



Excerpt from
*The Inheritance Book: What you need to know about receiving
and investing an inheritance from the U.S. when you live in Israel*

by Douglas Goldstein, CFP®

www.Profile-Financial.com/books

CHECKLIST A

PAPERWORK YOU NEED TO CLAIM YOUR INHERITANCE

- Apply to the Israeli Inheritance Registrar for a probate order, even if you live abroad, as Israel doesn't recognize foreign court orders. When applying for a probate order at the Inheritance Registrar in Israel, the following documents need to be presented:
 - An official application for a probate order, if signed in Israel, in the presence of an Israeli lawyer and if signed abroad, then with the certification of the consulate or a notary with Apostille certification.
 - Power of Attorney if your lawyer is making the application on your behalf (same means of witnessing the signing as above).
 - Death certificate.
 - Original will – if signed abroad, often together with an Israeli notarial translation.
 - Signed authorization from your fellow heirs (if there are any) that you are making this application, or an official notice to them that the proceeding is being commenced. The official notification needs to include a copy of the will, with a copy of the dispatch of the documents by registered mail.
 - If the deceased lived outside Israel, the legal opinion of an Israeli lawyer with respect to the applicable foreign law regarding the inheritance.

- If any of the assets are located in the United States, file for a probate order in America.
- If you hire a lawyer to do probate for an Israeli will, but you are not located in Israel, you will need to sign a power of attorney either in the Israeli consulate or in the presence of a notary who must put Apostille certification on the document.
- If the deceased had brokerage or bank accounts in the United States, you will need to obtain:
 - Original Affidavit of Domicile.
 - Consular Report of Death of a U.S. Citizen Abroad. To obtain an official copy of the Report of Death, the deceased's legal representative must provide to the U.S. Consulate:
 - DS 2060 form,
 - Original local death certificate,
 - The deceased's American passport,
 - The deceased's Social Security Number,
 - A copy of your passport (if you are the next of kin),
 - A notice of death by the hospital or a physician, mentioning the cause of death.
 - Transfer Certificate. Documents you will need to file a request for a transfer certificate include:
 - Either (a) State Department Form DS-2060, Report of the Death of an American Citizen, or (b) death certificate and a copy of the photo page of the decedent's current U.S. passport or other proof of U.S. citizenship.
 - An affidavit, which is a written declaration made under oath before a notary public or other comparable local official. The affidavit may be in the form of a letter. It must be signed by the executor, administrator or other personal representative of the estate and include (a) a listing of all assets worldwide in which the decedent had any interest at the date of death together with their values on that date, and (b) all taxable gifts made by the decedent after 1976.

- One copy of each inventory filed with domestic or foreign probate authorities, with English translations if in another language.
- One copy of each death tax or inheritance tax return and any corrective statements filed with taxing authorities other than the United States, with English translations if in another language. If the decedent's country of residence does not have a death tax or inheritance tax (as in Israel), provide a copy of the decedent's last income tax return, and a copy of any wealth tax return filed.
- Copies of the decedent's last will and testament along with any codicils, with English translations if in another language.
- In order to help you comply with the IRS requirements, prepare the following:
 - List of worldwide assets and their value at the date of death, (go to our resource page for a link to an easy-to-use Excel spreadsheet that you can download for free),
 - Bank statements as of the date of death and as of current date,
 - Brokerage statements as of the date of death and as of current date,
 - Value of all real estate as of the date of death,
 - Value of all other assets as of the date of death, including pensions, *Keren Hishtalmut*, *Kupot Gemel*, property, etc.,
 - Copies of any U.S. gift tax returns from after 1976, if applicable.
- If the deceased's estate is worth over \$11.2 million (as of 2018), the IRS requires you to also file:
 - Form 706, United States Estate Tax Return, together with the supporting documents specified in the Form 706 Instructions.
 - Either (a) State Department Form DS-2060, which is the Report of the Death of an American Citizen, or (b) death certificate and a copy of the photo page of the decedent's current U.S. passport or other proof of U.S. citizenship.

Neither Profile Investment Services, Ltd. nor Portfolio Resources Group, Inc. provide legal advice. This document is intended as general information only about the many steps and documents that may be required to claim an inheritance. You should not depend on this information alone since rules and requirements may change. You should consult an attorney for help with the legal requirements involved in claiming an inheritance.

Check out *The Inheritance Book* at www.Profile-Financial.com/books