



STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS

THE BEST **PEOPLE**. THE BEST **PRODUCTS**. THE BEST **PROCESSES**.

WHAT IS A STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT?

A structured settlement is simply a financial tool that allows you to have a portion or all of your personal injury, wrongful death, or workers' compensation settlement paid out in future, tax-free periodic payments. With unlimited options, you have complete flexibility in the design of your payment stream to secure your financial future. Historically, damages from personal injury, wrongful death, and workers' compensation lawsuits were paid in a single lump sum at the time of the settlement. This kind of payment placed plaintiffs and their families in the position of having to manage a large sum of money, which is often intended to provide for a lifetime of medical and income needs. Structured settlements were devised to alleviate the difficulty of this situation and to provide long-term financial security for families. A structured settlement also makes an ideal financial vehicle for many of life's other fiscal challenges, such as financing a child's college education, planning for retirement, estate planning, responsible investing through dollar cost averaging, or fixed income investing.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF A STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT?

100% Tax-Free Payments Including Interest Earned

IRS Code 104(a)(2) stipulates that periodic payments in the form of a structured settlement are completely free of federal, state, and local income tax.

Guaranteed¹ Rate of Return

Structured settlements grow at a guaranteed fixed rate of return unaffected by the volatility of the market. The rate of return exceeds most other fixed income investment options. Coupled with its tax-free status, structured settlements often outperform investment options offered within the equity market.

Guaranteed Future Payments

Structured settlements promote fiscal responsibility and investment discipline. The fixed nature of structured settlements provides the assurance that your future financial needs will be secured over a specific period or a lifetime.

Safety

Structured settlements are funded through multi-billion dollar life insurance companies. The Settlement Alliance actively places structured settlements with the most secure life insurance companies in the world that are all A-rated or better.

Stress-Free Investment

There is no need to worry about market fluctuations & volatility when you purchase a structured settlement. Your investment is secure and your income is guaranteed.

No Ongoing Fees or Expenses

Unlike typical investments, structured settlements contain no yearly management fees nor any cost to the claimant once the money is invested. The Settlement Alliance's expert services are offered at no cost to the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney.

Preservation of Government Benefits

Structured settlements can be designed to protect your eligibility for government benefits like SSI & Medicaid by directing the payments into a Special Needs Trust when necessary.

Protection

Structured settlements offer protection against family, friends, and even yourself. All too often, recipients of large cash settlements become the target of the financial pursuits of others.

Peace of Mind

Payments can be made on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis, or in the form of a lump sum to match your expenses and spending habits. You will always know when to expect your funds.

¹ Guarantees are subject to the claims-paying abilities of the issuing insurance company.



ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT ALLIANCE

The Settlement Alliance began with a simple idea - to ensure that the plaintiff and the plaintiff's counsel have their own expert in structured settlement negotiations. Rather than relying on the defendant to assist with your structured settlement, our specialists work for you, the plaintiff. We are driven by honesty and integrity. Whether we assist you or your attorney in setting up a structured settlement to meet your specific needs, or work with you in valuing a settlement offer, our team engages every endeavor with professionalism and knowledge. Our team of experts can provide detailed information to help you learn more about the unique tax benefits and guaranteed financial security offered by structured settlements. Please contact us if you would like to meet with a representative or simply ask additional questions about your case.



HOW DOES A STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT WORK?

Once both parties have agreed to the details of the structured settlement, the claimant gives full release of their claim to the defendant or insurer. The defendant or insurer then pays the amount of funds chosen by the claimant to an assignment company, which assumes liability and purchases the annuity from a structured settlement carrier. The carrier sends the claimant structured settlement payments based on the amounts and timeline selected by the claimant.





HOW DO I MANAGE A MINOR'S SETTLEMENT?

If a minor is to be awarded damages due to personal physical injury, sickness or wrongful death, it is imperative that educated financial decisions are made on his or her behalf. Often a minor's settlement funds are intended to pay for medical, rehabilitation, or attendant care services and perhaps eventually, to provide compensation for future lost earnings. A structured settlement is a valuable tool in the planning process. If there are no needs prior to the age of majority, a structured settlement is an excellent option to provide for higher education expenses, supplement income in early adult years, purchase a home and/or plan for retirement.

The Best of Both Worlds

Sometimes a combination of financial tools can help ensure the optimal benefit and protection for a minor. For example, structured settlement payments can be paid directly to a trust. Splitting the award between a trust and a structured settlement can optimize the flexibility and future benefits for a minor. A trust can provide for a child's needs during their minority, while the structured portion of the settlement can contribute ongoing income over time. If the minor's injury is permanent, his or her settlement should be too. A structured settlement, alone or in combination with a trust, can ensure that payments will be available as long as the minor lives, and that can mean an enhanced quality of life and peace of mind.

WHAT SERVICES DOES TSA PROVIDE?

Attend Mediations

We assist you in evaluating settlement offers to determine the true value of the settlement in today's dollars. Should you prefer, we can be available by telephone to assist you during your mediation.

Avoid Constructive Receipt While Maintaining Control

We will steer you away from potential constructive receipt issues and adverse tax consequences that could occur if the structure is not implemented properly.

Obtain Rated Ages From All The Major Life Insurance Companies

This may allow you to receive a considerable increase in your lifetime benefits.

Needs Analysis

We can meet with you to help design your structured settlement and ensure it meets your specific needs and financial goals.

Completion Of Settlement Documents

We will coordinate proper completion of the structured settlement documents to ensure your interests are protected and all IRS guidelines are followed.

Provide Ongoing Assistance

We provide ongoing assistance to you for the life of your structured settlement.

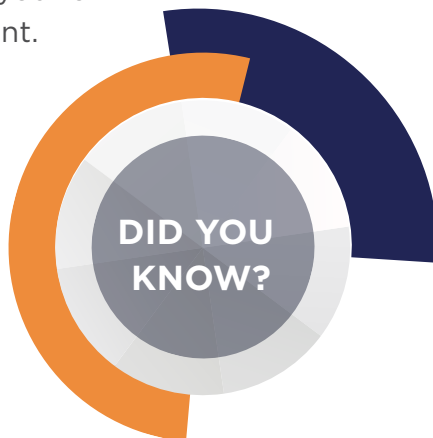
WHY DO I NEED A SETTLEMENT PLANNER?

A settlement planner is a financial services professional educated on a vast array of services and products, from structured settlements and trusts to lien resolution and government benefit preservation. The Settlement Alliance is made up of settlement planners, instead of just brokers who only handle one facet of a financial transaction.

The individual representing the defendant can broker a structured settlement annuity, but is not required to have the plaintiff's best interests in mind. They are expected to save their client money, which usually comes at the expense of you, the plaintiff. At The Settlement Alliance, we provide representation to ensure that your best interests are protected. The Settlement Alliance is tasked with shopping every available carrier to ensure that you receive the most competitive rates in the marketplace at the time of settlement. If this is not properly handled, it could potentially cost you a significant amount by not shopping the carriers to obtain the maximum payout. As a result, experienced plaintiff-based planners have become a necessity in the settlement planning process.

57%

In a 2012 survey, 57% of claimants who accepted a lump sum reported that their entire settlement had been depleted.²



30%

A 2013 survey of claimants who accepted a lump sum more than 3 years ago had 30% less money left than expected.³

² American General Life Companies Structured Settlement Survey Report, 2012

³ Prudential Structured Settlements Claimant Survey, 2013


OUR PROMISE

The Settlement Alliance will ensure that your structured settlement is placed with a carrier that possesses the best interest rates available at the time of settlement, along with strong financial ratings. In addition, we will perform a needs analysis and design a detailed settlement plan to protect your future financial needs.

The importance of plaintiff attorneys obtaining structured settlement representation cannot be overstated. When you are faced with a settlement, you are facing one of the biggest financial decisions of your life. Having a qualified settlement planner guiding you and your attorney through the structured settlement process is paramount to ensuring that your best interests are met.



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