A Key Element of Your Retirement Plan

There are many parts to a successful retirement plan. With so many areas encompassing pre-retirement, retirement and post-retirement planning, it is hard to say that one specific area is more important than another. However, there is one key element that certainly takes a backseat to no other, and that is your estate documents.

Unfortunately, many people disregard or don't realize the importance of estate documents. This is one of the reasons that Congress has designated the third week in October *"National Estate Planning Week"*. The goal is to raise awareness, educate and inform people of the importance of having the proper estate planning documents to protect you, your family and your assets, and to create a legacy while maintaining family values.

There are many different types of estate documents you may need. The simplest and most-used estate planning document is a will. Even though the will is a fairly simple document, it is a very important one, and will provide all the essential details of who will inherit your property, when and how they will inherit it, and who will be put in charge of settling your final affairs.

Trusts are another very popular type of estate planning document. There are many types of trusts; each designed to do a specific job. Even though a trust can be more expensive to setup, they generally will save taxes and expenses while offering more flexibility, speed and confidentiality.

There are other important estate documents, including some that address specific complex strategies for setting up your retirement plan the best way. When dealing with estate documents, you should always consult with an attorney and financial advisor who specialize in estate planning to make sure you have the proper documents for your situation.

Join me this week on the ***It's Your Money Show*** as we will discuss this topic in more detail. The show airs on WMEQ (880 AM) on Thursday morning at 7:30 and Saturday morning at 9:00, as well as on WWIB (103.7 FM) on Wednesday evening at 7:30 and Saturday evening at 5:30. To learn more about these important documents and how to use them to reduce taxes, protect assets, create a legacy and perpetuate family values for the benefit of future generations, please contact me at **(715) 835-6022** or **info@KeyStoneCV.com**, or through our website, **www.KeyStoneCV.com**.