

desire that our children have all necessary resources to be successful people, but that they be expected to display hard work, honesty, integrity and independence sufficient to establish them as leaders in their family and community.

It is of particular importance to us that all who play a role in the administration of this trust seek to discharge their responsibilities and role in a manner which is consistent with the word and spirit of the conditions we have carefully considered and constructed. Apart from those explicit expressions, we want to make certain that everything is done to promote freedom, independence, learning, and the assumption of responsibility for the welfare of family among, and between those family members who are the beneficiaries of this trust.

Finally, we want to be very clear that we regard our “family” to encompass the Smiths, Garcias, Lees, and Jones families. All who read or discharge all or a part of this trust should know that it is essential that our children and their children understand who they are, where they came from and maintain connections to these lines of blood and culture which have played such a central part of our lives.

SAMPLE 2:

FAMILY PHILOSOPHY

Our trust is a sign of the values we hold dear and have tried to use throughout our lives. Those values are family-first, hard-work, honesty, independence and self-sufficiency, and being loving and thoughtful to our life-long commitment to each other and to our children and grandchildren.

We value family to such an extent that we are compelled, one last time, to express our philosophy on maintaining a strong family unity:

We understand people judge others based on their own experiences and beliefs. We, however, tried to approach the Golden Rule in a slightly different manner and have tried to encourage this practice in our family. That modified Golden Rule is -- don't treat others the way you would like to be treated but learn how they would like to be treated and treat them accordingly. Understand each other's short-comings and do not expect others to always behave how you want them to, but learn how they behave and what you can reasonably expect from them. Most importantly, never assume, attribute a motive to others, and then become angry based on that assumption. Talk to each other and be open to the other person's understanding of the situation. You will not always agree and that's all right. Loving someone doesn't mean they have to always agree with you. Loving someone means you accept each other's differences. We expect our family to continue as a family using this modified Golden Rule.

The love and support we have given to our family is the most important principle we hoped our children would emulate. That, above all else, we wish to be our legacy to them. We expect all