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Should long term marriages hold assets jointly between a husband and wife?





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We have had a run of estates lately that have required double probate taxes. Here is what happens for example, if the family home is held by a husband alone. The husband dies leaving his estate to his long-term wife. Under the husband's will all goes to his wife. The family home and all the husband's assets are subject to probate taxes. The wife dies shortly thereafter as sometimes happens to elderly couples. The wife's estate now pays probate taxes on the same assets passed to her under her husband's will. Avoid this by holding assets jointly so when one dies no probate is necessary. There are specific reasons when holding assets alone are necessary. Your lawyer can tell you if it is best to hold assets jointly or separately.

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NFWS

HALTON POLICE FIRST IN ONTARIO TO ADOPT ENOTES SYSTEM

MANSOOR TANWEER

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A police officer writing in a notepad is a well known image.

The officer shows up at the scene of a crime, examines the evidence, takes statements and writes it all down in his or her paper notepad.

But Halton Regional Police Service is now breaking with tradition by adopting electronic note-taking instead of paper-based notes. HRPS will be the first in Ontario, and the second in Canada, to adopt the system.

"Note-taking in the policing sector has not evolved in over 100 years," said Deputy Chief Roger Wilkie. "This is just one of the latest ways the HRPS is



Graham Paine/Metroland

A Halton police officer uses a paper notepad while investigating

striving to optimize effectiveness and efficiency by purposefully harnessing innovative technology."

The software enhances an officer's note-taking ability by allowing them to add to and access databases and records systems from anywhere. They are also given enhanced audio and photo recording abilities to that end.

Officers will be issued service cellphones with the Smart Squad application on them, an app developed by Faction Four Systems Inc. The eNotes function is offered through Smart Squad. About a third of the force has been fully trained on the app.

HRPS hopes to have the whole service trained on it by 2022.

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