

# DOCUMENT RETENTION GUIDELINES

Being organized is a hallmark of good financial discipline. For your review and reference we are sharing best practices for personal document retention. If you are inclined, your Client Access Digital Vault is an excellent place to store copies of important documents and records.

|  | <b>Important Documents</b>                   | <b>Store In</b>       | <b>Shred After</b>  |                            |
|--|--|-----------------------|---|----------------------------|
| FINANCIAL MODELING<br>AND PROBABILITY<br>ANALYSIS    | Annuity Contract                             | Locked filing Cabinet | 7 years after annuity paid out  |                            |
|  | Bank statement and canceled checks           | Locked filing cabinet | 1 year  |                            |
|  | College financial aid                        | Locked filing cabinet | 10 years after loan repaid  |                            |
|  | Copy of Driver's License                     | Locked filing cabinet | After renewed   |                            |
|  | Credit card statements                       | Locked filing cabinet | 1 year  |                            |
|  | Employment Contract                          | Locked filing cabinet | 7 years after leaving employer  |                            |
|  | Foreign taxes paid-related records           | Locked filing cabinet | 10 years  |                            |
|  | Home purchase/improvement records            | Locked filing cabinet | 10 years after property is sold   |                            |
|  | Investment account statements                | Locked filing cabinet | 1 year  |                            |
|  | Letter of last instruction                   | Locked filing cabinet | Once updated  |                            |
|  | LIABILITY<br>MANAGEMENT                      | Loan Agreement        | Locked filing cabinet   | 10 years after loan repaid |
|  |  | Pay stubs             | Locked filing cabinet   | 1 year                     |
| ASSET & PORTFOLIO<br>MANAGEMENT                      | Federal & state tax returns, supporting docs | Locked filing cabinet | 7 years (3 years if your tax situation is uncomplicated & you don't itemize deductions) |                            |
|  | Property tax assessment                      | Locked filing cabinet | Once assessment is updated  |                            |
| WEALTH<br>ACCUMULATION &<br>MANAGEMENT<br>STRATEGIES | Real estate purchase/improvement records     | Locked filing cabinet | 10 years after property is sold   |                            |
|  | Receipts for items with warranty             | Locked filing cabinet | Until warranty expires  |                            |
|  | Social Security benefits statement           | Locked filing cabinet | New one arrives   |                            |

|   | <b>Original Documents</b>       | <b>Store In</b>                          | <b>Retention Guideline</b> |
|---|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| CONCENTRATED<br>STOCK MANAGEMENT<br>AND DIVERSIFICATION<br>STRATEGIES | Adoption papers                 | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Birth certificate               | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Cemetery deed                   | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Citizenship documentation       | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Death certificate               | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Diploma                         | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Divorce decree                  | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Estate planning documents       | Personal Safe or locked file cabinet     | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Guardianship arrangements       | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Health/immunization records     | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
| TRADITIONAL AND<br>ALTERNATIVE<br>INVESTMENTS                         | Household inventory with photos | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Legal claims and settlements    | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Life insurance policies         | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Marriage certificate            | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Military discharge              | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
| ESTATE PLANNING<br>STRATEGIES   | Online account password list    | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Updated periodically       |
|   | Passport                        | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | After replaced             |
|   | Pension plan documents          | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Receipts for expensive items    | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Until sold or donated      |
| PHILANTHROPIC<br>PLANNING   | Real estate deed                | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | 10 years after sold        |
|   | Retirement plan benefits        | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
|   | Safe Deposit Box inventory      | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Updated periodically       |
|   | Social Security card            | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Retain Indefinitely        |
| RISK CONTROL AND<br>LIQUIDITY   | Vehicle title                   | Personal Safe or bank safety deposit box | Until vehicle sold         |

175 Regency Woods Place, Suite 450 // Cary, NC 27518 | 984.465.3919  
3515 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 200 // Raleigh, NC 27612

Visit our website  
[veritasprivatewealth.com](http://veritasprivatewealth.com)  
for useful information  
and resources

*Raymond James & Associates, Inc., member New York Stock Exchange/SIPC. Raymond James is not a tax or legal advisor. This information is provided for informational purposes only. Sources include Wells Fargo Advisors; National Association of Professional Organizers; International Association of Registered Financial Consultants; Sterck Kulik O'Neill Accounting Group, Inc; Raymond James WorthWhile Spring 2021; and Edelman Financial Services. This document is not intended to provide tax, accounting or legal advice of any type. 3509092-20210408*