# **Estate Planning For Retirement Plans In View of the SECURE Act**

Karen S. Gerstner
Karen S. Gerstner & Associates, P.C.
(713) 520-5205
karen@gerstnerlaw.com

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL ESTATE PLANNING, GUARDIANSHIP AND ELDER LAW CONFERENCE August 5-6, 2020

1

## Background

- Brief History of Federal Legislation Relating to Retirement Plans
- Defined Terms
- (Recent) History of the SECURE Act
- Pre-SECURE Act MRD Rules
- Effective Date Rules
  - Applicable in the case of Participants who die after December 31, 2019
  - Applicable to successor beneficiaries of DBs receiving distributions from a retirement plan inherited from the Participant in the case of (i) a Participant who died *before* January 1, 2020 and (ii) a DB who dies *after* December 31, 2019

2

## Major Changes Made by the SECURE Act

- Age component of RBD changed to 72
- Two types of DBs: "Eligible Designated Beneficiaries" (EDBs) and "Other" Designated Beneficiaries (ODBs)
- 10 Year Rule applies to ODBs
- Life Expectancy Distribution Method Available to EDBs (LE Method varies by type of EDB)
- A NEW type of trust Applicable Multi-Beneficiary Trust (AMBT) - may be used for disabled and chronically ill beneficiaries

3

#### 3

## Interplay Between Pre-SECURE Act Rules and New Rules Provided by the SECURE Act

- Very few pre-SECURE Act rules repealed
- Which pre-SECURE Act rules are still effective?
- Many unclear issues due to lack of coordination between pre-SECURE Act rules and "New Rules"
- ACTEC SECURE Act Guidance Task Force has identified over 40 issues that need clarification and has submitted those issues to Treasury
- Expect regulations to address numerous issues

### Trusts for Beneficiaries

- Conduit Trust (example in pre-Secure regs)
- Accumulation Trust (example in pre-Secure regs)
- Grantor Trust (PLRs only)
- Applicable Multi-Beneficiary Trust (NEW)
- Non-qualifying Trust (Non DB)
- Charitable Remainder Trust

5

5

## Eligible Designated Beneficiaries (NEW)

- 1. Participant's Surviving Spouse
- 2. Participant's Minor Child
- 3. Disabled Beneficiary
- 4. Chronically Ill Beneficiary
- 5. Beneficiary (not in any other category) who is *not more than 10 years younger* than the Participant

NOTE: Determination of whether a beneficiary is an EDB is made as of the Participant's date of death

6





Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the <u>UT Law CLE eLibrary (utcle.org/elibrary)</u>

Title search: Estate Planning for Retirement Plans in View of the SECURE Act

Also available as part of the eCourse

<u>Trusts as Beneficiaries: Estate Planning Tips and Retirement Plans in View of the SECURE Act</u>

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the  $23^{rd}$  Annual Estate Planning, Guardianship and Elder Law Conference session "Estate Planning for Retirement Plans in View of the SECURE Act"