

A Will Or A Revocable Living Trust?

BY OMARI KENYATTA, J.D.

One of the common mistakes made by most people is that they think an up to date will is the only and best way to protect their estate. Nothing could be further from the truth. There is an alternative to a will.

In some states, real estate does not pass through the Probate Court. You should know, however, every state has its own statutes. You should check your state statutes before you begin to make plans for your personal and real estate property.

many states have altered their laws relating to adopted children. Adopted children may have the same rights as the natural children of the deceased person. However, it should be noted that the rights of an adopted person are only recognized by law in the state where the adoption took place and may not be recognized by in some other states.

What I have pointed out to you is the downside of a will. You need this educational information so you can make the right decision for your

heirs and next of kin.

You are probably by now saying to yourself, "If not a will, what should I have?"

Solution:

The Answer is a Revocable Living Trust. The reason why you should have a Revocable Living Trust is because of the changes in the tax laws. You can avoid costly probate fees, plus eliminate lengthy legal delays. A trust can distribute assets without delays. This kind of trust can be changed any time doing your life time to meet your circumstances. Your beneficiaries will be able to obtain money or property that is due to them from this trust without having to wait months, or years. Another good thing about this kind of trust is that it can be very difficult to contest by some unhappy relative of the decedent. If a relative wanted to bring about a Civil Suit, they would have to sue each of the designated beneficiaries in a separate suit.

AFRICA INSIGHT

Africa Citizenship For African-Americans

BY PROMISE KING

Do you know that it is possible for you to be a citizen of the African country of your choice and still retain your American citizenship? Yes you can. All it takes is a little time and few dollars for paper work and you will be officially crowned bonafide citizen of the glorious land of your ancestors.

It's time to forget the tell-tale of western media frenzy about Africa's wretchedness and stories about sorrow and dependency. May I remind you again that there is no place like your ancestral home? Or that there is nothing more fulfilling than stepping into a whole new world where you stand with dignity and knowing you are a free citizen of your cherished motherland.

Many African nations are opening their doors to African-Americans to come in and provide leadership and become citizens.

I hope you begin to take advantage of this opportunity by applying today.

Since most African countries have their embassy in Washington D.C. and New York, I advise you call the embassy of the country of your choice. But for those of you who are picking my native Nigeria, here is what you should do.

Call the Director of Africa American Immigration Service at (718) 743-5845 or write the agency at 1424 Sheephead Bay Road, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11235. Tell them your concern and I am sure you'll be helped.

Or plan a trip to Nigeria and while staying there seek community or family sponsorship and make sure you stay out of trouble because that would slim your chances of having your citizenship approved. Avoid the visa scams and go through the proper legal channels and everything should work out just fine.

Or write me through the Portland Observer's for any assistance.

Your dual citizenship is a pride of being an American of African descent.

Long live Africa and God bless America.



By Promise King

Death Investigated As Murder

Portland police are investigating the Oct. 19 discovery of a body in a residence at 5919 N.E. 24th at a homicide. Initially, the death of Richard L. Klepper had been considered suspicious. The state medical examiner is conducting tests to determine an exact cause.

Officers were sent to the home after police in another jurisdiction arrested a man and woman who were driving Klepper's limousine. The police were concerned that the people did not have legitimate possession of the vehicle.

Police believe Klepper was given drugs or other medication, while he was incapacitated, that resulted in his death. The two people in custody have not been charged in connection with the death and the investigation is continuing.

Memory Ann Garnett Receives "Student Of The Month" Award

Memory Garnett 8, of the King Elementary School, received "Student of the Month" Award from the school on Friday Oct. 21, 1994, with sixty-nine other students receiving awards of different kinds.

The award is given to students who display outstanding performances in academics and shows discipline in the classroom.

Miss Garnett was picked for being a "Super Citizen and Worker" according to Samuel Wade, the school awards coordinator.

The school also recognized students with perfect attendance records. Two outstanding students are recognized every month, from each class.

This award is designed to recognize kids in a positive way, according to the school principal Joseph Malone.



Memory Ann Garnett with her 3rd grade teacher, Jamila Taylor

I THOUGHT I HAD THE KEYS TO THE UNIVERSE, II

BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT

Last week I responded to a parent's query about the viability of "Accounting" as a career. My rather lengthy reply may seem to have defined the word circumlocution, but I have always adhered to the notion that "all the world is a stage". And that some things are better understood in that context.

I will continue with my description of a career choice that can reveal or open up scores of doors that might remain hidden to those in many other professions. After all, in accounting and auditing it is your job to be a consummate (and passionate) busybody. It is a field where you soon discover that for success you must

learn to pay attention to every little detail, and beyond this self-discipline, you must develop investigative powers to their greatest height.

In other words, you soon discover that "the world really is a stage" - and despite what the text books and many mentors will tell you, "the play is the thing" and in the end it is all about the actors and players, and their ambitions, drives and emotions.

Meanwhile "back at the ranch", I left off with a description of my activities on the Williams Avenue "Black Business Mall", (1946-1954). As I have indicated, this profession is a "door-opener", and in many cases will get you past the initial vestiges of racism, if no further. Soon after

printing my first business cards (which I handed out in copious amounts), I got a call from a car dealer on "Union Avenue", better known as "Car dealers row". Within months, I had a dozen car dealer clients in an area where Portland African Americans were saying a black couldn't do it (still the case in many circumstances).

Parents who are investigating the career choices for their children, as well as the students themselves, must understand that, all else being equal, much depends upon personality, energy and a fondness for people. Meeting these criteria will see you introduced to new worlds, new ways of life -- and to other career choices

which maybe even more appealing.

Interestingly, we learned that while African Americans were being told they were "not qualified" for various jobs, droves of whites who had not finished high school were holding down good jobs in both public service and industry--being promoted, rising to the top.

A few years later I anticipated "H&R Block" by several years and established branch offices in Vanport, North Portland, and across the river in Vancouver and McLoughlin Heights. I left Portland in 1954 to gain a broader experience in Los Angeles.

Continued next week.

Mentor Program Volunteers Needed

It takes a whole village to raise a child. If you'd like to take part in providing some hope and guidance to the youth of our village, please consider taking part in our Mentor Program sponsored by MYCAP.

For more information, please contact Roy Washington at 280-1050 or Leroy Phillips at 682-5017.



Public Notice

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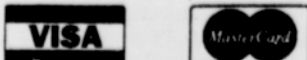
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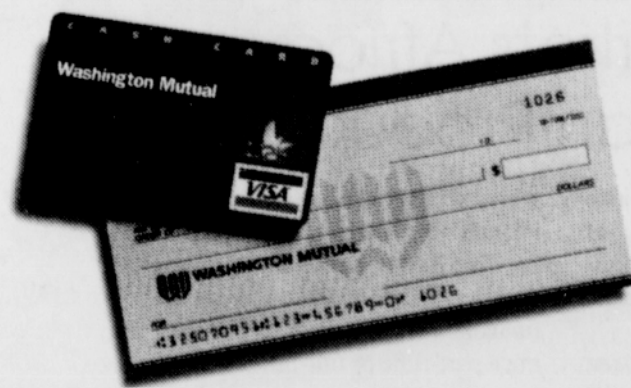
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