

Preventative Legal Solutions Help You Avoid Difficulties and Unnecessary Problems

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You often hear the term preventative health care referring to proactive steps you can take to protect your body from illness and disease. Preventative health care may include annual check-ups, recommended procedures such as mammograms or colonoscopies, and refraining from activities such as smoking, drinking and drug use. Similarly, preventative legal solutions help you avoid difficulties and help prevent unnecessary problems.

Top Six Preventative Legal Solutions:

- **Review all important documents and contracts before you sign** -- including property purchase agreements, services agreements (with contractors, interior designers, sub-contractors, professional service and health care providers, etc), employment contracts, etc.
- **Protect yourself and your family** – wills, living wills, powers of attorney, trusts and estate planning
- **Protect your art, work or business interests** – patents, copyright, trademarks, trade secrets
- **Know your rights as a consumer** – ID theft, privacy, buying/leasing/renting a car, renter's rights, personal injury and traffic tickets
- **Know your rights** – employee rights, employer rights, landlord and property management, credit repair, bankruptcy and foreclosure, criminal matters
- **Get what you and your family need personally and professionally** – health care, elder care, immigration, alimony, custody, child support, starting/running/buying/selling a business or non-profit

You may ask, “***Do I need a lawyer for any or all of these matters?***” The answer really depends. The above recommended preventative legal solutions involve important legal documents and legal procedures. However, there are several state resources and self-help materials available for purchase or free in print and online. For the best results, you should consult a lawyer and present your particular situation. If you decide not to use a lawyer for the entire matter, you may want to talk to a lawyer if you have specific questions or to review documents before completion.

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