

Structured Settlement Annuities are a **highly unique** financial services product. Very few people (even those who know a great deal about investments) have ever heard of a Structured Settlement. Even fewer really understand what makes a Structured Settlement different from other kinds of annuities. This summary will help you understand the attractive opportunity that is available to you.

What Is a Structured Settlement?

• It is a life insurance annuity, funded with a single premium, which provides future payments to the recipient of a physical injury or workers' compensation settlement.

What Is An Annuity?

- It is a contract written by a life insurance company designed to provide future (usually retirement) income.
- The amount of income is determined by:
 a) How much money is placed in the annuity.
 b) How long the money stays in the annuity.
 c) What rate of interest the money earns.
- None of the earnings are taxed until they are withdrawn.
- These are called "tax-deferred annuities" and are sold by brokerages, banks and life insurance companies and others.

How Is a Structured Settlement Annuity Different?

- They are **ONLY** available to claimants in physical injury and workers' compensation cases.
- The **EXACT** income stream is determined **PRIOR** to purchasing the annuity.
- All money paid out is totally **TAX FREE**.
- They are <u>only available</u> through a Structured Settlement Broker.

What Are the Benefits of a Structure?

- They provide predictable, GUARANTEED payments.
- Structured settlement annuities are only underwritten by the strongest, most highly rated life insurance companies in the United States.
- Money in a structure is safe from bad judgment, bad advice, bad company and bad luck.
- Payments can be "structured" or designed to be disbursed in almost any way imaginable to meet a variety of needs (college funds, monthly income, retirement income, periodic lump sums, etc.).
- Payments can be received monthly, quarterly, annually or at almost any other interval.
- Payments can be made over a variety of different time frames. <u>Life Income</u>: payments for the entire life of the claimant. <u>Certain Only</u>: payments for a specified time frame (can be combined with Life Income). <u>Joint & Survivor</u>: lifetime payments for the claimant and his/her spouse. <u>Lump Sums</u>: payments at designated intervals (e.g. every 2 years, every 5 years etc.).
- A plaintiff attorney can structure his/her fees, which defers the income tax liability into future years. This can be done irrespective of whether or not the claimant decides to use a structure.

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