



RaniaCombsLaw PLLC

TRUST REVIEW ANNUAL CHECKLIST

Use this checklist at least once a year and after any major life event or account/property change.

☐ Last reviewed on: _____ ☐ Next review scheduled: _____

1) BENEFICIARIES

- ☐ Primary beneficiaries still reflect your wishes
- ☐ Specific gifts (home, account, heirlooms) still exist and are described accurately
- ☐ Backup plan is clear if a beneficiary dies or disclaims

2) DECISION-MAKERS

- ☐ Successor Trustee is still appropriate and willing
- ☐ At least one alternate is named and willing
- ☐ Contact info for fiduciaries is current (phone/email/address)

3) MINORS & VULNERABLE BENEFICIARIES

- ☐ Revocable Living Trust (RLT) creates a trust for minors, if any
- ☐ Any beneficiary with special needs is provided for with a Special Needs Trust
- ☐ Trustees (and alternates) for any testamentary trust are appropriate

4. INCAPACITY DOCUMENTS

- ☐ Financial Power of Attorney agent and alternate are current and appropriate
- ☐ Medical POA/Advance Directive reflects current wishes
- ☐ Contact information of agents in documents is still current

5. REAL ESTATE

- ☐ Verify each property is titled to your RLT
- ☐ If you refinanced or purchased in the last 12 months, confirm title is back in the trust
- ☐ Notify your homeowner's insurer to add the trustees as an insured or additional interest
- ☐ If you own property in another state, confirm it is held in your trust to avoid ancillary probate
- ☐ Keep copies of your recorded deeds in your estate planning binder

6. BANK & BROKERAGE ACCOUNTS

- ☐ If you keep your day-to-day checking account outside the trust, confirm it has a pay-on-death (POD) to your trust or heirs
- ☐ Verify savings and brokerage accounts are retitled to your RLT for incapacity access and probate avoidance
- ☐ For joint accounts, review survivorship provisions to ensure they align with your plan

7. RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS (IRA/401(k)/403(b))

- ☐ Retirement accounts are typically NOT retitled to your trust during life
- ☐ Review and update PRIMARY and CONTINGENT beneficiaries to match your overall plan
- ☐ Consider when to name individuals versus a trust
- ☐ Keep copies of submitted beneficiary forms and confirmations

8. LIFE INSURANCE & ANNUITIES

- ☐ Verify ownership and beneficiary designations
- ☐ Decide whether to name the trust or individuals as beneficiary based on your distribution goals
- ☐ Confirm contingent beneficiaries are listed

9. BUSINESS INTERESTS (LLC, S-Corp, Partnership, Closely Held Stock)

- ☐ Review operating/shareholders' agreements for transfer restrictions and successor-trustee rights
- ☐ Execute an Assignment of Interest/Stock Power transferring units/shares to the trust
- ☐ Update the company books; obtain any required member/board consents

10. VEHICLES & RECREATIONAL ASSETS

- ☐ Consider retitling to the trust or using transfer-on-death (TOD) titles where available.
- ☐ Coordinate with your umbrella/liability insurance

11. DIGITAL ASSETS & ACCESS

- ☐ Ensure lawful access for fiduciaries
- ☐ Maintain an updated password manager with emergency access for your trustee and agent.
- ☐ Document locations/credentials for crypto or hardware wallets

12. FUNDING INVENTORY & COMMUNICATION

- ☐ Update your master funding schedule (asset, last verified date, title/beneficiary, next action)
- ☐ Save confirmations with the trust binder and share updates with your successor trustee

13. EMERGENCY READINESS

- ☐ Original estate planning documents are safely stored; someone you trust knows where they are
- ☐ Contact list for attorney, fiduciaries, CPA, and advisor is up to date

14. TRIGGERING EVENTS THAT REQUIRE ATTORNEY REVIEW

- ☐ Marriage/divorce or death of a family member
- ☐ Birth/adoption
- ☐ Move to a new state
- ☐ Buying/selling/refinancing real estate
- ☐ Opening/migrating accounts
- ☐ Starting a business
- ☐ Receiving an inheritance
- ☐ Significant increase in wealth
- ☐ Passage of time (2-3 years have elapsed)