Ask a KKC Attorney



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Q: What are digital assets, and what is a digital estate plan?

A: Digital assets are any electronic files or accounts that you own or have access to. Examples of digital assets include email accounts, online bank accounts, digital media (ex. music, photographs, videos), social-networking accounts, cloud storage, domain names, Bitcoin, etc.

If you own any digital assets when you pass away, your executor may not be able to access these assets. In order to ensure your executor will have the access they need, your estate plan should include instructions regarding your digital assets (a "digital estate plan"). The easiest way to accomplish this is to grant your executor specific authority over your digital assets in your Will. It may also be a good idea to provide your executor with a list of your digital assets as well as logins, passwords, account numbers, and any specific wishes you have as to how each asset should be handled.

Since Connecticut only passed laws recognizing the validity of digital estate plans in 2016, it is likely that any Wills signed prior to 2016 don't have a digital estate plan in place.

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