

INHERITED IRA DECISIONS

A CALM, STEP-BY-STEP CHECKLIST FOR WIDOWS AND HEIRS

Before moving or withdrawing money, pause and walk through this list

FIRST SLOW DOWN

- I understand that most decisions don't need to be made immediately
- I will not sign rollover paperwork without reviewing options



KNOW YOUR ROLE

- Am I a spouse or non-spouse beneficiary?
- Do different rules apply to me?



IF YOU ARE A NON SPOUSE

- Confirm the 10 year withdrawal rule
- Create a year by year withdrawal plan
- Avoid waiting until the final years to take everything



IF YOU ARE A SPOUSE

- Compare: keeping it inherited vs. rolling into my own IRA
- Will I need penalty free access before age 59½?
- How will this affect my Required Minimum Distributions later?
- Which option gives me the most flexibility?

BEFORE TAKING A LUMP SUM

- Have I calculated the tax impact first?
- Is there a smarter way to spread distributions?



GET SUPPORT

- Have I spoken with a tax aware advisor?
- Do I feel clear and confident—not rushed?



COORDINATE WITH YOUR INCOME

- What is my income this year vs. future years?
- Can I spread withdrawals to stay in lower tax brackets?
- How will this affect Social Security taxation?
- Will withdrawals increase Medicare premiums (IRMAA)?



REMINDER:

Inherited IRAs aren't just investment accounts. They're tax strategy decisions that can affect your income for decades.

SLOW IS SMART.



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(767) 692-5700



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