

The 13 Secrets of the Rich or Informed™



**Business, Estate, & Asset Protection Plans
Secrets of Insurance, Financial & Pension Products
Secrets to Asset Protection Even When Being Sued!**

**Cannabis Business Owners, If You Do Not
Know How to Pull-Out & Lock-Away
Wealth Legally, with a Safe Silo Device,
You Remain a Sitting-Duck!**



Business Entity Protections Are Almost Useless Against Federal, State & Local Authorities.

Cannabis Owners, Directors, and Officers, Learn What Celebrities Have Known for Years! 33 Year Protection Attorney, (Former Beverly Hills Celebrity Business Manager), Rated Superb (10/10), Protects Cannabis Owners with the “13 Secrets of the Rich or Informed™ Vulnerability Check-Up.”

By Rich Rydstrom, Esq. (California Attorney/Accountant,
33 Years Experience Rated Superb, 10/10)
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2023 Economic Threats:

You must protect your personal and business assets in this new risk environment. Business entities alone, are almost useless for personal/business protection. It takes specialized legal knowledge to implement a separate Safe Silo Device that cannot be subject to creditor attachment from lawsuits, judgments, or even government and taxation claims.

It used to be lawsuits were the biggest random contingency that could threaten business success or survival. We now face a continuing hang-over from Covid, increased Federal and State government regulation and taxation claims, historic inflation, shortages of (on-site) workers, supply-chain problems, historic crime, and theft, which also challenge small business success and survival. Cannabis business success is now riddled with Random (Hidden) Contingencies. (110th Congress, Rich Rydstrom, Esq.)

2023 was met with more bad news including the threat of a **Wealth-Tax**, a Moving-Out Tax on people and companies moving out of certain states, like California, and continued plans for more regulation and taxation falling on the shoulders of small business. How can we reduce personal and business risks?

After 33 years, as a small business and high net worth California protection attorney, no time is more appropriate than now, to take steps to safeguard your business and family assets including your retirement nest egg. If you don't know how to pull-out and lock-away cash, profits and select property, you are vulnerable to claims from every direction.

In the event of lawsuits, taxation or regulations that impair or cripple the success of your small business, how will you protect your family nest egg. Most business owners and executives are not legally protected. Having money in the bank or on deposit in investment funds offer no protection in the event of judgments, government, or taxation challenges. Most don't realize that Living Trusts do not offer asset protection. In fact, Living Trusts act as an initial list of assets and homes to be seized in such events. Bankruptcy is not a protect device, it usually acts as a government liquidator.

Can you protect yourself, your family nest egg, and your business? How?

Legal structures, trusts and devices can protect business owners from varying threats, such as lawsuits, and endless government regulation and tax over-reach. Step one is to set-up such asset and business protections prior to any claims.

Solutions:

I first wrote my 13 Secrets of the Rich or Informed™ as my personal cheat sheet when I was working as a Beverly Hills Celebrity Business Manager for some of the most famous or informed people in the country. This article grew and grew over the years, and it now covers the common and the special devices used in Estate, Business, Asset, Litigation and Retirement Protections.

I point out the difference between Wills and Living Trusts and conclude that Living Trust and Health and Property Directives, although not an asset protection device per se, are the preferred quarterback for your family and business life to avoid probate and its delays and expenses. But alone, the Living Trust documents will cause loss of assets in the event of certain lawsuits, judgments, and taxation claims.

The Rich or Informed™ will also add certain entities and trusts that avoid loss, but the most important overarching principle is to structure your personal, business and retirement assets and liabilities by compartmentalization. This is the process to separate risky assets or lines of business from less-risky assets and lines of business, and transferring each to its own entity or trust, and smartly defining the relationship among same by contract or device. But without a black-letter law silo that changes vulnerable assets to non-vulnerable assets, you're still vulnerable.

Some of the most common trusts or devices include:

"C" Corporation

"S" Corporation

Business or Land Trust with Parent Protection

Family Limited Partnership (FLP);

Family Limited Liability Company (FLLC);

Irrevocable Life Insurance Trust (ILIT);

Children's Trust;

Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT)

Grantor Retained Annuity Trust or its cousins (GRAT, GRUT, GRIT),

Qualified Personal Residence Trust (QPRST),

Self-Canceling Installment Note (SCIN),

Private Retirement Silo Trust (PRST),

Intentionally Defective Irrevocable Trust (IDIT)

The Stand-Out: The Private Retirement Silo Trust (PRST):

However, there is one device that is not offered in each state, and varies when it is, that stands out as one of the most powerful devices to lock-away assets including cash, and property, even in the event of lawsuits, judgments, personal and business liabilities, and bankruptcy (or *common-law bankruptcy* or *Cannabis Receivership*). That is the The Private Retirement Silo Trust (PRST).

Although California may be one of the worst asset protection states, with one of the most intrusive laws and high-taxation, the California Private Retirement Silo Trust best illustrates the end-goal for protection for small businesses. *This is true because this trust invokes the black-letter law transforming or converting Non-Exempt Assets to Exempt Assets.* The law defines Exempt Assets as not reachable by creditors. Moreover, it protects those assets from creditors or attachment, even on distribution from the trust to the judgment debtor. The purpose is to protect assets, funds and property appropriate for retirement.

However, for Cannabis businesses, the Private Retirement Silo Trust (PRST) may be the best device to invoke a safe-harbor-zone from Federal, State and Local authorities.

This can be accomplished through a retirement plan and trust sponsored by your own business entity, along with pensions and (marital or separate) property or transmutation agreements. The PRST is one of the most powerful devices used to enhance an estate and business plan which protects the wealth, equity or assets transferred into this irrevocable trust for purposes of retirement.

In California, under its Code of Civil Procedure Section 704, all amounts held, controlled, or even distributed by a private retirement plan are exempt. This means that you could even transfer certain assets to a (pre-existing) PRST during litigation or after a judgment. The term private retirement plan is not defined in the state code however, typically, the retirement plan would be sponsored by an employer (LLC), in writing pursuant to an actuarial calculation based upon numerous retirement factors including age. All amounts held, controlled, or in process of distribution by a private retirement plan, for the payment of benefits as an annuity, pension, retirement allowance, disability payment, or death benefit from a private retirement plan are exempt.

IRAs Have Limited Protection:

This differs greatly from other exemption codes in California such as California Codes Code of Civil Procedure Section 704.010-704.210. or the Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). IRAs are not fully protected under the asset protection laws found in federal ERISA protections. However, some states have enacted special but restrictive protections of IRA plans protecting the funds and distributions only to the extent necessary for the support of the debtor, his/her spouse and dependents.

Qualified ERISA Plans.

ERISA (Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974) supplies very effective asset protection over pension funds. The federal law overrides state law to the contrary and

protects 401k, profit sharing and pension plans that prohibit involuntary assignment of plan benefits to any creditors. Assets may be transferred into such a plan with known creditors, lawsuits or judgments. However, ERISA will not protect such assets from the IRS or subject to court order in divorce court (Qualified Domestic Relations Order). ERISA plans protect employees not owner-only plan participants. If the plans only participants are the owner and his family (spouse or dependents), then ERISA will not apply to protect the funds.

The Private Retirement Silo Trust (PRST) stands-out as the most directly authoritative trust to lock-away retirement purposed assets. The PRST referenced herein is not limited to retirement trusts used as designation devices for retirement accounts. That trust is a different animal. The PRST also offers actual asset protections from creditors.

Legal Notices: When discussing these planning matters the following devices and alternatives should be discussed with your attorney, wealth building and protection team. This list is a non-exhaustive list and only given as a tool to afford easier discussions with your professional team. Your first step in the right direction is to put together a team, which should include an estate, business and asset protection attorney, CPA, insurance agent (re life, disability, buy-sell, long term care, business interruption or income replacement, etc.), CFP (Certified Financial Planner), money manager or investment advisor and a brokerage. This article is not intended as legal, tax, accounting, financial, money management or insurance advice, and as such you may not rely upon same for that purpose. It is recommended that you hire an attorney experienced in this area to plan your business, estate, and protection matters.

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Mr. Rydstrom has been quoted or published by: United States Congress, The Los Angeles Times, USA Today Magazine, MortgageOrb, Mortgage Daily News, Orange County Register, Tax.org, National Business Institute, CMISfocus eMagazine, Pepperdine University (Law, Business Journal), AIR Commercial Real Estate Association, Constructor Magazine for the AGC Association, Society of California Accountants, various Landlords and Real Estate Owners associations and others. Richard is a frequent keynote speaker, moderator, panelist, and CLE instructor for National Business Institute for lawyers, judges, banks, and servicers. Various keynote speeches and panels.

Rich Rydstrom, Attorney/Business & Markets Advisor:

Introduction: Richard has over 33 years as a California Attorney and business advisor. He worked for Warner Atlantic and Elektra Records with music superstars like Stevie Nicks, Phil Collins, etc., and as a Business and Tax Manager for Wolfgang Puck, Tommy Lee Jones, Kurt Russell, etc. Richard was chosen by 110th CONGRESS to deliver a Statement on the solutions to the Great Recession. When the U.S. Treasury and the ALFN wanted to develop and teach the mortgage meltdown solutions to the banks, they choose Richard as the Chairman of CMIS. Richard co-created the donated \$1,000,000 in financial education for underprivileged kids in Los Angeles. He helped Elon Musk with his first Tesla Newport Beach Showcase. He is general counsel for KT California and Farmer Ryan and consults many Cannabis and industrial Hemp companies.