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Trusts & Estates,  
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Business

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**Why You Need Professional Court Accountings**

While court accountings may be done by an unskilled trustee, it is always in the best interests of beneficiaries and trustees that the court accountings are done by a professional. The reason is that a professional can complete a precise and accurate accounting of all your assets, without overlooking anything.

**Why Do You Need Court Accountings?**

Trustees need to assemble accurate court accountings, that includes all financial transactions made by the deceased to present to the court. The court will use this information to determine if there was any misuse of assets or if there is some kind of discrepancy. A key reason why it is so important to have court accountings done by an experienced professional is to make sure they are done effectively and with precision.

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**What Our Clients Say About Us**

**"Marcia helped my family after another CPA made a mistake on our trust taxes. She has been professional, courteous, and has always explained all the services provided in clear detail. I would recommend Marcia to anyone."**

**-MS**

**6 Fun Ways for Seniors to Celebrate Valentine's Day**

Valentine's Day is a great time to tell the loved ones and friends in your life how much you appreciate them. While you and other seniors might not be going out for a night on the town, there are still plenty of ways to enjoy Valentine's Day, either with a spouse, a new friend, or with others in your community.

**1. Crafts**

A great activity to try on Valentine's Day is crafting. Break out the colored paper and the markers, and have fun getting creative! There are a lot of different projects you can try your hand at, but here are some of our favorites:

- Paper flowers: Paper flowers can be made with many kinds of paper in any color and design that you choose. Paper flowers are especially nice for Valentine's decorations because they last much longer and are less expensive to get than real flowers.
- Pop-up cards: Cards are a Valentine's staple, but making a pop-up card is a nice change to tradition. These cards are simple to make but can bring a "wow" factor that will impress anyone.
- Heart wreaths: There are a lot of different ways to make wreaths, but they all have the same effect of making any space look decorative for the holiday. Whether you make them with the paper flowers or from other materials, hanging these on your door will bring joy to anyone who sees them.

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## How Are Court Accountings Different from Normal Accountings?

Unlike traditional financial statements, court accountings require a very different and specific format that is much more comprehensive. Overall, court accountings require a much greater level of detail that recounts financial transactions involving the assets of a trust.

A qualified CPA conducts the court accountings process depending on the specific requirements set by the court. This attention to detail is intended to prevent errors that may unintentionally show a problem with the trustee's decisions or management of trust assets.

## When Do You Need Court Accountings?

Court accountings can be done for conservatorships, estates, and trusts. They are also part of the probate process and provide an accurate assessment of assets before distribution begins for any beneficiaries. Court accountings can also help the probate process determine if an estate has any debts that must be settled or addressed.

## Who Benefits From Court Accountings?

Trustees can benefit from court accountings since a fully detailed accounting can show that there hasn't been any misappropriation of assets or mismanagement of funds. However, court accountings can also prove a trustee did not properly manage an estate's assets or did something unlawful with the entrusted assets. While beneficiaries of a trust can waive court accountings using a written request, a court will require a full accounting if there is a reason to believe there has been a breach of trust.

Source: [www.mccampbellcpa.com](http://www.mccampbellcpa.com)

Please contact our office for more information.†



**"You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. But the most important thing is, even if we're apart... I'll always be with you."**

~A. A. Milne

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## 2. Decorating

Redecorating a space is always refreshing, especially around a holiday. It can help you recall wonderful memories and enjoy the spirit of the day. Adding little touches around your home like banners, wall hangings, or flowers can brighten up any place for Valentine's Day. If you do make any crafts, make sure you display them so you can show them off to friends and family.

## 3. Making Gifts

Gift-giving is one way you can show the loved ones in your life that you care about them, and Valentine's Day is a good time to be able to do that. Making cards and giving chocolates to friends and family is all part of the spirit of the holiday. While you can always buy cards and gifts for people, making them by hand gives more depth to the message.

## 4. Baking

Baking is another way to spend Valentine's Day doing something fun. If you bake everyday, then Valentine's is a time to try out a new recipe or decoration, and if you don't bake, then you can use this time to try out a new hobby. There are many treats to try and make, including dessert bars, sugar cookies, heart-shaped brownies, and berry cheesecake.

## 5. Watching Romantic Movies

Another fun way to celebrate Valentine's Day is to watch a romantic movie. There are so many to pick from; there is no doubt that you can find one— or several— that appeal to you.

## 6. Inviting over Family and Friends

What better way to spend Valentine's Day than with the people that you care about the most! During this time of COVID restrictions, you can plan events that allow for safe social distancing or have your family stop by to hand off gifts or cards and tell them you love them. Valentine's Day is a good time to make sure that everyone you appreciate knows that you do.

Source: [www.vistaspringsliving.com](http://www.vistaspringsliving.com)

Please contact our office for more information.†



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