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## **Documents/Information to Prepare for Probate Consultation**

Family Information:
Names, addresses, telephone numbers, and relationship to the decedent of Next of Spouse, children, next of kin, beneficiaries named in Will.
Legal Documents:
Any current legal documents such as trusts, wills, financial powers of attorney, health care powers of attorney, living wills, pre-marital agreements, separation and divorce papers, adoption and guardianship papers, etc.
Real Estate:
For each parcel, the most recent deed (whether warranty, quit-claim, survivorship, certificate of transfer or affidavit of surviving tenant, but NOT mortgage deed) and a recent property tax bill.
Investment Documents: Recent statements from checking, savings and money market accounts, mutual funds and brokerage accounts, treasury accounts, copies of passbooks and CD's (if not included in a statement), stock certificates and dividend reinvestment plan account statements, municipal and corporate bonds, government bonds, annuities, and, promissory and cognovits notes due you.
Retirement Programs: Recent statements from any IRA, Keogh, SEP, Profit Sharing, 401(k), 403(b), TSA, and ESOP.
Insurance and Annuity Policies:
Annual statement and original policy. For group policies, the schedule of benefits.
Business Interests:
Corporate record book, including stock certificates of closely held business, partnership agreements and oil and gas leases.

Income: Any papers necessary to verify all sources of regular, non-investment income such as retirement and disability pensions, social security, railroad retirement, SERS, STRS, PERS, etc., including any deductions taken before payment.
Federal Income Tax Returns:  Last three years tax returns. For the most recent return (1040 and all schedules).
Debts: Original documents evidencing debts owed separately and jointly, including mortgages, car loans, credit card balances and promissory notes. Current balances will be required.
Expenses:  Medical insurance premiums, prescriptions, rents, vendor payment for facility care, mortgage payments etc.
Gifts: Deeds, statements, checkbook registers or other papers evidencing any transfers (other than to a spouse) in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) within the previous sixty months.
Residential Agreements: Rental agreements, lease agreements, land contracts, contracts to buy or sell.
Personal Property:  Automobiles boats planes jewelry coins tools guns furniture etc