



Core Protection Checklist

Use this checklist to evaluate whether your current plan holds up.

Income Protection

- ☐ Do I have Individual Disability Insurance (IDI) that covers my actual income (salary, bonuses, K-1, draws)?
- ☐ Does my policy include own-occupation language tailored to legal professionals?
- ☐ Have I considered stacking with High-Limit Disability Insurance if my income exceeds \$300K–\$500K/year?
- ☐ Have I added riders like:
 - ☐ COLA (Cost-of-Living Adjustment)
 - ☐ Future Increase Option
 - ☐ Residual Disability Benefit
 - ☐ Does my policy extend through age 65 or 70?

Business Overhead Protection (For Firm Owners & Solos)

If I couldn't work for 6+ months, could I still cover:

- ☐ Office rent
- ☐ Payroll
- ☐ Malpractice insurance
- ☐ Client communications
- ☐ Do I have a BOE (Business Overhead Expense) policy to protect my infrastructure?
- ☐ How long would that coverage last — and is it enough?

Equity & Exit Strategy

- ☐ If I became permanently disabled, how would my equity be bought out?
- ☐ Does my firm have a Disability Buy-Sell Agreement in place?
- ☐ Is that agreement funded with insurance?
- ☐ Would my family be able to access my equity value — or would it be tied up in the firm indefinitely?

Key Person & Firm Stability

- ☐ Am I a rainmaker, senior partner, or managing leader?
- ☐ If I disappeared tomorrow, would my firm have the funds to:
 - ☐ Retain top staff
 - ☐ Reassure clients
 - ☐ Bring in interim leadership
 - ☐ Do I (or someone else in my firm) need Key Person Disability Insurance?

Succession Planning (For Firm Founders)

- ☐ Am I grooming a successor or junior partner?
- ☐ Is there a One-Way Buyout Plan in place if I’m permanently disabled before we complete the transition?
- ☐ Is the funding already secured?
- ☐ Does my successor know the plan?

Planning Snapshot Worksheet

Protection Category	Covered?		Notes / Gaps
Income Protection (IDI)	☐ Yes	☐ No	
High-Limit Stacking	☐ Yes	☐ No	
BOE (if applicable)	☐ Yes	☐ No	
Buy-Sell Agreement	☐ Yes	☐ No	
Key Person Insurance	☐ Yes	☐ No	
Succession/One-Way Buyout	☐ Yes	☐ No	

Three Questions to Ask Before You Finish

- 1** If I couldn’t show up tomorrow, how long would my income last — and who would pay it?
- 2** Would my firm run without me — and would it still be mine?
- 3** Would my family have access to the value I’ve built — or just the burden of my equity?