



There is no easy way to prepare for the death of someone close to you. By taking the following steps, you will be more prepared financially in the event of the loss of a loved one.

What to Do Now

1. Create a centralized location to reference financial information, like Truepoint's Go Book. This should always be kept in a secure place to protect your personal information.
2. Meet with Truepoint to develop necessary plans and ensure proper beneficiaries are in order. The Truepoint team can provide access to our estate organizer worksheet.
3. Meet with an attorney to prepare wills, trusts, power of attorney and other necessary documents.
4. Create a list of all current assets and liabilities. It is important to fully understand the current list of liabilities that require ongoing payment. You should know the frequency of payment, where to pay and how much. If any assets or liabilities are managed online then document login information and website address. We recommend using LastPass or RoboForm to manage online account logins.
5. Discuss life insurance needs to ensure ongoing financial safety.
6. Discuss funeral and burial preferences.

In the Event of a Death

1. Contact your Truepoint team.
2. Contact the funeral home to discuss funeral arrangements. Request at least 10 certified copies of the death certificate.
3. Contact your attorney. Your attorney will review and explain the wills, trusts, and estate issues and help you plan the next actions you need to take.
4. Now that you have proper authority to act on behalf of the estate, you'll need to start managing all the decedent's accounts. Plan to update any accounts and beneficiaries as well as review all your financial plans so that your advisor can continue to help you meet your financial goals.



5. Contact the human resources department of the decedent's employer and ask about any benefits that may be due. Ask specifically about medical insurance coverage options, if you are the surviving spouse.
6. Social Security benefits will continue until they are notified of death. The funeral home will usually contact the Social Security Administration on your behalf.
7. Contact life insurance company/agent to discuss payment of death benefit.
8. Take control of the bills. Ask for help from close friends or your financial advisor/accountant to help gather, understand and pay all bills pending.
9. Wait to make important financial decisions. Sometimes during stressful and emotional times we make impulse decisions. Some industries prey on people who recently suffered a loss; for this reason, we recommend not making any major financial decisions for several months.

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