"Methods of Taking or Holding Title"*, Chapter 8 of Residential Real Estate Handbook, IICLE, and *"The Unmarried Couple Purchaser"*, for the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education's (IICLE) Annual Real Estate Short Course. He moderated an Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) seminar on TRANSFER ON DEATH INSTRUMENTS, has written articles on TENANCY BY THE ENTIRETY issues, and has spoken on "TITLE INSURANCE COVERAGE: What Real Estate Counsel Need to Know" as part of a panel of national speakers for Strafford Webinars, on "Case Law Update" for the Chicago Bar Association's Real Property Committee CLE, on "RESPA Revisions & New Rules" for the Illinois State Bar Association's Real Estate Law Update for the Experienced Practitioner seminar, on "MULTI-BOARD RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE CONTRACT: An Analysis of Key Changes" for an Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Inc., OnDemand CLE Seminar, and on "NEW CFPB FORMS" for multiple title insurance companies. He has also been a featured panelist on cable television programs for the ISBA, including *"Landlord and Tenant"* and *"Methods of Holding Title"* as part of the *"Illinois Law: Legal News You Can Use"* series. In addition, Mr. Schumann authored a handbook chapter and spoke on the topic of "WHAT HAPPENED, HOW WE GOT HERE & WHAT TO DO NOW – Foreclosure Defense and Short Sales Issues" at IICLE's Annual Real Estate Short Course. He has spoken on the topic of "NEW CFPB FORMS AND THE NEW CLOSING PROCESS; CFPB ECLOSING PILOT PROGRAM" for Greater Illinois Title and other title insurance companies. In addition to preparing hundreds of estate plans, he has handled hundreds of real estate transactions for both buyers and sellers. He has spoken at continuing legal education programs for the ISBA, IICLE, the Illinois Real Estate Lawyers Association, the Northwest Suburban Bar Association, the Chicago Bar Association, Greater Illinois Title Company, and for Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Inc.

Schumann also serves as an expert witness in matters involving complex legal issues as well as in matters involving professional responsibility.