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A property ownership agreement, or property co-ownership agreement, is a legal document used between parties that want to jointly purchase a property. The agreement determines how a property will be used, what happens to it if one of the owners dies or wants to leave, and whether there are any restrictions on who can buy it. Property ownership agreements can be used for residential or commercial properties. For businesses, it lets you protect your interests in your business assets while allowing you to split the financial obligations of purchasing a property. A well-drafted agreement can help maintain good relationships among partners by outlining each person's rights and responsibilities within the partnership. The agreements typically provide for unanimous consent of all parties before major decisions are made about the property. A real estate lawyer may draft an agreement that defines issues such as termination provisions, voting procedures, changes in capital contributions, and covenants not to compete or assign without consent from other party. Common Sections in Property Ownership Agreements: Below is a list of common sections included in Property Ownership Agreements. These sections are linked to the below sample agreement for you to explore. Property Ownership Agreements Sample Who Helps With Property Ownership Agreements? Lawyers with backgrounds working on property ownership agreements work with clients to help. Do you need help with a property ownership agreement? Post a project in ContractsCounsel's marketplace to get free bids from lawyers to draft, review, or negotiate property ownership agreements. All lawyers are vetted by our team and peer reviewed by our customers for you to explore before hiring. ContractsCounsel is not a law firm, and this post should not be considered and does not contain legal advice. To ensure the information and advice in this post are correct, sufficient, and appropriate for your situation, please consult a licensed attorney. Also, using or accessing ContractsCounsel's site does not create an attorney-client relationship between you and ContractsCounsel. Page 2 How It Works: Provide details on your needs. Get bids to compare. Hire and get started. Ownership Contract Template UK (1) Between:[Name of the Owner][Owner's ID][Owner's Address][Owner's Phone][Owner's Email] And:[Name of the Buyer][Buyer's ID][Buyer's Address][Buyer's Phone][Buyer's Email] Introduction: This ownership contract governs the sale and transfer of ownership of [Description of the Asset or Property] located at [Property Address], commencing on [Date of Agreement]. Clause 1: Description of the Asset: The Owner hereby sells to the Buyer the following asset: [Detailed description of the asset, including any relevant serial numbers or features]. Clause 2: Purchase Price: The total purchase price for the asset is [Amount], payable as follows: [Payment Schedule and Methods, e.g., deposit, balance upon completion, etc.]. Clause 3: Transfer of Ownership: The transfer of ownership shall occur on [Date of Transfer], with all rights and responsibilities associated with the asset conveyed to the Buyer upon completion of payment. Clause 4: Warranties and Representations: The Owner warrants that they have the right to sell the asset and that the asset is free from any liens, claims, or legal encumbrances. Clause 5: Governing Law: This agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of [Jurisdiction, e.g., England and Wales]. Signed in [City], [Date]. Sincerely, [Signature of the Owner][Signature of the Owner][Signature of the Buyer][Name of the Buyer] Ownership Contract Template UK (2) Between:[Name of the Seller][Seller's ID][Seller's Address][Seller's Phone][Seller's Email] And:[Name of the Purchaser][Purchaser's ID][Purchaser's Address][Purchaser's Email] Introduction: This contract outlines the terms and conditions under which the Ownership of [Specify Asset or Property] situated at [Property Address] is sold, effective on [Effective Date]. Clause 1: Description of the Property: The Seller agrees to transfer ownership of the following property: [Complete description including boundaries, rights of way, etc.]. Clause 2: Total Consideration: The total consideration for the transfer of ownership is [Sum of Money], paid as follows: [Details of payment installment, if applicable]. Clause 3: Conditions Precedent: Completion of the transfer is subject to the following conditions: [Outline any conditions required before transfer, such as inspections or approvals]. Clause 4: Indemnification: The Seller agrees to indemnify the Purchaser from any claims, damages, or expenses arising from any breach of the Seller's representations regarding the property. Clause 5: Dispute Resolution: In the event of a dispute arising from this contract, the parties agree to seek resolution through arbitration prior to pursuing litigation. Signed in [City], [Date]. Sincerely, [Signature of the Seller][Signature of the Purchaser][Name of the Purchaser] Professional Sample PDF WORD Examples Printable Instant Download Get Instant Access to 50,000+ MS Word Templates Limited Time Offer Access to 1 Million+ Templates & Tools 500,000+ Microsoft 365 Templates including Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Outlook & PDF Unlimited access to Design & Documents AI editors Professionally Made Content and Beautifully Designed Instant Download & 100% Customizable Are you in need of a document that outlines the rules and regulations for ownership agreements? Look no further! Our ownership agreement forms are designed to assist individuals and businesses in establishing and maintaining ownership rights. Whether you are a boat owner in Texas, a vocational training facility in Washington, or a liquor license holder in Kansas, our fillable ownership agreement forms will provide you with the necessary framework to solidify your ownership arrangements. Also known as fillable ownership agreement forms, these documents offer a comprehensive template that can be tailored to your specific needs. With our ownership agreement forms, you can ensure that all parties involved have a clear understanding of their rights and responsibilities. For instance, imagine you and your business partner are considering purchasing a vessel and/or outboard motor in Texas. By utilizing our Form PWD790 Rights of Survivorship Ownership Agreement for a Vessel and/or Outboard Motor, you can establish clear guidelines for the ownership, operation, and maintenance of the assets, ensuring a smooth and mutually beneficial partnership. Similarly, if you are a vocational training facility in Washington, our Form F245-351-000 Vocational Training Plan Ownership Agreement for Tools and Equipment can assist you in documenting the ownership of your valuable tools and equipment. This ownership agreement will outline how the tools and equipment should be used, maintained, and returned, minimizing disputes and promoting a productive learning environment. Even if you are a landowner in Pennsylvania, our Form 5600-FM-BMP037 Module 1: Ownership and Right of Entry can help you establish a clear understanding of property ownership and the rights of entry for maintenance and repair purposes. Having a solid ownership agreement in place, you can safeguard your property and avoid any potential conflicts with neighboring landowners. Do you operate a liquor license in Kansas? Our Form ABC-990 Kansas Liquor License Ownership Agreement can assist you in formalizing your co-ownership arrangement, ensuring compliance with state regulations and facilitating a smooth operation for your business. Lastly, if you are a medical equipment provider in Vermont, our Recycled Durable Medical Equipment Ownership, Operation, and Maintenance Agreement can help you establish a clear agreement with patients regarding the ownership, operation, and maintenance of the equipment. This allows for transparency and ensures that both parties are aware of their responsibilities. No matter your specific ownership agreement needs, our fillable ownership agreement forms can provide you with the necessary legal framework to protect your rights and minimize potential disputes. Don't delay - start the process today and secure your ownership arrangements with our user-friendly and comprehensive ownership agreement forms. What Is an Ownership Agreement? It is essential for an unmarried couple, a group of friends, or a family of businesspeople whose business goals are to become co-owners of a particular property to use an ownership agreement. You usually use this agreement in instances where two or more individuals desire to become proprietors of the same real estate property. However, this type of arrangement is not limited only to real estate but is also applicable to other personal properties such as artworks, antiques, boats, vehicles, stocks, and more. It is the agreement that sets and controls the relationship between co-owners in case conflicts arise later on. Note that ownership gives a person the right to possess a treasured property under the protection of the law. According to Statista, in 2018, there were about 7.08 million homes sold in the U.S. From that year, the number of sales continued to decline between the years 2006 to 2012. Based on a report from the United States Department of Agriculture, The Federal Government owns about 33 percent of the 2.3 billion acres while private individuals own 60 percent. State and public agencies and American Indians own the rest. In an article published by the Washington Post, it says that The federal government is by far the nation's biggest landowner, with \$40 million acres in total. Common Systems Applied in Owning a Real Property: As mentioned earlier, an ownership agreement is beneficial in real estate. Real estate status is basically a property of land that includes anything within its bounds. People can have various reasons for owning a property, but how do you own it legally? Here are the common systems applied in owning a real estate property: Single Ownership: The most simple type of ownership is generally known as "sole ownership". This happens when a single individual possesses all the interests of an asset. In a certain situation where an owner dies, the property will be automatically transferred to his/her beneficiary after undergoing some processes. The beauty of this comes when a beneficiary inherits a home with a different market value at present, and when the time comes for him/her to sell it, capital gains are no longer applicable. For example, a son inherits his father's property with a market value of \$700,000, the basis for tax will still be \$700,000 even if his father bought it for \$300,000. So when the son decides to sell the property, he will be able to avoid capital gains. Capital gain is the profit a person gets after selling an asset minus the original price. Partnership: Two or more businesses who plan to own property are linked through partnership. This connection involves the participation of every co-owner to run the property. There are two types of partnership: limited partnership and limited liability partnership Agreement. In a limited partnership, it is only the general partner who manages the property without the help of limited partners. In a limited liability partnership, the co-owner's private assets are protected in case of business experiences corporate loss. Only the exact amount invested will be mainly affected. Linked Tenancy: When two individuals or more own a common real estate property, they are linked by a legal agreement through "joint tenancy". Joint tenancy allows each owner to have the same rights and responsibilities. In an event where one owner passes away, the interest of the deceased will be directly passed on to the other property holders without the need to go to court. This type of title cannot be transferred to family members who are not part of the agreement, which means that it can only be owned by legal co-owners whatever their relationship is. If the agreement is signed between a wife and a husband, this can be a disadvantage when they decide to be divorced. Tenancy in Common: In a scenario where two or more individuals own and share the same rights of one property, they are in agreement called "tenancy in common". This agreement may sound similar to joint tenancy, but they are different in many ways. Therefore, what is the difference between tenancy in common and joint tenancy? Compared to joint tenancy, TIC allows more members to join the agreement even if it has already existed for some time. Moreover, in a TIC, each owner has the right to sell their part of the property without affecting the others. When one owner dies, a joint tenancy contract needs to call the name of the entire co-owners to be broken. Otherwise, the difference between the two is when the co-owners die. In a joint tenancy, if one holder in the agreement dies, the one left behind has all the right to own the entirety of the property. According to Investopedia, almost half of the states in the U.S. are legally tied to this type of agreement. Community Property: If, during a couple's time of marriage, they purchase and acquire properties, both are entitled by law to own a percentage of the assets depending on which state they belong. The exception is only when both agree to exclude some properties from being part of the community property through a postnuptial agreement. Typically, assets that a spouse obtained before marriage are not regarded as community property. This idea aims to protect the rights of both parties. Corporation: Real estate can also be owned by a corporation, where several shareholders are a member of, but the property here is considered as a separate entity. The property bought by a corporation is primarily used for its operation. It gives its workers a place to create and supply their products to the marketplace. How to Outline a Basic Ownership Agreement: The term ownership agreement is comprehensive and can be categorized under many classifications. With that in mind, here is a basic outline of a general ownership agreement that covers all categories belonging to it. We are going to answer the question: What do you include in this agreement? And what is the importance of each section? Read the steps below, to find out: Step 1: Provide Background Information and Definitions In this initial section of the agreement, the background information of property owners, which are their names and addresses, are written. Above that information is the date the contract is signed. Moreover, this information is the definition of terms. Major terms within the contract should be well-defined to help each contract holder understand all statements written in the agreement. Also, this will allow all owners to have the same view and interpretation of all provisions provided. Step 2: State the Purpose of the Agreement: The purpose of the deal is essential, where you record all intentions by both parties in detail. It can include issues concerning the division of interest among members, the development and control of the land, the relationship between co-owners, the laws they follow, the authority of each one, third party relations, etc. This sets the standard of how each owner should behave under the contract. In addition to that, this will also serve as a basis for solutions in case misunderstandings arise. Step 3: Write How Finances should be Managed: All Co-owner should contribute to the everyday expenses needed to maintain the property. This should cover property taxes and insurance fees. Property tax is the tax a property owner. Other times, a corporation has to pay the government. The amount is determined by the government, depending on the location and value of the land. Real estate owners pay taxes that are allocated to improve sewers, finance water, allow law enforcers, construct roads, and all other services that will help the community as a whole. Furthermore, property insurance fees serve to pay for policies that will provide protection and coverage for liabilities. Step 4: Include the Terms for Interest Disposal: A Co-owner should not dispose of a property without the authorization of his/her co-owners. Also, if a prospective buyer of a co-owner wishes to enter the agreement, he/she must obey and follow the terms. When a co-owner desire to leave his position in the contract, he/she should give the interest to the remaining co-owners at an amount equivalent to the original value he bought his part of the property. In case the co-owner who wishes to terminate the contract doesn't agree, he/she could have his interest for sale to a bona fide purchaser. With these terms, all co-owners will be secured of the interest of their properties. Step 5: Specify Condition for Contract Termination: Specific conditions for contract termination are written in the later section of the agreement. This comprises the different situations that could happen where a co-owner violates the purposes of the contract. Having conditions for contract termination is just as important as encouraging contract fulfillment. Enforcing this will protect the parties involved if ever disagreements arise in the future as a result of a breach of contract. Remember that this agreement is a legal document under the control of the state laws being used to interpret it. Step 6: Lists the General Provisions: The list of general provisions includes the governing law, resolution for disputes, force Majeure, legal expenses, or whatever is applicable to complete the whole agreement. They are incorporated in the last section of the deal because they don't seem to fit in between other parts. Thus, they are also referred to as "Miscellaneous" Provisions. Even if that is the case, they are still necessary to fill up what is lacking in the contract. If you want to be successful in your real estate endeavors, then you must begin with the basics. Success doesn't happen in one blink of an eye. It is a step by step process. If success for you owns property or several properties, then you should neglect the use of an Ownership Agreement. With one, you are assured that the things you've worked hard for and value the most are kept safe and secure. You should also know that an ownership agreement is evidence of your success. The Property Co-Ownership Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by [Owner1.FirstName][Owner1.LastName] ("Party") of [Owner1.StreetAddress], [Owner1.City], [Owner1.State][Owner1.PostalCode], and [Owner2.FirstName][Owner2.LastName] ("Party") of [Owner2.StreetAddress], [Owner2.City], [Owner2.State][Owner2.PostalCode] ("Parties"). This Agreement will go into effect between the Parties on (DATE) and remain in effect until either Party terminates the Agreement. The subject property of this Agreement is a (describe house generally, e.g., two-story, semi-detached residential house) located at [PropertyStreetAddress], [Property.City], [Property.State][Property.PostalCode] ("Property"). The Parties shall operate the Property as (state the purpose for which property is to be used, e.g., rental property, personal use, bed and breakfast, etc.). If you're planning on residing on the property for rental income, you'll likely want to add additional terms and provisions to outline how a rental amount will be determined, how potential tenants will be agreed upon, how the rental income will be distributed, and whether or not there will be an operating budget. Both Parties agree to hold equal rights, interests, and title to the Property. Both Parties will be equally responsible for the management, maintenance, and financial needs of the house. Neither Party shall incur any encumbrance of any kind on the Property without the approval of both Parties. Both Parties agree to maintain confidentiality on all the information shared within the Agreement and not disclose any information to a third party. The ownership interest might vary based on how much each party has paid into the down payment. This will also affect the interest each party has in the property. Make sure to specify the ownership percentage if it's not an equal 50/50 split. Both Parties will be responsible for the monthly payment of the Property's mortgage in the amount of \$ (amount) and the overall loan itself. The mortgage payment shall be split (amount)% for [Owner1.FirstName][Owner1.LastName] and (amount)% for [Owner2.FirstName][Owner2.LastName]. The following instructions will help you understand the terms of your agreement. Please review the entire document before starting your step-by-step process. 1. Introduction: This section identifies the document as a land co-ownership agreement. Add the effective date and the name of all the parties (co-owners) involved. All the co-owners involved in the agreement are collectively called "parties". 2. Recitals: The "whereas" clauses, or recitals, define the agreement and provide background information about the parties. In this agreement, the recitals include a statement of the parties' intent to enter into a co-ownership agreement to co-own the property. Describe the property's street address, city, county, state, and legal description. 3. Ownership and title: This section states the ownership structure between the parties. The parties can consider themselves joint tenants in common, and each receives title as co-tenants. Each party can use, enjoy, and control the property according to the agreement. Since this is joint ownership, enter each party's name and the ownership percentage each will receive. This division may be equal or unequal. 4. Termination: This section mentions that the agreement will continue indefinitely until an undeniable scenario occurs, such as if the property is soldif the parties unanimously agree to end the arrangementif one party ends up owning the entire property. 5. Tax matters: Given the many restrictions the Internal Revenue System (IRS) places on partnerships in which multiple parties own land together, it is essential to emphasize that your agreement is among separate individuals. This section confirms that the parties are just co-owners of the same property and aren't involved as partners. Therefore, they aren't subject to additional property tax payments as required by the IRS. 6. Decisions: This section explains how the major property-related decisions will be made, such as: The parties must agree on the decision before hiring a new property manager, selling or leasing the property, or placing a lien on the property. If the parties agree to hire a manager for day-to-day management of the property, they may also sign a renewal management agreement with that person or sign a power of attorney. This allows that person to manage the property without getting specific authorization every time. 7. Division of profits and losses: In this clause, state how the parties will share all earnings (like rental income) or pay any obligations related to the property in proportion to their interest. For example, if one owner holds 30% of the property, they'll be expected to pay 30% of the debts and receive 30% of the profits. 8. Events of default: This section outlines actions that may cause termination of the agreement by the other parties. Some examples are: If one party fails to make payments and fulfill any obligations under the agreement and doesn't rectify their action within a specific time period after the other parties' request. Since this is a jointly owned property, if a party transfers (or tries to transfer) their interest to an outside party without the other parties' permission. If a party goes bankrupt. If a party writes that it can't continue to meet its general obligations (i.e., it is nearing bankruptcy or thinks that it'll lose control of its property shortly). 9. Defaults and remedies: This section states the consequences if a "default" happens. Some of the possibilities are: The non-defaulting party can choose to terminate the agreement without the defaulting party's permission. Any non-defaulting party can loan the money to a defaulting party that can't make payments under the agreement. If the defaulting party hasn't repaid the loans, the amount might be deducted from any property-related profits they're entitled to. 10. Sale of property: This section mentions the conditions each party must follow before selling their property, such as: In a shared ownership, every party can sell their part of the property at an amount equivalent to the original value he bought his part of the property. Each party can use, enjoy, and control the property according to the agreement. Since this is joint ownership, enter each party's name and the ownership percentage each will receive. This division may be equal or unequal. 4. Termination: This section mentions that the agreement will continue indefinitely until an undeniable scenario occurs, such as if the property is soldif the parties unanimously agree to end the arrangementif one party ends up owning the entire property. 5. Tax matters: Given the many restrictions the Internal Revenue System (IRS) places on partnerships in which multiple parties own land together, it is essential to emphasize that your agreement is among separate individuals. 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