

Warren Buffett Champions Structured Settlements and Trial Lawyers January 11, 2021

During Warren Buffett's 2020 annual meeting with millions watching online, he highlighted the important work of trial attorneys and the necessity for them to protect their client's financial recovery. Mr. Buffett also emphasized the value provided when attorneys offer their clients the ability to structure a portion of their settlement. There are many significant advantages to a personal injury claimant placing all or a portion of their legal settlement proceeds in a structured settlement, rather than accepting the entire settlement as a lump sum. It was nice to hear the world's most trusted investor recognize the important work of trial lawyers and structured settlement consultants and that couldn't be more important as we begin a new year in 2021.

"Like Warren Buffet, I appreciate the value of a structured settlement providing tax-free guaranteed payments for clients. I believe it is in the interests of all attorneys to consider this message from the National Structured Settlements Trade Association (NSSTA) and NSSTA's President, Michael Goodman, Esq." ~ Sean Domnick, Domnick, Cunningham & Whalen

Warren Buffett, Chairman of Berkshire Hathaway recently stated:

"Anyone settling a personal injury claim should seriously consider a structured settlement as part of their plan for financial recovery. Structured settlements can stretch settlement funds by providing tax-free payments for lost income, medical bills, or other future needs, which delivers tremendous long-term security for injured people and their families. Berkshire Hathaway is proud to be a leading provider of structured settlement annuities."

What does Warren Buffett know about structured settlements, leading him to promote structured settlements publicly? He knows the following about structured settlements:

- A structured settlement of a physical injury or workers compensation claim is tax-free.
- A structured settlement can provide regular monthly, quarterly, bi-annual or annual payments, as well as intermittent lump sums (for example, to pay for a first house).
- A structured settlement can provide life contingent income that cannot be outlived.
- A structured settlement has a fixed rate of return. When markets crash, structured settlements maintain their secure value.
- Most traditional investments have ongoing overhead costs including management and administrative fees. Structured settlements do not.
- A structured settlement protects settlement proceeds from being spent too quickly.

We're proud that Warren Buffett is among our many highly credible and nationally recognized supporters of structured settlements. It is NSSTA's mission to educate and advocate on behalf of people with personal injury legal settlements to help ensure their long-term financial security, and we're grateful to all those voices that help us spread that word.

Sincerely,
Michael W. Goodman, Esq., CSSC
President, NSSTA