

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR YOUR SMALL BUSINESS

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Business Entity Types

Sole Proprietorship

Partnership

Limited Liability
Company

Corporation

Other (Professional
Corporation, LLP,
etc.)

Professionals

Attorney

Accountant

Insurance
Agent

Insurance Coverage, Asset Protection, Liability

Types of Insurance and what is covered

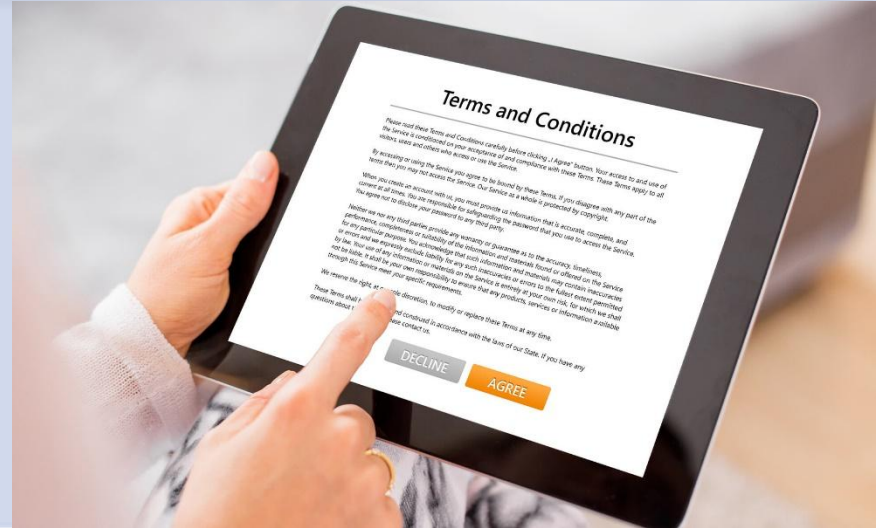
- CGL, Umbrella, Asset Insurance (inventory, receivables, equipment, etc.), worker's compensation, cybersecurity, other

What is not covered by Insurance?

- Gross negligence, fraud, willful misconduct, economic injury/consequential

Terms and Conditions

- Consumer facing
 - Limitations and disclaimers
 - Statutorily required notices
 - Understand limitations
- Business facing
 - Duties and expectations



Limitation of Liability



Consequential damage waivers

Why is this useful? - Examples



Specific limitations



Limitations to insurance



Natural limitations of limited assets and LLC/corporate protections

Piercing the Corporate Veil

- Obey corporate formalities
- Do not commingle funds
- Create paper trails and official agreements between related businesses
 - o Make them fair/market – no sweetheart deals
- Heavily marketed Parent with subsidiaries that do the actual work and enter into the actual contracts creates exposure for enterprise liability



Contracts

- See previous – Limitation of Liability
- Term and Termination
 - How do I get out of a contract?
 - What to do if other side breaches?
 - Automatic renewals?
 - Requirements contract?



Contracts (cont'd)

- Warranty
 - Provide one and limit
 - Repair or replace (or refund)
 - Time limitations
 - Procedure for claims if specific
 - No other warranties express or implied

Contracts (cont'd)

- Indemnification
 - What does it look like?
 - Reciprocation
 - Limit to Insurance

Contracts (cont'd)

- Delivery
 - Time is of the essence
 - See previous – Consequential Damages
 - Incoterms

Contracts (cont'd)

- Other Things to Consider
 - Set off rights
 - Specific requirements
 - Things you specifically need from them
 - Things they specifically need from you (can you perform)
 - Time frames for performance and cure for breach



QUESTIONS???