



Founder & Chief Visionary Officer 4540 Kearny Villa Road, Suite 114 San Diego, CA 92123

Email: rj@wealthlegacygroup.com Office: (858) 569-0633

> Toll Free: (800) 975-5355 Fax: (858) 333-4942 CA License: # 0697059

www.wealthlegacygroup.com

## **KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF**

## WHEN CONSIDERING A BUSINESS TRANSITION

- 1. Big Picture: Why do I want to make a transition? Return to school? More time with family or for hobbies? Relax or travel? Begin a new business? Develop the next generation? How soon and when do I want to make my transition? Do I (or will I be able to) leave fully, or simply fill a lesser role or spend less time in the office? What changes do I need to make in my estate plan, investment allocations, and insurance?
- **2. Personal and Emotional:** Have I discussed this with my family, heirs and business partner(s)? Is my spouse or life partner ready to have me around the house 24/7? Am <u>I</u> ready for that? What impact will my decision have upon my business partner(s)? Are they aligned with my wish to transition? Will they buy me out? Will they support a sale to an outside buyer? If I transfer the business to my heirs, will it be in equal distributions (and include heirs not involved in the business?) How will I make up for the value to the non-business heirs? Does equal distribution of my estate to heirs matter to me (or my spouse)? How will I resolve potential conflict among my heirs?
- **3. Valuation and Economics:** How much net income will I need? Do I have other sources? What is the business worth today? Do I know? How is that number determined, if so? Would I buy the business today for that value? What am I doing to increase the value of my business? How to obtain the highest

- sale price? How much will my transition cost me in taxes and fees? Given the choice, which would I choose: supporting the government or supporting charities of my choice?
- **4. Transaction:** Will it be an "inside sale" to family, employees, partners or combination or, will it be an "outside sale" to a competitor, strategic buyer, industry consolidator, public markets, private equity? How will the sale be financed? Am I willing to carry back paper (and carry risk) post-sale? Will it be structured as a lump sum, or installment sale? Will the sale be assets or business stock?
- **5. Teams**: Do I have a capable management team in place to carry on after my transition? Or do I need to upgrade certain members of the management team? Provide more training? If I wish to keep the business in the family, are family members qualified to lead, or should we consider outside, professional management?

Who do I need in my transition team? In addition to my attorney and CPA, what other specialists do I need to include such as an investment banker, insurance specialist, wealth manager, Employee Stock Ownership advisor (if considering an ESOP), tax advisor, business banker, family psychologist, key employees, other?

**6. Post Transaction:** Where do I go from here? What might be the next steps in my life journey?