# **Business Owner Checklist**

#### **Sole Proprietor**

- 1. Would your business be affected if a key employee were to leave, die, or become disabled? Would you be interested in a plan to reduce this risk?
- 2. Would you and your highly paid employees like to put aside more money on a tax preferred basis for retirement? What if you only had to fund 25% of the cost?
- 3. Where do you see your business in 5, 10, 15 years? Will you still be running it or will it be a family member, key employee, or sale to a third party? Do you have a formal transition agreement in place?

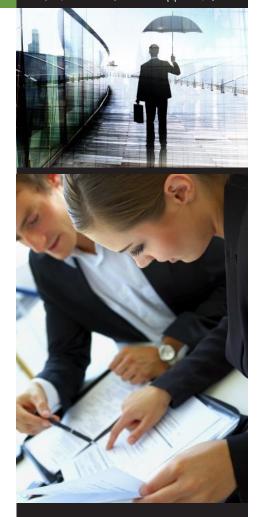
#### Two or more owners

- 1. Do you have a written plan to continue the business in the event of death, disability, or retirement of an owner?
- 2. Would your business be affected if a key employee were to leave, die, or become disabled? Would you be interested in a plan to reduce this risk?
- 3. Would you and your highly paid employees like to put aside more money on a tax preferred basis for retirement? What if the business only had to fund 25% of the cost?
- 4. Where do you see your business in 5, 10, 15 years? Will all the owners still be involved in the business or will there be a transition to a family member, key employee, or sale to a third party? Do you have a formal transition agreement in place?

#### Professional Firms: Lawyers, Doctors, CPAs etc.

- 1. Do you have a written plan to continue the business in the event of death, disability, or retirement of an owner?
- 2. Would your business be affected if a key employee were to leave, die, or become disabled?
- 3. Would you be interested in a plan to both reward and retain key people? What if the business only had to fund 25% of the cost?
- 4. Do you have a group disability plan in place? Does it cover 66.66% of the income of the highly compensated?
- 5. Would you and your highly paid employees like to put aside more money on a tax preferred basis for retirement? What if the business or executive only had to fund 25% of the cost?
- 6. Where do you see your business in 5, 10, 15 years? Will all the owners still be involved in the business or will there be a transition to a family member, key employee, or sale to a third party? Do you have a formal transition agreement in place?





## Steven B. Brandel

Executive Director
Heffernan Insurance Brokers
1350 Carlback Ave.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Email: sbrandel@heffgroup.com Phone: (925) 942-4674 heffins.com License #0564249

### **OFFICE LOCATIONS**

Walnut Creek, San Francisco, Petaluma, Menlo Park, Los Angeles and Irvine, CA; Portland, OR; St. Louis, MO.





