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Protect yourself from inheritance hijackers

Author, attorney presents essential guide to safeguarding your estate

FORT MYERS, Fla. – Most people today have learned to be wary of identity theft, credit card fraud and even email scams—but what about inheritance theft? Whether you plan on leaving an inheritance or may receive one in the future, you could be at risk of becoming an unwitting victim of an inheritance hijacking by a family member, friend or associate.

Attorney Robert C. Adamski, JD, realized the urgent need to educate Americans about inheritance theft during his 30 years experience in inheritance law and litigation. His enlightening new book, *Inheritance Hijackers: Who Wants to Steal Your Inheritance and How to Protect It* (Ovation Books, April 2009, ISBN: 978-0-9814534-4-6, \$16.95), provides expert advice on how to identify potential inheritance thieves and avoid becoming a victim. As the first book to examine the dangers of inheritance theft, *Inheritance Hijackers* warns that anyone can be targeted by otherwise honest friends and family who may be motivated to steal by the promise of inheritance dollars.

“As old age and physical and mental infirmities set in, once robust and capable people become dependent on others and more likely to become a victim,” says Adamski, a partner in Burandt, Adamski & Grossman, LLP, one of the oldest firms in Southwest Florida. “I still believe that most people are honest and want to do the right thing for their fellow man; however, everyone has their tipping point into dishonest behavior. This is especially true in the realm of inheritances, where family dynamics, old grudges and jealousies play a powerful role.”

Inheritance Hijackers provides quizzes, Q&A’s and checklists to help readers determine the security of their estate. Adamski also includes case studies from his own legal experience that illustrate the many forms an inheritance hijacking can take, from undue influence by a family member, to serial hijackers out for personal gain.

“My goal is not to panic people, but to educate them to keep their eyes and ears open,” Adamski says. “Trusting your inheritance to chance is not wise—it’s better to be vigilant and safe than overly trusting and sorry.”

Inheritance Hijackers covers topics such as:

- Why, when, and how inheritances are stolen
- Signs someone may be after your inheritance, and how to protect yourself
- The most common inheritance hijackers, and how to spot them
- The essential guide to estate planning: Terms you need to know to plan ahead
- The anatomy of an inheritance suit
- Choosing the right attorney/administrator for your plan

Adamski currently resides in Fort Myers, Fla. He serves on the board of the Cape Coral Municipal Charter School Foundation, Inc., is a past president of the Cape Coral Bar Association, and a former Cape Coral city attorney. For more information, visit www.RCAdamski.com or visit the book’s website at www.ProtectYourEstate.net.

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To schedule an interview with Adamski, or to receive a review copy of *Inheritance Hijackers*, please contact Amy Currie at (512) 478-2028 ext. 211 or acurrie@phenixpublicity.com.