

Probate Lawyer Provides Tips on How to Avoid Probate in California

<http://flaniganprobateattorney.com/>

An [Orange County probate lawyer](#) knows that most Californians would like to spare their heirs the trouble of having to navigate the California probate process. While avoiding probate in California takes some forethought and planning, it can be done using a number of estate planning methods, including:

Living Trust. By creating a living trust and transferring ownership of your assets – including real estate – to that trust, you can avoid probate.

Joint Ownership. There are two types of joint ownership in California – community property and joint tenancy with right of survivorship . If you own property jointly with someone else – a spouse or even someone not related to you – you can avoid probate in California with a right of survivorship clause in the ownership documentation. When one owner dies, the property passes to the other owner without the necessity of probate. Community property does not limit a right of ownership to the survivor spouse. A spouse may leave his/her share of the community to any third party, while a surviving joint tenant automatically becomes the sole owner upon death of the other tenant.

Transfer-in-Death Form. By registering stocks or other securities in Transfer-in-Death (TOD) form and designating your beneficiaries, you can bypass California probate.

Payable-on-Death Designation. Including a Payable-on-Death (POD) designation for bank accounts enables a beneficiary to claim the accounts without probate.

The [Flanigan Law Group](#) provides Southern California residents with personal attention for estate planning, administration and litigation legal services. When disputes between families, arise, they are very successful in resolving legal estate issues quickly and efficiently while preserving financial and emotional resources. Contact the Flanigan Law Group at 949-450-0042.