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PROTECT YOURSELF WITH A PRE-NUPTIAL AGREEMENT

Pre-nuptial Agreements are agreements before marriage to protect personal, family or business assets against the claims that made be made by a future spouse. The agreements are not solely instruments for the extremely wealthy, but may be helpful in any marriage and particularly a second marriage. At first glance, these agreements may appear harsh. Yet we are all witness to the emotional and financial turmoil of a divorce or death. An agreement may well avoid a costly battle down the road. Pre-nuptial agreements, if properly structured, can be extremely helpful planning tools. There should be a complete disclosure of information in all areas between the parties. Both parties should have the benefit of legal counsel. Sometimes financial consultants can appropriately address the consequences of the agreement. If any agreement is to be reached, it must be done correctly without cutting corners. Both parties should have ample time to discuss and evaluate the terms and needs for the agreement. Surprising a partner on the eve of a wedding is not only unfair, but may seriously impact whether or not the agreement is ultimately enforceable.