

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**AFFORDABLE INCORPORATION/BUSINESS FORMATION AND ESTATE PLANNING SERVICES**  
**NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH SAN DIEGO COUNTY BAR PROGRAM**  
*New Services Offered for Flat Fee Instead of Hourly Attorney Rates*

**SAN DIEGO** (October 23, 2017) – Affordable business formation and estate planning services are now available through a flat fee initiative introduced by the San Diego County Bar Association’s (SDCBA) Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS).

By retaining an attorney who is a part of the flat fee program, individuals are able to receive various services for one pre-established rate, rather than paying an attorney or law firm by the hour. Basic business formation services, including articles of incorporation and operating agreements can be handled for a fee of \$1,000, exclusive of fees for filings and searches. Last will and estate plans, including consultation, and drafting and preparation of the trust by an attorney, can be facilitated for \$1,000 for single individuals and \$1,500 for marital reciprocal wills, exclusive of notary costs. In August of this year, the SDCBA also introduced a similar program for Chapter 7 bankruptcy at set rates of \$1,000 and \$1,200 dependent on single or joint filing status.

“An attorney can ensure that you are preparing important documents – whether for business use or personal use – accurately and in accordance with the law,” said Loren Freestone, 2017 SDCBA President. “Often times, hourly attorney fees can be uncertain for individuals and small businesses. We are proud to be able to help more people and businesses by providing an affordable alternative.”

Both the Incorporation/Business Formation and Trusts and Wills Flat Fee programs are designed to provide basic services, bundled at affordable rates. The SDCBA plans to expand the LRIS flat fee program to include areas of family law in the near future.

“There is a real need for lower-cost legal services, and this is a way for us to provide service but in a way that’s different than the traditional law firm model,” said SDCBA Executive Director & CEO Ellen Miller-Sharp. “By packaging services for a set, predictable rate, we are able to offer access to legal services more affordably for the businesses and citizens in our community.”

In addition to its flat fee programs, the LRIS offers free referrals and 30 minute attorney consultations to consumers in myriad areas of law, including criminal, civil, business, family, immigration, and labor and employment law. Anyone interested in one of the flat fee services offered or in a referral to an attorney should contact LRIS at (619) 231-8585 or [www.sdcba.org/inneedalawyer](http://www.sdcba.org/inneedalawyer).

*The San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) is the region’s largest law related organization and the hub of the city’s legal community, headquartered in downtown San Diego. As the representative of the legal profession, the SDCBA aims to serve the county’s lawyers and legal professionals, and the greater San Diego community. For more information, please visit [www.sdcba.org](http://www.sdcba.org).*

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