

## The first year

### Immediate Concerns: Day 1 - 30

#### Day 1 - 5

Have family members, friends and employer been contacted?

Were written wishes of the deceased renewed?

Has a funeral home/director been engaged and services organized?

Have burial, interment or cremation arrangements been made?

Has the obituary been drafted and sent to the appropriate organizations?

#### **DAY 6 - 30**

Are funeral expense payment arrangements completed?

If deceased was a business owner, have provisions been made for the short-term continuation of the business?

If deceased was receiving social security benefits, has the social security administration been contacted?

Has the financial situation been assessed?

- Income
- Expenses
- Assets
- Liabilities
- Insurance Coverage

Have the appropriate professionals been contacted?

- Financial advisor
- Accountant/tax advisor
- Insurance professional
- Attorney

organizations:			
		YES	NO
Next Steps: Day 31 - 90			
Have the appropriate records been gathered and organized?			
<ul> <li>Birth certificate</li> <li>Marriage certificate</li> <li>Divorce decree</li> <li>Military service</li> <li>Death certificate</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Life insurance policies</li> <li>Investment documents</li> <li>Will</li> <li>Tax information</li> <li>Employee benefits information</li> </ul>		
Insurance Considerations			
Have claims been filed with insurance companies?			
<ul> <li>Individual life insurance policies</li> <li>Group life insurance policies</li> <li>Employer-based life insurance policies</li> <li>Accidental death &amp; dismemberment policies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Travel insurance policies</li> <li>Mortgage life insurance policies</li> <li>Credit life insurance policies</li> </ul>		
Have beneficiary designations been reviewed and changed as appropriate?			
Have beneficiary designations for existing IRA's/retirement plans been updated?			
OTHER AVAILABLE BENEFITS			
Have other available benefits been claimed and/or agencies notified?			
<ul> <li>Social Security survivor's benefits</li> <li>Social Security death benefits</li> <li>Federal employee benefits</li> <li>Civil service benefits</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>State government employee benefits</li> <li>Military benefits</li> <li>Deceased spouse employee benefits</li> <li>Qualified retirement plan/IRA benefits</li> </ul>		

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SETTLING THE ESTATE: MONT  Have the executor/administrator, tr  Has a Taxpayer Identification Numb  Have creditors been notified?  Have assets been distributed to heir  Have appropriate tax returns been	rustee(s), guardians, and heirs been contacted?  per (TIN) been obtained?  rs?	YES	NO
Looking Ahead: Months 9 - 12	2		
YOUR ESTATE  Have you met with your estate attor  Have necessary ancillary document  • Durable power of attorney (fine  • Advanced health-care directive  • Health-care power of attorney	s been prepared? ancial)	YES	NO D
YOUR TAXES  Have you met with your tax advisor	?		
Has a change in filing status been evaluated?			
Have the tax consequences of making gifts been considered?			
Has surviving spouse inherited retirement plan assets?			
YOUR INSURANCE			
<ul> <li>Have surviving spouse's insurance</li> <li>Life insurance</li> <li>Health insurance</li> <li>Disability insurance</li> <li>Homeowners insurance</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>needs been re-evaluated?</li> <li>Auto insurance</li> <li>Liability insurance</li> <li>Long-term care insurance</li> </ul>		
YOUR FINANCES  Have jointly owned assets been reti  • Real estate  • Vehicles	tled? • Investments • Bank accounts		
<ul><li>Have other financial goals/needs be</li><li>Revaluate budget</li><li>Investment planning</li><li>Education funding</li></ul>			
Has survivor's credit situation been • Obtain credit reports	discussed?		

