

**BROWN TARLOW BRIDGES PALMER & STONE, P.C.**

A Professional Corporation

**STATEMENT FOR MARRIED COUPLES  
Estate Planning**

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL**

A husband and wife usually employ one law firm to plan their estates. Nevertheless, the lawyer's ethical rules limit our ability to represent more than one client. We may not represent clients who have conflicting interests. We may represent clients who do not have conflicting interests.

We do not believe that the two of you have conflicting interests at this time, so we may represent you both. However, ethical rules also require us to advise you of any reasonably foreseeable adverse effects that may arise in our representation of both of you and to obtain your consent to such representation.

We believe that the following adverse effects arising from our representation of both of you are reasonably foreseeable:

1. Since we are representing both of you, each of you is our client. As a result, confidential or secret matters which one of you might discuss with us might not be protected by the attorney-client privilege from disclosure to the other spouse. In order to represent both of you properly, we also cannot agree with either of you to withhold information from the other spouse. Of course, any confidence or secret which either spouse might discuss with us is privileged from disclosure to third parties.
2. If the two of you have differences of opinion concerning your proposed estate plan, we can point out the pros and cons of your different opinions. The ethical rules prohibit us, as the lawyer for both of you, from advocating the position of one spouse over the position of the other spouse.
3. Although we doubt that it will happen, if there should arise between the two of you a conflict that would make it impossible or difficult in our judgment to perform our obligations to each of you in accordance with this letter, it would become necessary for us to withdraw as your lawyer. We probably would advise both of you to obtain separate, independent lawyers to counsel you on your estate planning.

***We have read the foregoing statement, and we understand it. We consent to your firm's representing both of us in our estate planning on the terms and conditions set forth in the statement. We understand the discussion of conflicts set forth in the letter. We agree that between the two of us, with respect to confidential or secret matters which one of us might discuss with you, there shall be no confidence or secret which can be withheld by you from the other spouse. We acknowledge that you have recommended that we seek independent legal advice to determine if our consent should be given.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Husband

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wife