

2017 UPDATE TO WHAT TO DO WHEN SOMEONE DIES

There are references throughout the book as to the United States estate tax, gift tax and generation-skipping transfer taxes. These taxes were revised effective January 1, 2011. The exemption for each of these three categories of tax was set at \$5,000,000, with a 40% tax rate on the excess over the exemption. The exemption amount was indexed for inflation and increases as of January 1st of each year.

The exemption for 2015 was \$5,430,000, for 2016 it was \$5,450,000 and for 2017 it is \$5,490,000. It will continue to increase annually as of January 1st of each year. The tax rate on the excess over the exemption has not changed and remains at a flat 40% rate.

Pages 92 and 93 list the various states that have some form of an estate or inheritance tax on residents of that state or on real property owned by non-residents in that state at the time of death. Indiana now has an inheritance tax. Kansas no longer has an estate tax but Tennessee has added an estate tax.