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## November Newsletter!

by Endy Ukoha-Ajike



### Thanksgiving – The Season for Giving Thanks

#### What Are You THANKFUL For?

This is my question for all of us at this period of thanksgiving, family get togethers, gift giving, good food and wine: What are you THANKFUL for? ...think about it for a moment...

I am thankful for Everything, Every Day.

My family: Nuclear and extended which includes our clients, who we are humbled to serve every day.

Our hearts are still heavy thinking of all the natural disasters, death and destruction that have happened this year: Houston, Puerto Rico, Mexico (twice), the fire next door to us in the beautiful wine country, Las Vegas, New York, Sutherland Springs and the upheavals all around the world.

This Thanksgiving and season of celebration let us be thankful for everything. Everyday. Perspective.

**Happy Thanksgiving!** ~Endy

## Upcoming Events

### Client Appreciation Event

Thursday, December 7th  
6:00pm-9:00pm

Join us for our Client  
Appreciation Event!

**Date:** December 7th, 2017

**Time:** 6pm - 9pm  
Drop-In Anytime between these  
hours

#### Gerard's Paella + Tapas + Wine

#### Location:

Ukoha-Ajike Law Group Office  
@ Jack London Square  
70 Washington St, Suite 303  
Oakland, CA 94607

**RSVP**

## Contribute to the Conversation!

Our goal is to make our seminars

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## Client Appreciation Event: December 7, 2017

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As ever we are very thankful to all of our clients and business associates whom we work with. As you all know, we don't advertise our services to the public. Instead this business has been going for the past 16 + years because of your loyalty and trust in us.

Even when we don't do everything you want us to do perfectly, you still have confidence in our ability to assist you with your very intimate family and business affairs. For that WE ARE FOREVER GRATEFUL.

I personally invite you to come and hang out with us on this day: 12/7/2017 so we can THANK YOU personally. There will be food and of course, wine, for you to enjoy. I look forward to seeing you.

**Date:** Dec. 7, 2017 @ 6pm - 9pm – Drop in anytime within these hours.

**Location:** 70 Washington Street, Suite 303, Oakland, CA 94607.

~ [RSVP Here](#) ~

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**Importance of Creating an Estate Plan  
for your Family**

as informative and interactive as possible. Please let us know if there is any topic you would like to hear about at a 2018 seminar.

**Submit Your Topic  
Request**

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### Endy's Advice Corner

#### **Make your S-Corporation Election early.**

If you have formed an S-Corporation for your business and not sure when to make your S-Corporation election; March 15, 2018 is your deadline if you want to be taxed as an S-Corporation in 2018. Of course, you can also make your election at any time during the tax year preceding the tax year it is to take effect.

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If you don't already have an Estate Plan which includes: Revocable Living Trust, Last Will and Testament, Power of Attorney and an Advance Health Care Directive, this time of family gatherings provides an opportunity to recognize and appreciate how important your family is to you.

Therefore, contact an attorney who practices in this field and make plans to create a comprehensive Estate Plan that will ensure that your loved ones avoid the unnecessary discomfort of dealing with the courts when you are no longer here. You have an opportunity to state in writing what your wishes for them.

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## **Important of Updating Your Estate Plan Documents**

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Congratulations if you already have an Estate Plan: Revocable Living Trust, Last Will and Testament, Power of Attorney and an Advance Health Care Directive. When was it created? Does it need to be updated?

As part of our pledge to assist you, I will review without charge all your Estate Plan documents if they were created more than 5 years ago, and advise if any changes need to be made.

**There are various reasons why you NEED to update your Estate Plan. Those would include any of the following life altering situations such as:**

1. If you are married and your spouse passes away.  
If you and your spouse have a Revocable Living

Trust, it may be necessary to administer the trust and update the survivor's trust. The topic of Trust Administration will be thoroughly covered in one of our seminars next year.

2. Do any of your children or beneficiaries have a Special Need? It is always important to have a provision in your trust for creation of a Special or Supplemental Needs Trust (SNT). This would protect the assets devised to him/her and prevent from losing their public benefit.
3. If you get divorced or remarry.
4. If you purchase new assets.
5. If you have sold or got rid of assets that were devised to a specific person in your trust.
6. If you have a new child/children or grandchildren.
7. Changes in the law: Special Notice on the new changes in the Medi-Cal laws in California that started in January 2017, and how it affects the assets in your trust from being subject to Medi-Cal liens.

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## **Important Items on Your Year-End Gifting**

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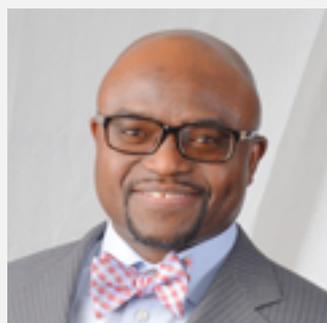
You should plan to take your gift as an itemized deduction on your tax return for 2017. But you must comply with IRS rules on that such as:

1. You can only deduct gifts you give to qualified charities.

2. You must have a bank record or written statement from the charity to deduct any gift of money on your tax return regardless of the amount. The receipt must show the name of the charity, amount and date of the gift.
3. Year-end gifts. You can deduct contributions in the year you make them. If you charge your gift to a credit card before the end of this year (2017), it will count for 2017. This is true even if you don't pay the credit card bill until 2018. Also, a check will count for 2017 as long as you mail it in 2017.
4. You can also make gifts to any person and as many persons as you wish using your annual gift exclusion amount for Y2017. The maximum amount you can gift each individual is \$14,000.

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### Share the news!



#### About Endy:

Endy is an Oakland (Jack London Square) based Tax & Estate Planning Attorney with over 16 years of experience. He has helped countless families throughout California develop individualized estate plans and has administered many estates over that period.



**CONTACT US:**

**Phone:** [510.834.9944](tel:510.834.9944)

**Website:** [www.ukohalaw.com](http://www.ukohalaw.com)

**Mailing Address:**

70 Washington St, Suite 303

@ Jack London Square

Oakland, CA 94607

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