IT'S YOUR LIFE

Have You Started Planning For Your Digital Estate?

Your online accounts and subscriptions — from banking to social media accounts — make up your digital estate. Although <u>estate planning</u> conversations typically focus on assets like cash, securities, or real estate, you shouldn't forget to <u>plan for your digital estate</u> too. Without planning, these accounts, and the important information they may hold, can easily be lost.

If something should happen to you, does anyone have access to your digital accounts? For example, the family pictures or videos you may have saved to the cloud could be lost if something happens to you and these accounts are inaccessible to your family members or loved ones.

Planning for the future of your digital estate:

- Compile a list of accounts, usernames, passwords, and instructions. Store this information in a safe place and ensure someone is aware of its location and has access.
- **Check website policies.** Some sites automatically delete inactive accounts. Others disable an account upon request by the family or executor.
- **Commercial digital asset services.** These service companies often allow you to name a designated beneficiary to whom your account will be released upon proof of your death.
- **State Authorization Forms.** Depending on your state, there may be authorization forms to grant access to your loved ones.

Contact your local <u>Federated® marketing representative</u> to discuss our network of attorneys who specialize in aspects of <u>business succession and estate planning</u>, including your digital estate, to help you plan ahead.

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