WILLMS, S.C. LEGAL UPDATE



Willms, S.C. Newsletter October 2014

Welcome Our New Accountant, Dan Asmuth

Please help us welcome Dan Asmuth to our full-time staff at Willms, S.C. Dan is a 2014 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and majored in accounting. Dan worked with us as an accounting assistant while he was a student, and joined us full-time as an accountant when he graduated in May. He will be supplementing our long-standing commitment to providing expert advice in the areas of estate and gift taxation, fiduciary taxation and accounting, and business entity taxation. If you have recently bought or sold a business, gifted assets, have a tax question related to your estate plan or business, or simply want to know more about the services we offer in this area, we welcome the opportunity to be of assistance.

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Wisconsin Trust Code Provides New Tools for SNTs

Special needs trusts have long been an essential tool in estate planning for individuals with disabilities. They allow us to provide for our family members (or ourselves) with disabilities without interfering with public benefit eligibility. With the recent passage of the Wisconsin Trust Code, attorneys who specialize in special needs planning now have additional ways to make sure that these trusts work the way they are supposed to without involving the court system. This should increase our ability to make sure these trusts function as intended when it matters most. Many of the tools that are going to be useful for special needs trusts in particular may also prove beneficial to clients who don't have a special needs trust, but do have a trust as part of their estate plan. For more information, please visit our website to **read more**.

Talking to Heirs about Their Inheritance

One thing we stress with our clients is that the best-drafted estate planning documents only go so far if your beneficiaries don't know what's expected of them. This <u>recent article</u> does a great job of highlighting the problems that result from a lack of family communication. If you are interested in learning more about strategies for addressing this issue, or would like assistance in having a family meeting, please let us know.

A Closing Note

We hope you found the information in this newsletter helpful. If you have questions or comments about any of the topics covered in this newsletter, please reach out and let us know. We welcome the opportunity to provide more information or find out how we can serve your needs more fully.

Regards, Willms, S.C.