

Client Alert



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Legal Audit for Businesses: Preventing Future Problems Now

- 1. Has your business recently reviewed its **legal structure** to determine whether it is set up in the most advantageous manner for legal and tax purposes, considering recent developments and changes in the law?
- 2. Do the owners of your business have a current, updated **buy-sell agreement** which controls how ownership interests in the business are to be transferred in the event of an owner's death, disability or termination of employment?
- **3.** Does your company conduct **annual shareholders meetings** and **annual directors meetings**, and regularly update its **corporate minute book and stock book**?
- **4.** Does your business have **updated contract forms**, which contain terms and conditions specifically designed to protect the interests of your business?
- 5. Does your business have an **employee handbook** which has been recently updated to take into consideration recent laws involving age and sex discrimination, rights of disabled employees, family leave and sexual harassment?
- 6. Have you developed a program for legally protecting your company's valuable intellectual property such as technical developments, inventions, customer lists, and business names or logos?
- 7. When you hire employees, do you require them to sign (i) **confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements** to protect your valuable intellectual property, and (ii) **non-competitive agreements** which will prohibit them from soliciting your customers and competing with your business if they leave your employment?
- **8.** Do the owners of your business also own **the real estate where the business is located**, and if so, has the legal structure of the real estate ownership been recently reviewed, considering recent developments and changes in the law?
- **9.** Has your business developed a program for limiting its exposure to liabilities under the various **environmental laws**?

For more information, please contact Jon Samel at 215-661-0400 or JSamel@HRMML.com