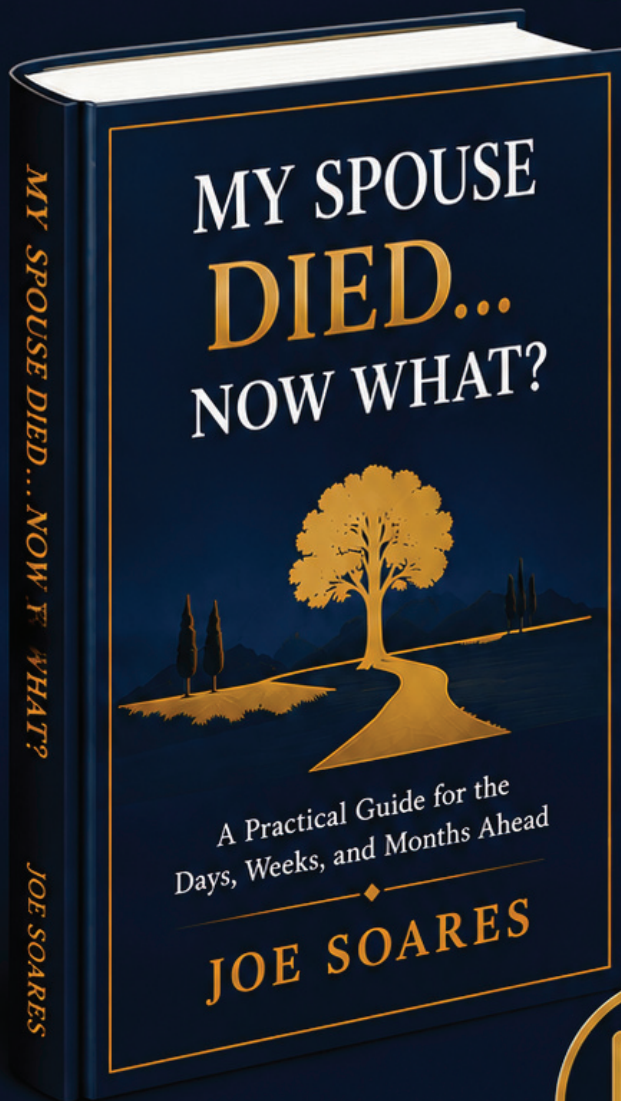


MY SPOUSE DIED... NOW WHAT?



DIGITAL ASSETS AND ONLINE ACCOUNTS RESOURCE

COMPANION RESOURCE

*Supplemental Materials
for Managing Digital Assets,
Online Accounts, and
Digital Legacy*



SUPPLEMENTAL COMPANION RESOURCE

For readers of My Spouse Died... Now What?

JOE SOARES

JoeSoaresMusic.com

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JOE SOARES

JoeSoaresMusic.com



MY SPOUSE DIED... NOW WHAT?

GETTING ORGANIZED CHECKLIST

Step One: Create Your System. Protect What Matters.



COMPANION
RESOURCE

1

Use this checklist to create your organizational system and gather important information.



GETTING STARTED

- ☐ Obtain a three-ring binder or filing system
- ☐ Gather file folders or tab dividers
- ☐ Obtain notebook paper
- ☐ Purchase sheet protectors
- ☐ Obtain a large envelope or temporary document folder

WHY THIS MATTERS

Having a system in place from the start will save time, reduce stress, and help you protect important documents and information during a difficult season.



CREATE YOUR BINDER

- ☐ Important Documents
- ☐ Notes
- ☐ Receipts
- ☐ Next Steps



CHOOSE A SAFE STORAGE LOCATION

- ☐ Original documents protected
- ☐ Copies kept in your binder
- ☐ Safe location identified

Location: _____



GATHER INITIAL DOCUMENTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Death Certificate (when available) | ☐ Retirement Statements |
| ☐ Will | ☐ Property Deeds |
| ☐ Trust documents | ☐ Vehicle Titles |
| ☐ Marriage Certificate | ☐ Tax Returns |
| ☐ Driver License | ☐ Military Records (if applicable) |
| ☐ Social Security cards | ☐ Password list |
| ☐ Insurance Policies | ☐ Other Important Papers (list below) |
| ☐ Bank Statements | |

NOTES



*"A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children,
but the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous."*

PROVERBS 13:22



MY SPOUSE DIED... NOW WHAT?

A Practical Guide for the Days, Weeks, and Months Ahead



MY SPOUSE DIED... NOW WHAT?

QUICK START CHECKLIST

Step Two: Take the First Steps. One Day at a Time.



COMPANION
RESOURCE

2

Use this checklist as a simple guide during the first days and weeks ahead.



FIRST 72 HOURS

- ☐ Contact Funeral Home
- ☐ Obtain Death Certificates
- ☐ Locate the Will
- ☐ Locate Important Documents
- ☐ Notify Immediate Family
- ☐ Secure Home
- ☐ Care for Pets
- ☐ Locate Insurance Policies
- ☐ Begin Important Documents Binder
- ☐ Begin Telephone Log



FIRST WEEK

- ☐ Contact Employer
- ☐ Contact Social Security
- ☐ Notify Life Insurance
- ☐ Review Automatic Payments
- ☐ Identify Monthly Bills
- ☐ Gather Financial Statements
- ☐ Contact Attorney (if needed)
- ☐ Contact Accountant (if needed)



DON'T RUSH

- ☐ Don't sell the home yet
- ☐ Don't give away valuables
- ☐ Don't close every account immediately
- ☐ Don't make major financial decisions while grieving



REMEMBER

Take things one step at a time.

It is okay to ask for help.

You do not have to do this alone.



QUESTIONS / NOTES



"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

JOSHUA 1:9



MY SPOUSE DIED... NOW WHAT?

A Practical Guide for the Days, Weeks, and Months Ahead



IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS INVENTORY – BLANK WORKSHEET

RECORD THE LOCATION OF IMPORTANT LEGAL, FINANCIAL,
AND PERSONAL DOCUMENTS

ESTATE INFORMATION

Decedent: _____
Date of Death: _____
Surviving Spouse: _____
Prepared By: _____
Date Prepared: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: List all important documents and records related to the estate. Include the document name, a brief description, where the original is located, and any digital copies or backup location. Keep this list updated and share the location with your executor or trusted family member.

#	DOCUMENT NAME (Be Specific)	DESCRIPTION / PURPOSE (What It Is)	LOCATION OF ORIGINAL (Safe, File, Drawer, etc.)	DIGITAL COPY? (Yes / No)	NOTES (Access Info, Password, Who Has Access, etc.)
1				☐ Yes ☐ No	
2				☐ Yes ☐ No	
3				☐ Yes ☐ No	
4				☐ Yes ☐ No	
5				☐ Yes ☐ No	
6				☐ Yes ☐ No	
7				☐ Yes ☐ No	
8				☐ Yes ☐ No	
9				☐ Yes ☐ No	
10				☐ Yes ☐ No	
11				☐ Yes ☐ No	
12				☐ Yes ☐ No	
13				☐ Yes ☐ No	
14				☐ Yes ☐ No	
15				☐ Yes ☐ No	

CATEGORIES TO CONSIDER

- Estate Planning Documents
(Will, Trust, Codicils, POA, etc.)
- Financial Accounts & Statements
- Insurance Policies
- Real Estate / Deeds
- Tax Returns / Records
- Retirement / Benefit Statements
- Business Documents
- Personal Records (Birth Cert., etc.)
- Medical Records / Directives
- Vehicle Titles / Registration
- Other Important Documents

SUMMARY (Page 1 of 2)

Total Documents Listed on Page 1: _____
Estate Planning Documents: _____
Financial Documents: _____
Insurance Documents: _____
Property Documents: _____
Other Documents: _____
Additional Pages Used: _____

"A prudent man
foreseeth the evil,
and hideth himself:
but the simple pass on,
and are punished."
Proverbs 22:3 (KJV)

*"Well done, good and faithful servant."
Matthew 25:23 (KJV)*



IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS INVENTORY – BLANK WORKSHEET

(CONTINUATION)

ESTATE INFORMATION

Decedent: _____
Date of Death: _____
Surviving Spouse: _____
Prepared By: _____
Date Prepared: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: List all important documents and records related to the estate. Include the document name, a brief description, where the original is located, and any digital copies or backup location. Keep this list updated and share the location with your executor or trusted family member.

#	DOCUMENT NAME (Be Specific)	DESCRIPTION / PURPOSE (What It Is)	LOCATION OF ORIGINAL (Safe, File, Drawer, etc.)	DIGITAL COPY? (Yes / No)	NOTES (Access Info, Password, Who Has Access, etc.)
16				☐ Yes ☐ No	
17				☐ Yes ☐ No	
18				☐ Yes ☐ No	
19				☐ Yes ☐ No	
20				☐ Yes ☐ No	
21				☐ Yes ☐ No	
22				☐ Yes ☐ No	
23				☐ Yes ☐ No	
24				☐ Yes ☐ No	
25				☐ Yes ☐ No	
26				☐ Yes ☐ No	
27				☐ Yes ☐ No	
28				☐ Yes ☐ No	
29				☐ Yes ☐ No	
30				☐ Yes ☐ No	

TIPS

- Store originals in a secure, fireproof location if possible.
- Keep digital copies organized and backed up.
- Review this list at least once a year and after any major life changes.
- Inform your executor or trusted family member where this list and the documents are kept.

SUMMARY (Page 2 of 2)

Total Documents Listed on Page 2: _____
Estate Planning Documents: _____
Financial Documents: _____
Insurance Documents: _____
Property Documents: _____
Other Documents: _____
Additional Pages Used: _____

GRAND TOTAL (Pages 1 & 2)

Total Documents (Pages 1 & 2): _____
Estate Planning Documents: _____
Financial Documents: _____
Insurance Documents: _____
Property Documents: _____
Other Documents: _____
Total Pages Used: _____



*"Well done, good and faithful servant."
Matthew 25:23 (KJV)*



PERSONAL INFORMATION WORKSHEET

This worksheet is for your information only. Share it with your spouse or trusted person and keep it updated. Store it in your Important Documents Binder.



BASIC INFORMATION

Full Legal Name: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Social Security Number: _____
Driver License Number: _____
State Issued: _____ Expiration Date: _____
Passport Number: _____
Passport Expiration Date: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Home Phone: _____
Cell Phone: _____
Email Address: _____



EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Employer: _____
Job Title: _____
Work Phone: _____
Work Email: _____
Date Started: _____
Retirement Plan Provider: _____
Plan Account Number: _____



FAMILY INFORMATION

Spouse's Full Name: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Marriage Date: _____
Children:
Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
Other Dependents:
Name: _____ Relationship: _____
Name: _____ Relationship: _____



HEALTH INFORMATION

Primary Doctor: _____
Phone: _____
Health Insurance Company: _____
Policy Number: _____
Group Number: _____
Medicare Number: _____
Medicare Part: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
Prescription Plan: _____



TIPS

- Review this information at least once a year and update as needed.
- Make sure your spouse or trusted person knows where this information is kept.
- Do not share your Social Security number or account numbers unless absolutely necessary.
- Keep this worksheet with other important documents in a secure location.



ADDITIONAL NOTES



IMPORTANT:

This worksheet is not a legal document. It is a place to record important information for your reference only. Always keep your original legal documents in a safe place.



TELEPHONE CONTACT LOG – BLANK

CARTER WSTATE

ESTATE INFORMATION

Decedent: William "Bill" Carter
Date of Death: May 7, 2025
Surviving Spouse: Helen Carter
Prepared By: _____
Date Prepared: _____

Record all telephone conversations regarding the estate.

INSTRUCTIONS: Write down every call made or received about the estate. Include the date, time, who you spoke with, and a brief summary of what was discussed or decided.

#	DATE MM/DD/YY	TIME AM / PM	CONTACT / COMPANY	PHONE #/NUMBER	PURPOSE OF CALL	SPOKE WITH (Name / Title)	SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION / ACTION TAKEN	FOLLOW-UP NEEDED?	FOLLOW-UP DATE
1	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
2	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
3	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☒ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
4	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
5	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☒ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
6	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
7	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
8	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☒ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
9	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
10	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☒ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
11	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
12	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
14	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
15	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___

NOTES

- Write everything down while on the call.
- Ask for the name of the person you speak with.
- Note any promised follow-up or deadlines.
- Keep copies of any information received.
- Follow up on any item marked "Yes" in the Follow-Up Needed? column.

CALL SUMMARY (Page 1 of 2)

Total Calls Made on Page 1: _____
Total Follow-Ups Needed on Page 1: _____
Follow-Ups Completed on Page 1: _____
Still Outstanding on Page 1: _____



*"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him;
and he shall bring it to pass." Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV)*





TELEPHONE CONTACT LOG – BLANK WORKSHEET

(CONTINUATION)

Record all telephone conversations regarding the estate.

ESTATE INFORMATION

Decedent: William "Bill" Carter
Date of Death: May 7, 2025
Surviving Spouse: Helen Carter
Prepared By: _____
Date Prepared: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Write down every call made or received about the estate. Include the date, time, who you spoke with, and a brief summary of what was discussed or decided.

#	DATE MM/DD/YY	TIME AM / PM	CONTACT / COMPANY	PHONE NUMBER ^o	PURPOSE OF CALL	SPOKE WITH (Name / Title)	SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION / ACTION TAKEN	FOLLOW-UP NEEDED?	FOLLOW-UP DATE
16	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
17	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
18	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☒ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
19	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
19	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
21	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
22	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☒ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
23	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
24	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☒ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
25	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☒ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
26	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
27	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
28	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
29	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___
30	___/___/___	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	___/___/___

NOTES

- Write everything down while on the call.
- Ask for the name of the person you speak with.
- Note any promised follow-up or deadlines.
- Keep copies of any information received.
- Follow up on any item marked "Yes" in the Follow-Up Needed? column.

CALL SUMMARY (Page 2 of 2)

Total Calls Made on Page 2: _____
Total Follow-Ups Needed on Page 2: _____
Follow-Ups Completed on Page 2: _____
Still Outstanding on Page 2: _____



*"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him;
and he shall bring it to pass." Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV)*





MASTER CONTACT LIST – BLANK WORKSHEET

IMPORTANT PEOPLE, PROFESSIONALS & ORGANIZATIONS

ESTATE INFORMATION

Decedent: _____

Date of Death: _____

Surviving Spouse: _____

Prepared By: _____

Date Prepared: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: List all important people, professionals, and organizations related to the estate. Include contact information, relationship or purpose, and notes about their role. Attach additional pages if more space is needed.

#	NAME / ORGANIZATION	RELATIONSHIP OR PURPOSE	ADDRESS	PHONE		EMAIL	NOTES / ROLE IN ESTATE
				MOBILE	OTHER		
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							

CATEGORIES TO CONSIDER

- Family Members
- Attorneys
- Accountants / Tax Professionals
- Financial Advisors
- Banks / Trust Companies
- Insurance Agents
- Clergy / Spiritual Advisors
- Close Friends / Neighbors
- Other Important Contacts

SUMMARY (Page 1 of 2)

Total Contacts Listed on Page 1: _____

Critical Contacts (Key to Estate): _____

Professional Advisors: _____

Family / Personal Contacts: _____

Other Organizations: _____

“Plans fail for lack of counsel,
but with many advisers
they succeed.”

Proverbs 15:22 (KJV)



“Well done, good and faithful servant.”
Matthew 25:23 (KJV)





MASTER CONTACT LIST – BLANK WORKSHEET

IMPORTANT PEOPLE, PROFESSIONALS & ORGANIZATIONS (CONTINUATION)

ESTATE INFORMATION

Decedent: _____
Date of Death: _____
Surviving Spouse: _____
Prepared By: _____
Date Prepared: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: List all important people, professionals, and organizations related to the estate. Include contact information, relationship or purpose, and notes about their role. Attach additional pages if more space is needed.

#	NAME / ORGANIZATION	RELATIONSHIP OR PURPOSE	ADDRESS	PHONE		EMAIL	NOTES / ROLE IN ESTATE
				MOBILE	OTHER		
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							
29							
30							

NOTES

- Keep this list updated during the estate process.
- Share necessary information with your executor or trusted family member.
- Store a copy with important estate documents.
- Add continuation pages if more space is needed.

SUMMARY (Page 2 of 2)

Total Contacts Listed on Page 2: _____
Critical Contacts (Key to Estate): _____
Professional Advisors: _____
Family / Personal Contacts: _____
Other Organizations: _____

GRAND TOTAL (Pages 1 & 2)

Total Contacts (Pages 1 & 2): _____
Critical Contacts (Key to Estate): _____
Professional Advisors: _____
Family / Personal Contacts: _____
Other Organizations: _____



*“Well done, good and faithful servant.”
Matthew 25:23 (KJV)*



ESTATE EXPENSE LEDGER

BLANK WORKSHEET

Record all estate-related expenses paid during estate administration.

ESTATE INFORMATION

Estate Name: _____

Personal Representative: _____

Date of Death: _____

Estate File #: _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Record each expense paid on behalf of the estate, whether paid from the estate account or personally by the surviving spouse or personal representative. Keep receipts and supporting records with this worksheet.

#	Date	Payee	Description	Category	Amount	Paid By	Receipt?	Reimb.?
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								

NOTES

SUMMARY

Total Expenses:

Total Reimbursed:

Outstanding Reimbursements:

"The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness."

Proverbs 21:5 (KJV)

NEXT STEPS CHECKLIST

*"Commit thy works unto the Lord,"
and thy thoughts shall be established."*
Proverbs 16:3 (KJV)

PURPOSE

Use this checklist to keep track of questions, documents to locate, phone calls to make, appointments to schedule, and other responsibilities related to settling your spouse's affairs.

There is no required order and no deadline. Work at your own pace. Add items as you think of them and check them off as they are completed.

Today's Date: _____

Spouse's Full Name: _____

Date of Death: _____

Completed By: _____

	DESCRIPTION OF NEXT STEP	WHY IT IS IMPORTANT	PRIORITY (High / Med / Low)	TARGET DATE	COMPLETED (Date)
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					
☐					

FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION

Use the space below to record details that may help you complete the item above, such as names, phone numbers, websites, locations, documents needed, or instructions.

NOTES

PRIORITY GUIDE

- High** – Needs attention soon or has a deadline
- Medium** – Important, but not time-sensitive
- Low** – Can be done when time allows

HELPFUL REMINDERS

- It is okay if items move to the next day, week, or month.
- Some tasks will wait until other steps are completed.
- Review this checklist regularly and update as needed.
- Give yourself grace. You are doing the best you can.





DEATH CERTIFICATE TRACKER – BLANK WORKSHEET

TRACK ALL DEATH CERTIFICATES ORDERED, RECEIVED,
DISTRIBUTED, AND WHERE COPIES ARE STORED

ESTATE INFORMATION

Decedent: _____
Date of Death: _____
Surviving Spouse: _____
Prepared By: _____
Date Prepared: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Order multiple certified copies of the death certificate. You will need originals for many institutions.
Track each copy from the time it is ordered until it is distributed or stored.

1. CERTIFICATE ORDER DETAILS

Full Name of Decedent:		Date of Death:
Place of Death (City, County, State):		
Social Security Number (Last 4 Digits):		Date of Birth:
County / State Where Certificate Ordered:		Vital Records Office or Agency:
Date Ordered:		Ordered By:
Method Ordered: ☐ In Person ☐ Mail ☐ Online ☐ Other: _____		
Quantity Ordered:	Cost Per Certificate: \$ _____	Total Cost: \$ _____
Special Handling / Rush Service: ☐ Yes ☐ No	Tracking / Confirmation No.: _____	
Notes: _____		

2. DEATH CERTIFICATE INVENTORY & DISTRIBUTION LOG

COPY NUMBER	DATE RECEIVED	DATE DISTRIBUTED	RECIPIENT / INSTITUTION (Who Received It)	PURPOSE / REASON (Why It Was Needed)	MAILED / DELIVERED (Y / N)	RETURNED RECEIPT (Y / N)	NOTES
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							

COMMON PLACES DEATH CERTIFICATES ARE NEEDED

- Social Security Administration
- Banks / Financial Institutions
- Insurance Companies (Life, Health, Auto, Home)
- Retirement Plan Administrators
- Employer (Final Payroll, Benefits)
- DMV / Vehicle Title Transfer
- Real Estate / Title Companies
- Probate Court
- Other Government Agencies

TIPS

- Order more than you think you'll need.
- Keep several certified copies in reserve.
- Never sign or alter a death certificate.
- Provide certified copies, not photocopies.
- Track each copy so you know where it is at all times.

"Precious in the sight of
the Lord is the death of
his saints."

Psalms 116:15 (KJV)



"Well done, good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:23 (KJV)





DEATH CERTIFICATE TRACKER – BLANK WORKSHEET

TRACK ALL DEATH CERTIFICATES ORDERED, RECEIVED,
DISTRIBUTED, AND WHERE COPIES ARE STORED
(CONTINUATION)

ESTATE INFORMATION

Decedent: _____
Date of Death: _____
Surviving Spouse: _____
Prepared By: _____
Date Prepared: _____

2. DEATH CERTIFICATE INVENTORY & DISTRIBUTION LOG (CONTINUED)

COPY NUMBER	DATE RECEIVED	DATE DISTRIBUTED	RECIPIENT / INSTITUTION (Who Received It)	PURPOSE / REASON (Why It Was Needed)	MAILED / DELIVERED (Y / N)	RETURNED RECEIPT (Y / N)	NOTES
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							

3. REMAINING & STORED CERTIFICATES

Number of Copies Remaining in Reserve: _____ Location Stored (Safe, File Drawer, Fireproof Box, etc.): _____

Are Copies Scanned / Digitally Saved? ☐ Yes ☐ No Location of Digital Copies: _____

Secure Storage Notes: _____

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Death certificates have security features and raised seals.
- Some institutions require an original certified copy.
- International use may require an apostille or authentication.
- Fees may apply for each additional copy.

SUMMARY (Page 2 of 2)

Total Copies Ordered: _____

Total Copies Distributed: _____

Copies Remaining: _____

Total Cost Incurred: \$ _____

Additional Pages Used: _____

ADDITIONAL NOTES



"Well done, good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:23 (KJV)





SAFE DEPOSIT BOX INVENTORY

— ESTATE ADMINISTRATION COMPANION RESOURCE —

Inventory of Safe Deposit Box Contents

Estate of: _____

Decedent: _____

Date of Death: _____

Personal Representative: _____

County: _____

Case / File No.: _____



DATE INVENTORIED:

1 SAFE DEPOSIT BOX INFORMATION

Bank Name: _____

Branch Location: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Safe Deposit Box Number: _____

Key Number (if known): _____

Date Opened for Inventory: _____

Individuals Present: _____

2 INVENTORY OF CONTENTS

#	ITEM DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	REMOVED?	DATE REMOVED	INITIALS
1			☐ Yes ☐ No		
2			☐ Yes ☐ No		
3			☐ Yes ☐ No		
4			☐ Yes ☐ No		
5			☐ Yes ☐ No		
6			☐ Yes ☐ No		
7			☐ Yes ☐ No		
8			☐ Yes ☐ No		
9			☐ Yes ☐ No		
10			☐ Yes ☐ No		
11			☐ Yes ☐ No		
12			☐ Yes ☐ No		
13			☐ Yes ☐ No		
14			☐ Yes ☐ No		
15			☐ Yes ☐ No		

3 IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS FOUND

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Original Will | ☐ Life Insurance Policies |
| ☐ Trust Agreement | ☐ Military Records |
| ☐ Codicil | ☐ Birth Certificates |
| ☐ Durable Power of Attorney | ☐ Marriage Certificate |
| ☐ Health Care Directive | ☐ Social Security Documents |
| ☐ Living Will | ☐ Cash |
| ☐ Deeds | ☐ Jewelry |
| ☐ Vehicle Titles | ☐ Coins |
| ☐ Stock Certificates | ☐ Keys |
| ☐ Bonds | ☐ Other: _____ |

4 NOTES



IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Keep an accurate record of all items removed from the safe deposit box.
Store items securely and follow court or attorney instructions
regarding any documents or assets found.

*"A good man leaveth an
inheritance to his children's
children..."*

PROVERBS 13:22 (KJV)



THANK YOU FOR LETTING US SERVE YOU.

CLEAR DOCUMENTS. SMOOTH PROCESS. PEACE OF MIND.

TRUSTED INFORMATION GUIDE

For Someone You Trust

"A faithful man shall abound
with blessings."

Proverbs 28:20 (KJV)

PURPOSE

This guide gives someone you trust a starting point for helping you or your family if you become unable to manage your affairs or after your death.

Provide only what is necessary to help them know where important records, legal documents, and professional contacts are located.

Do not write passwords or PINs on this form. If you use a password manager, list where it can be found or how to access it.

Your Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Spouse's Full Name: _____

Date of Death (if applicable): _____

Today's Date: _____

This Guide Provided To: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

WHERE IMPORTANT INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND



IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS BINDER OR FILE SYSTEM

Location (room, cabinet, or safe): _____

Additional Details: _____



SAFE (AT HOME)

Location: _____

How to Access: _____



SAFE DEPOSIT BOX

Bank or Credit Union: _____

Branch Location: _____

Account or Box Number: _____

How to Access: _____



PASSWORD MANAGER OR DIGITAL VAULT

Name of Service or App: _____

How to Access (where to find instructions): _____



DIGITAL FILE STORAGE (Cloud or External Drive)

Service or Drive Name: _____

How to Access: _____

PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS

Attorney: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Accountant / Tax Professional: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Financial Advisor: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Insurance Professional: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Other (Please Specify): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Other information that may be helpful to the person I trust:

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- This guide is a starting point, not the complete details.
- Always confirm current information with the appropriate organization or professional.
- Keep this guide updated when important changes occur.
- Store this guide in the same location as your Important Documents.

UPDATE RECORD

Last Reviewed / Updated On: _____

Reviewed By: _____

Notes: _____



MySpouseDiedNowWhat.com

Practical help for one of life's hardest journeys.

DEATH CERTIFICATE TRACKING LOG

Use this log to keep track of all death certificates you request.

You will need multiple certified copies for banks, insurance companies, government agencies, and other institutions.

Deceased: _____

Date of Death: _____ Place of Death: _____



TIPS

- Order 10–20 certified copies to start.
- Keep a few extras on hand.
- Some institutions will keep the original. Ask if they will accept a copy.
- Store your copies in a secure place.

COPY #	DATE ORDERED	HOW ORDERED (In Person / Mail / Online)	DATE RECEIVED	# OF COPIES	CERTIFICATE NUMBER (if known)	INSTITUTION / PURPOSE	DATE GIVEN OUT	RECEIVED BY (Name / Dept.)	NOTES
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									



COMMON PLACES THAT MAY REQUIRE A COPY

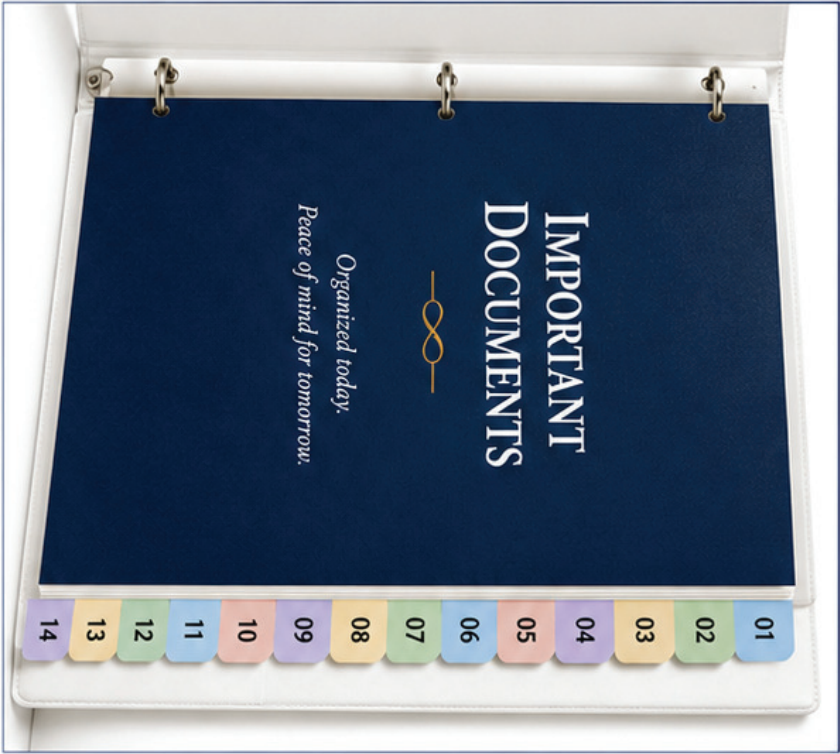
- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Bank / Credit Union | ☐ Pension / Retirement Plan |
| ☐ Insurance Company | ☐ Veterans Administration |
| ☐ Social Security Administration | ☐ Attorney / Probate Court |
| ☐ DMV (if applicable) | ☐ Utility Company |
| ☐ Employer / HR Department | ☐ Other: _____ |



NOTES

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS BINDER TABS

Use these suggested tabs to organize your Important Documents Binder. Customize as needed for your situation. The goal is to keep everything easy to find and clearly labeled.



HOW TO USE

- Place the tabs in the order shown or customize as needed.
- Use sheet protectors to keep documents clean and safe.
- Update sections as information changes.
- Keep this binder in a secure, easy-to-access location.

TAB #	TAB NAME	INCLUDES / EXAMPLES
01	Personal Information	Birth certificate, Social Security card, passport, driver license
02	Family Information	Marriage certificate, children's information, family records
03	Important Contacts	Family, friends, attorney, accountant, advisors, clergy
04	Account Information	Bank accounts, investments, retirement plans, pension info
05	Insurance Policies	Life, health, auto, home, umbrella, long-term care policies
06	Property & Deeds	Home deed, mortgage, land deeds, property tax info
07	Vehicles & Titles	Vehicle titles, registrations, loan documents, VIN numbers
08	Financial Documents	Tax returns, statements, W-2s, 1099s, budget information
09	Wills, Trusts & Estate	Will, trust documents, powers of attorney, advance directives
10	Digital Assets	Online accounts, passwords list, digital subscriptions
11	Personal Property	Inventory of valuables, collectibles, jewelry, firearms
12	Bills & Payments	Monthly bills, automatic payments, subscriptions
13	Medical Information	Medical history, medications, physicians, insurance cards
14	Miscellaneous	Warranties, instructions, membership cards, other items



TIP: Review your binder at least once a year and update as needed. Keeping your documents organized now will save time, stress, and confusion for your loved ones later.

COLOR SUGGESTION
Use the included colors or any system that works for you. Consistency is more important than the specific colors.



TELEPHONE CONTACT LOG

CARTER ESTATE – COMPLETED EXAMPLE

Record of all telephone conversations regarding the estate.

ESTATE INFORMATION

Decedent: William "Bill" Carter
Date of Death: May 7, 2025
Surviving Spouse: Helen Carter
Prepared By: Helen Carter
Date Prepared: June 10, 2025

DATE MM/DD/YY	TIME AM / PM	CONTACT / COMPANY	PHONE NUMBER	PURPOSE OF CALL	SPOKE WITH	SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION / ACTION TAKEN	FOLLOW-UP NEEDED?	FOLLOW-UP DATE
5/13/2025	10:15 AM	Regions Bank	1-800-734-4667	Notify of Bill's death	Customer Service Rep	Notified of death. Requested information on joint accounts and required documents. They will email forms.	☒ Yes ☐ No	5/20/2025
5/13/2025	11:05 AM	Visa	1-800-847-2911	Notify of Bill's death	Account Representative	Notified of death. Requested copy of death certificate and survivor information by mail.	☒ Yes ☐ No	5/27/2025
5/13/2025	01:30 PM	Discover Card	1-800-347-2683	Notify of Bill's death	Account Representative	Notified of death. Accounts will be reviewed. Information packet being mailed.	☒ Yes ☐ No	5/27/2025
5/14/2025	09:20 AM	Florida Power & Light	1-800-226-3545	Transfer service	Customer Service Rep	Requested to place account in Helen's name. Final bill will be mailed.	☒ Yes ☐ No	5/22/2025
5/14/2025	09:55 AM	TECO Peoples Gas	1-877-832-6747	Transfer service	Customer Service Rep	Requested to place account in Helen's name. Will need proof of ownership.	☒ Yes ☐ No	5/22/2025
5/15/2025	02:10 PM	Comcast	1-800-934-6489	Review account	Retention Specialist	Reviewed account options. Keeping internet service at same address.	☐ Yes ☒ No	N/A
5/16/2025	10:40 AM	Wells Fargo Auto Loan	1-800-289-8004	Notify of Bill's death	Account Representative	Notified of death. Requested payoff information for 2018 Ford F-150.	☒ Yes ☐ No	5/29/2025
5/16/2025	11:25 AM	Florida Dept. of Revenue – Child Support	1-850-488-5437	Notify of Bill's death	Customer Service Rep	Notified of death. Confirmed no outstanding balance due.	☐ Yes ☒ No	N/A
5/19/2025	03:00 PM	Blue Cross Blue Shield	1-800-432-2385	Review coverage	Member Services Rep	Requested COBRA information and continuation options.	☒ Yes ☐ No	5/23/2025
5/20/2025	09:45 AM	Publix Credit Card	1-866-450-4945	Notify of Bill's death	Account Representative	Notified of death. Requested account review and payoff balance.	☒ Yes ☐ No	5/27/2025
5/21/2025	01:15 PM	Carter Marine Storage	352-555-8721	Remove items	Manager	Requested final billing and removal of items from boat slip.	☒ Yes ☐ No	5/24/2025
5/22/2025	10:05 AM	AT&T Mobility	1-800-331-0500	Review account	Customer Service Rep	Reviewed account. Keeping Helen's phone. Closed Bill's line.	☐ Yes ☒ No	N/A
/ /	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	/ /
/ /	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	/ /
/ /	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	/ /
/ /	: ☐ AM : ☐ PM						☐ Yes ☐ No	/ /

NOTES

- Write everything down while on the call – details fade quickly.
- Ask for the name of the person you speak with.
- Note any promised follow-up, documents, or deadlines.
- Keep copies of any information received.
- Follow up on any item marked "Yes" in the Follow-Up Needed column.

CALL SUMMARY

Total Calls Made: 12
Total Follow-Ups Needed: 9
Follow-Ups Completed: 5
Still Outstanding: 4

"The plans of the diligent
lead surely to abundance,
but everyone who is hasty
comes only to poverty."
Proverbs 21:5



*"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."
Psalm 37:5 (KJV)*



SAMPLE DEATH CERTIFICATE ATTACHMENT PAGE

Many organizations will require a certified copy of the death certificate. The actual certificate varies by state, but it generally contains similar information.

This is an example only and is not an official document.

STATE OF FLORIDA BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS CERTIFICATION OF DEATH	
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOLLOWING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE RECORD ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE.	
DECEDENT'S FULL NAME:	<u>John Michael Sample</u>
DATE OF DEATH:	<u>March 14, 2024</u>
DATE OF BIRTH:	<u>May 2, 1948</u>
SEX: <u>Male</u>	MARITAL STATUS: <u>Married</u>
PLACE OF DEATH:	<u>Tampa, Florida</u>
COUNTY OF DEATH:	<u>Hillsborough</u>
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER:	<u>XXX-XX-1234</u>
FATHER'S NAME:	<u>Robert Sample</u>
MOTHER'S NAME (MAIDEN):	<u>Mary Johnson</u>
CAUSE OF DEATH (IMMEDIATE):	<u>Respiratory Failure</u>
PLACE OF BIRTH:	<u>Orlando, Florida</u>
	CERTIFIED THIS DAY: <u>March 18, 2024</u>
	BY: <u>Jane Doe, State Registrar</u> STATE REGISTRAR
	FILE NUMBER: <u>2024-123456</u>
CERTIFIED COPY VOID IF ALTERED	

Decedent's Full Name
The full legal name of your spouse as it appears on the official record.

Date of Death
Used by most organizations to close accounts, file claims, or update records.

Place and County of Death
Some organizations require the county to confirm the record.

Cause of Death
Often included, but not always required by the organization requesting the certificate.

Certification Seal and Registrar Signature
These confirm that the document is an official certified copy.

IMPORTANT

This page is an example only. It is not a real death certificate. The actual certificate will include official seals, signatures, and security features that may not appear the same in every county.

Keep your certified copies in a secure place and record who you provide each copy to on the Death Certificate Tracking Log in this book.

See Chapter 4: Understanding the Death Certificate for more information.