

Irrevocable Trust Administration:

Avoiding risk from Start to Finish



KATHRYN S. VAN EEUWEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY 2, 2023

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General Duties and Risk Associated with Administration of Trusts

Duties associated with administering irrevocable trusts as a corporate fiduciary as set forth in the <u>Office of the Comptroller of the Currency; Asset Management;</u>
Personal Fiduciary Activities; Version 1.0, February 2015:

- Duty of loyalty
- Duty of administration
- Duty to control and protect trust property
- Duty to keep property separate and maintain adequate records
- Duty of impartiality
- Duty to enforce and defend claims
- Duty to inform and report
- Duty of prudent investment

General Duties and Risk Associated with Administration of Trusts (Continued)

Risks associated with administering irrevocable trusts as a corporate fiduciary as set forth in the <u>Office of the Comptroller of the Currency; Asset Management; Personal Fiduciary Activities; Version 1.0, February 2015</u>:

- Operational Risk
- Compliance Risk
- Strategic Risk
- Reputational Risk

General Duties and Risk Associated with Administration of Trusts (Continued)

The Four best risk mitigation factors applicable to all stages of trust administration: <u>CEAD</u>

- Creating Processes & Procedures
- <u>Educating</u> all employees regarding Processes & Procedures
 - Every employee knows where Processes & Procedures are housed
 - Every employee is communicated with as Processes & Procedures change
- Adhering to the Processes & Procedures
 - Every employee follows the Processes & Procedures every time
 - Every employee has access to the Processes & Procedures
- Documenting the actions taken to show that the processes & Procedures were followed

Mitigating Risk - New Irrevocable Trust Accounts

How to mitigate risk during the new account process:

- New Account Review
 - Document Language
 - Assets
 - Types
 - Concentrations
 - Situs/Tax Consequences
 - Need for Accounting
 - KYC/Risk Factoring

Mitigating Risk - New Irrevocable Trust Accounts (Continued)

How to mitigate risk during the new account process:

- Account Onboarding
 - Funding
 - Initial Inventory
 - Process of asset collection
 - Cost Basis Review
 - Deeds Rerecorded
 - Mandate/IPS determination
 - Vault
 - 60 Day Reg 9 Review
 - Admin and Investment
 - Keeping track of outstanding Items
 - Notice Requirements (Various State Statues)
 - Fees
 - Notice of Trustee

Mitigating Risk – Ongoing Irrevocable Trust Account Administration

How to mitigate risk during ongoing administration:

Annual Administration and Investment Reviews

- Managed Accounts
- Directed Accounts
- Assets Held Elsewhere/Unique Assets
- Fees
- Distributions

■ Discretionary Actions

- Review, Approval, and Duration
- Interpretation of Standards
- Documentation Required and Recording of Decision
- Wasting Trusts

Mitigating Risk – Ongoing Irrevocable Trust Account Administration (Continued)

How to mitigate risk during ongoing administration (Continued):

- Legal Issues/Attorney-Client Privilege Issues
 - Trust Pay v Bank Pay
 - Work Product/Attorney-Client Privilege
- Fraud/Loss
 - Huge Risk
 - Dual Control and Dollar Limits
 - Authentication v. Authority
 - Callbacks
 - Recorded Lines

Mitigating Risk –Irrevocable Trust Account Closing

How to mitigate risk during the account closing process:

■ Legal Review

- Terms of the Trust
- RRR&I Agreement Determination

Assets

- Selling of Assets/Transfer in Kind
- Vault
- Cost Basis Transfer
- Trailing Income
- Escheated Funds

■ Tax Returns

Who prepares

Knowledge of State Laws Required

Here are but a few of the areas for which knowledge of different state laws is a must:

- Affiliated Products and Services
- Compensation of Trustee
- Definition of Beneficiaries
- Account Statements (including electronic delivery rules)
- Notice Requirements
- Delegation of Investment Functions to co-trustees
- Directed Trusts
- Decanting
- Non-Judicial Settlement Agreements/Material Purpose
- Trust Modification
- Virtual Representation

Knowledge of State Laws Required (Continued)

Here are but a few of the areas for which knowledge of different state laws is a must (continued):

- Principal and Income Act
- Total Return
- Power to Adjust
- Small Trust Termination
- Change of Situs/Transfer of Principal Place of Business
- Trust Registration Requirements
- Court Accountings

Key risks

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