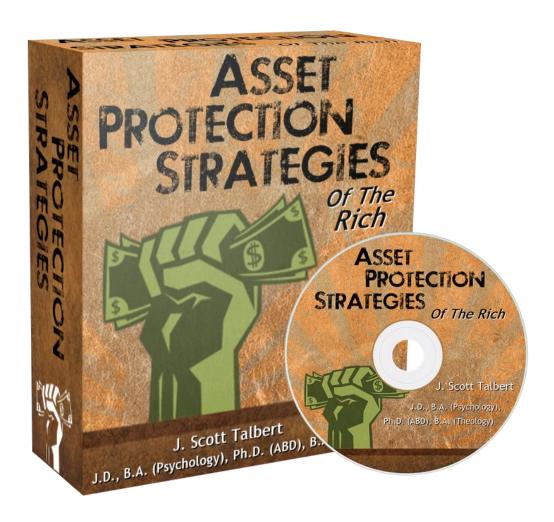


YOU WANT ME TO BE WHAT?

A TRUSTEE?

What am I Getting Myself Into?



YOU WANT ME TO BE WHAT? A TRUSTEE?

What am I getting myself into?

Short answer: Not much. Someone - who knows, likes, and trusts you - is asking you to participate in one of the most important things they've ever done. They are establishing an **Estate Planning & Asset Protection Structure** to safeguard everything they have, and prepare to pass an inheritance to perpetual generations to come after them.

As we like to put it: **Building a Dynasty & Leaving a Legacy.**

You've been tapped to serve as <u>Trustee</u> for their two Trusts (of which they are Beneficiary). Frankly, it's a significant honor to be asked to play this role. The Trustee is typically the party who "manages" Trust assets on behalf of a Trustor (the asset/gift "giver"), for the benefit of the Beneficiary (the asset/gift "recipient," and person who gave you this Document).

An easy-to-understand example would be an elderly parent (*Trustor*) leaving a "trust fund" for a disabled or special needs son or daughter (*Beneficiary*). The Trustor (*parent*) would identify a Trustee (*trusted individual or institution*) who could manage the Trust property in place of the parent, for the benefit of the son or daughter (*Beneficiary*).

The Trustee first simply signs & notarizes the Trust Documents, and then typically opens a bank account for the Trusts. While the Trustee would typically handle distribution of Trust property to the Beneficiary (or others), this overall Structure is designed to minimize the role of the Trustee, as most notable Trust assets are "dropped down" a level into one or more LLCs owned by the Trusts. By virtue of doing that, the assets are actually primarily handled at the LLC level, which means the Trust Beneficiary would be the "hands on," managerial party – not so much the Trustee. Again, the Trustee might simply maintain bank accounts, but generally does not handle "day to day" property dealings after all.

That's really about all there is to it. You'd doubtfully ever incur much of any expenses and, if you did, those could be reimbursed by the Trusts. Indeed, you are permitted to hire advisors at the expense of the Trusts, should you ever want accounting help, for instance. So, those things can be "outsourced" to a third party (meaning you don't have to do it yourself). As far as potential risk or liability, the Trust Documents expressly state that you are not liable for actions taken in good faith — so you'd have to purpose to do evil (willful & malicious conduct) to have any issue there. Moreover, you are free to resign at any time, simply by providing notice in writing to the successor Trustee and them accepting the position as your replacement.

SUMMARY: The <u>Trustee</u> basically handles the Trust property, according to the terms of the Trust Agreement, for the sake of the Beneficiaries. Since most assets would be owned by LLCs, rather than the Trusts directly, managing the assets has really been reassigned largely to the Beneficiary. You can hire professional help at the Trust's expense and don't need to worry about incurring personal expenses or personal liability if you simply operate in good faith. It doesn't have to be a permanent commitment, and you can resign later if you so decide.