



January 23, 2025

FAMILY TRUST COMPANIES: BRINGING GENERATIONS TOGETHER – CASE STUDIES



1100 Superior Avenue East Suite 700
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
216.621.1090 | clearstead.com



GETTING ON THE SAME PAGE

FAMILY OFFICE OR (PRIVATE) FAMILY TRUST COMPANY

Family Office



Private
Family
Trust
Company

Services

- Tax, Accounting, Financial
- Lifestyle
- Legal
- Investment
- Philanthropic
- Family Governance

Services

- Fiduciary powers
- Acts as Trustee
- Can provide Family Office Services, too.

PFTC can = Family Office

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

DISTINCTION BETWEEN SUCCESSION PLANNING & SHAREHOLDER TRANSITION PLANNING

➤ Succession Planning

- ❑ Passing on leadership and management roles of the family business
- ❑ Creation and execution of a strategy allowing business owners to exit their business on their terms and conditions

➤ Shareholder Transition Planning

- ❑ Defines the required actions, business management process and estate planning methodologies needed to transition ownership and control of a family business or wealth inter-generationally – keeping generations together

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

TRUSTEE OPTIONS & CONSIDERATIONS

Traditional Corporate Trustee

Regulated
Professional
Rigid Policies
Conservative
Changing Personnel
Expensive
Accountable
Impersonal

Individual Trustee

Sensitive & knowledgeable about family
Flexible/Subjective – saying “no” is difficult
Private
Not Expensive
Not Permanent
Individual Fiduciary Liability
Family Dynamics

Private Family Trust Company

Confidential
Permanent Trustee Solution
Institutionalize the personal, business & investment matters for a family
Personalized Service
Liability Protection
Flexibility in Managing Concentrated Positions
Infused with Family Values

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

WHAT IS A FTC & ITS HISTORY

- A FTC is:
 - ❑ a family owned & controlled entity which limits its activities to the management of assets for the benefit of a single family lineage
 - ❑ is authorized under state statutes:
 - ✓ to operate as a corporate trust company (corporation or LLC)
 - ✓ to serve as trustee for Family Clients – may not hold itself out to the public
 - ✓ may be licensed (regulated) or unlicensed (unregulated)
- Formation of FTCs started in the 1990's
- Rockefeller Trust Company was an early adopter being chartered in 1985 under NY law and in 1997 under Delaware's limited purpose trust company statutes.
- In 2016, Ohio joined other states with private family trust company statutes including DE, FL, MO, NV, NH, SD, TN, TX, and WY.

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.



ISSUE SPOTTING – WHEN IS ESTABLISHING A FTC THE SOLUTION?

FTC SOLUTION – TRUSTEE CONCERNS

- Families doing multi-generational estate planning
 - ❑ Addresses trustee succession challenges & trustees with varying perspectives on the family & its wealth
 - ❑ Develops permanent trustee solution by standardizing the family's trustee succession plan across family member trusts
 - ❑ Decreases trustee costs through leveraging costs across the family trusts plus FTC lacks large profit motive
 - ❑ Allows opportunity for maintaining closely held asset or alternative investing options
 - ❑ Provides continuity & transparency for trust administration
 - ❑ Protects privacy & confidentiality now and into the future
 - ❑ Limits liability for family members and trusted advisors serving in a fiduciary capacity

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

FTC SOLUTION – CONTROL CONCERNS

- Families wanting to maintain control over family business assets held in trusts
 - ❑ Family members own and control the FTC for the family (e.g., majority of Board is comprised of family members)
 - ❑ Family members can serve on FTC Board & committees (careful consideration on committees making discretionary distributions)
 - ❑ Trusted family advisors can continue to assist family through service on the Board & committees
 - ❑ Board & committees can be comprised of individuals who understand the family, its history & vision for the future
 - ❑ Family can control investment decisions
 - ❑ Family can control shareholder decisions of family business
 - ❑ Implement risk management through creditor/domestic protections

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

FTC SOLUTION – FAMILY GOVERNANCE

- Families interested in keeping the family cohesive & working together across generations
 - ❑ Creates opportunities for development and control over implementation of family strategic plans – particularly a wealth strategy
 - ❑ Establishes more transparency & opportunity to understand the shareholder transition plans
 - ❑ Provides educational opportunities for all family members including the rising generation
 - ❑ Encourages collaboration with trusted advisors and smooth transitions across generations
 - ❑ Supports family governance succession development
 - ❑ Creates opportunities for being responsive to the family's evolving needs & desires

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

FTC SOLUTION – THE TRUSTEE & THE BENEFICIARY

- Grantor/Trustee/Beneficiary interpersonal relationships can be complex because it requires balancing different perspectives
 - ❑ A Grantor creates a trust & makes a gift
 - ❑ A Trustee is entrusted with the gift and must:
 - ✓ Administer the trust
 - ✓ Invest the trust assets
 - ✓ Determine distributions to the beneficiaries
 - ❑ A Beneficiary has responsibilities to become educated about the trust & understand the duties of the Trustee
- It is important to work together to create a positive experience balancing the different roles & to honor the family legacy
- These roles come together under the FTC umbrella

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.



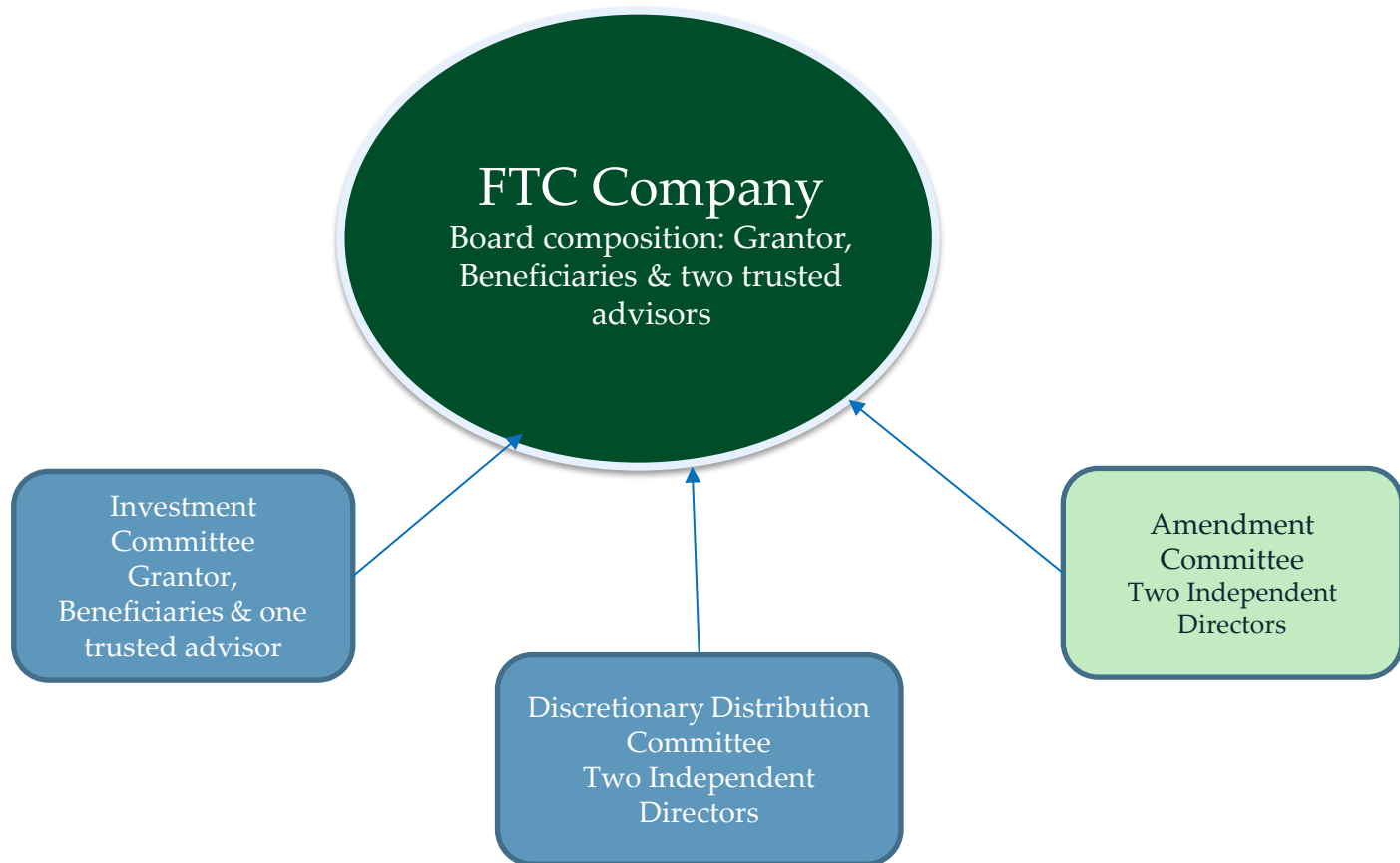
OHIO FAMILY TRUST COMPANY CASE STUDIES

CASE STUDY FACT PATTERN - #1

- Motivation to set up FTC: Consolidated future ownership of family business & stewardship education
- G2 wealth creator previously bought out siblings so thinks like a G1
- Current situation:
 - ☐ Only one trust under the FTC holds nonvoting shares
 - ☐ Wealth creator & children on Board of Directors
 - ☐ Meets twice a year
 - ☐ Investment Committee
 - ✓ Doesn't meet as only family business ownership held in trust
 - ☐ Discretionary Distribution Committee
 - ✓ Meets once a year to consider distribution of dividends from the family business

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

BASIC FTC STRUCTURE

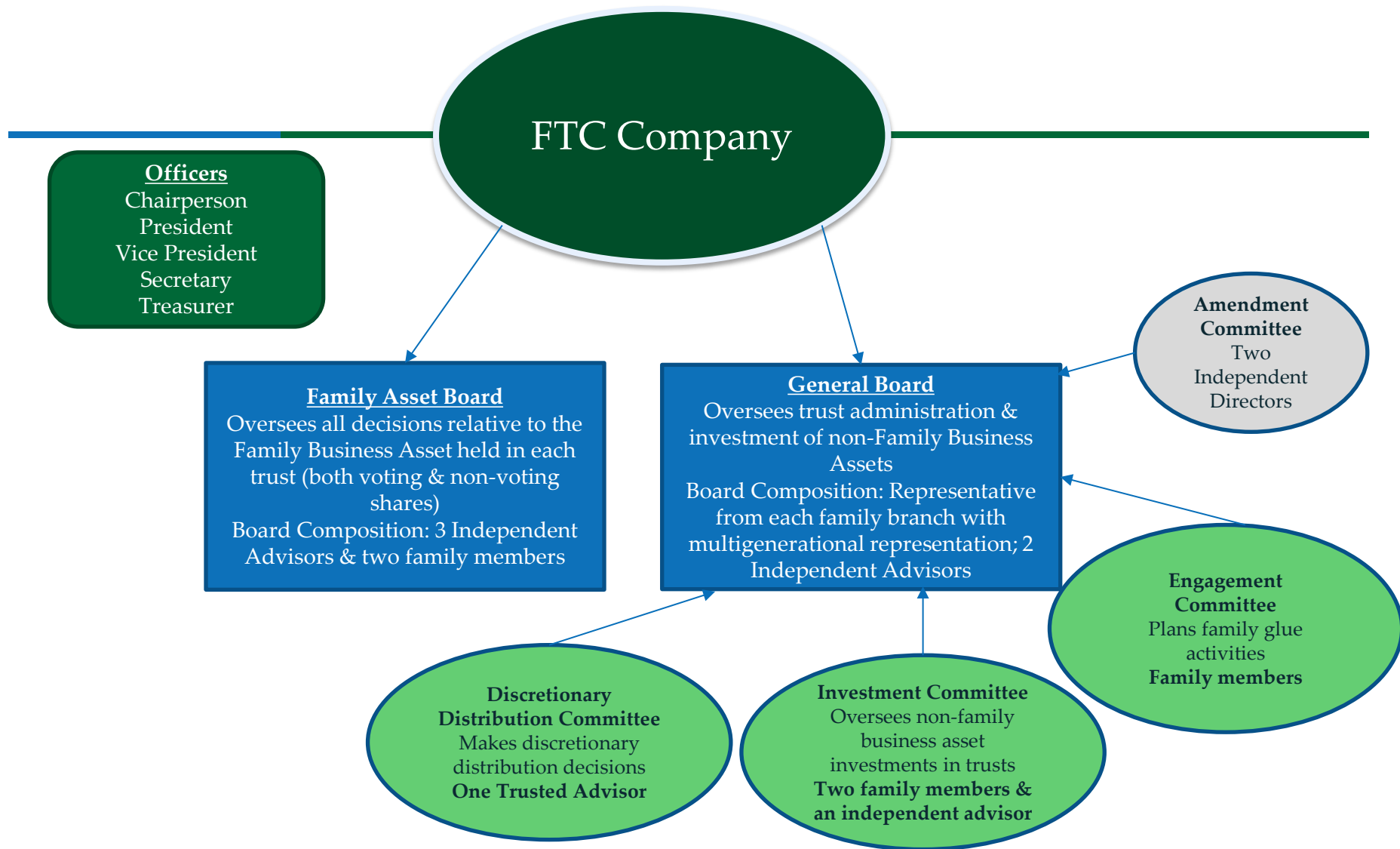


Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

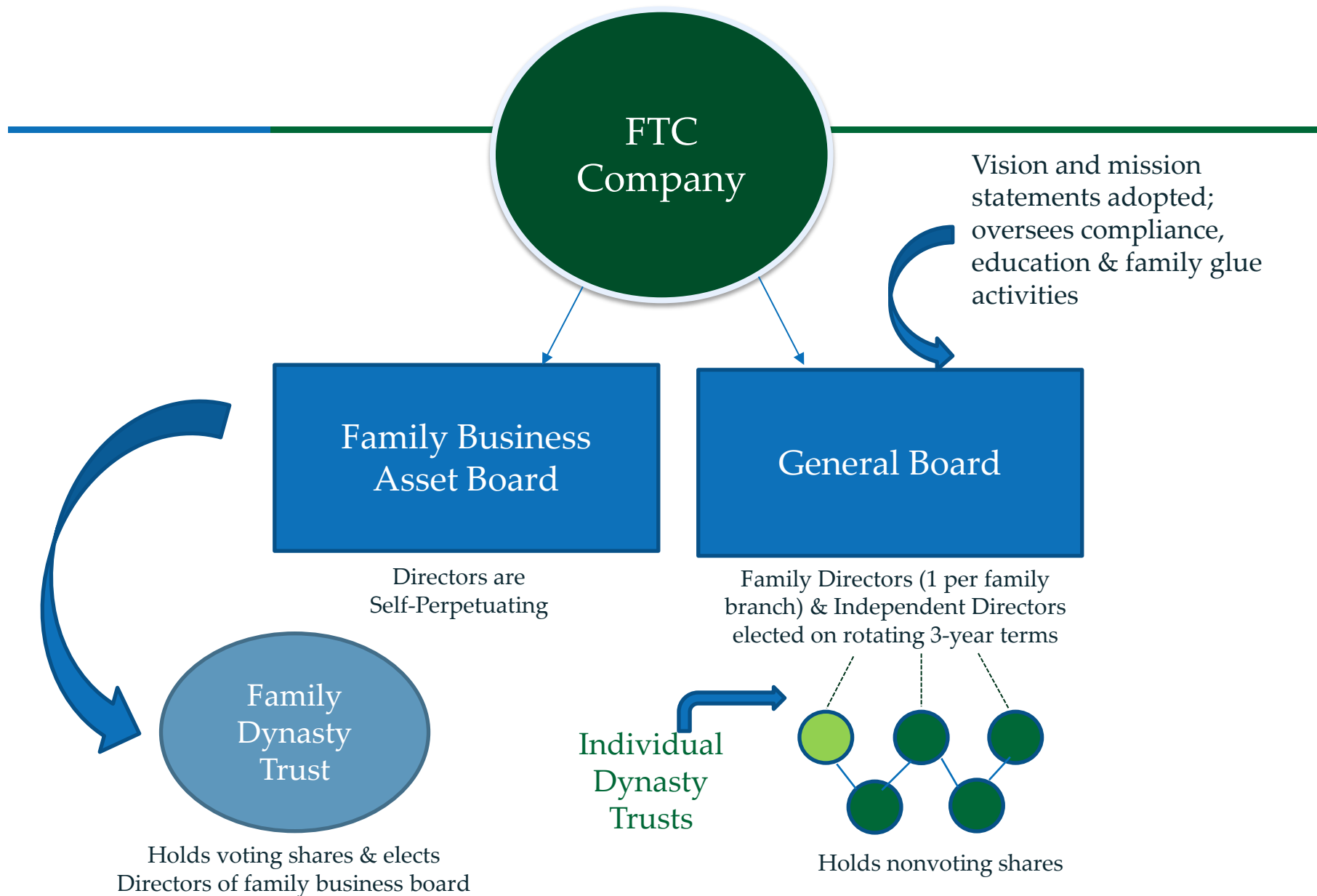
CASE STUDY FACT PATTERN - #2

- Motivation to set up FTC: Control of family-owned business & understanding of need for trust planning to minimize estate taxes
- G2 siblings looking to future & 'spread' of decision making if shares continue to be gifted to G3s
- Current situation:
 - ❑ One trust holds all voting shares; each G2 sibling created a trust to hold non-voting shares
 - ❑ Meets four times a year
 - ❑ Investment Committee - Limited oversight as limited dividends distributed
 - ❑ Engagement Committee – Plans family glue activities
 - ❑ Discretionary Distribution Committee - Limited oversight as limited dividends distributed
 - ✓ Considering a tuition payment policy

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.



Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

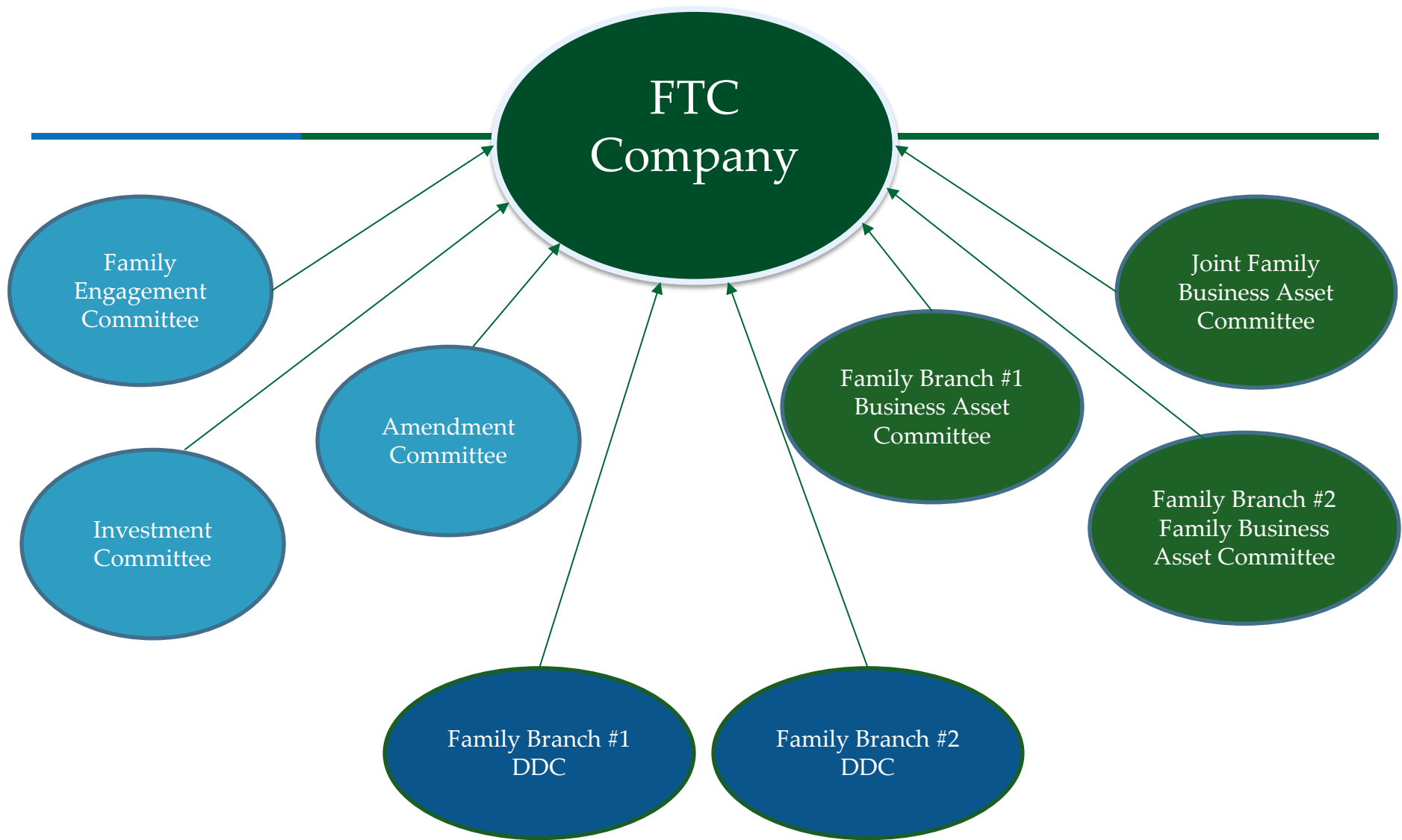


Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

CASE STUDY FACT PATTERN - #3

- Motivation to set up FTC: Control of family wealth strategy & trustee succession of multiple legacy trusts (cousins are not interested in being Successor Trustees)
- Current situation:
 - ❑ Multiple trusts hold various family business assets with disparate family ownership
 - ❑ Meets two times a year
 - ❑ Investment Committee
 - ✓ Oversees joint liquid investments in trusts
 - ❑ Discretionary Distribution Committees (“DDC”)
 - ✓ For privacy reasons each family branch has a different DDC
 - ❑ Family Business Asset Committees
 - ✓ Differing investment philosophies led to multiple Family Business Asset Committees

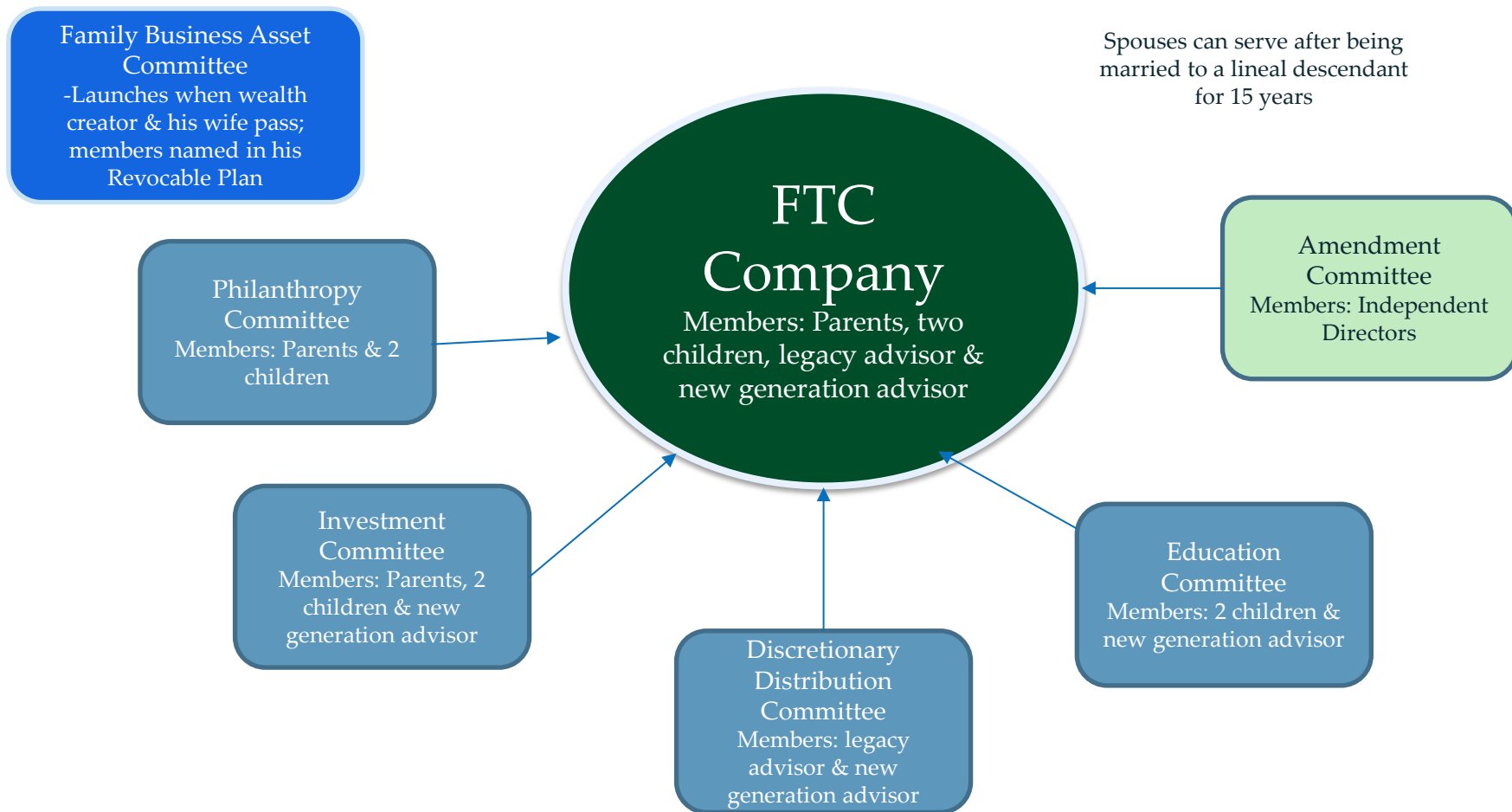
Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.



CASE STUDY FACT PATTERN - #4

- Motivation to set up FTC: Multigenerational education & transparency for G1 & G2 to work together
- Current situation:
 - ❑ Meets four times a year
 - ❑ Investment Committee
 - ✓ G1, G2 & trusted advisor oversee liquidity
 - ❑ Education Committee
 - ✓ G2 & trusted advisor make recommendations on programming
 - ❑ Discretionary Distribution Committee
 - ❑ Philanthropy Committee
 - ✓ G1 & G2 meet to discuss family's charitable intentions
 - ❑ Family Business Asset Committee (triggered at death of G1)

Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.



Information provided is general in nature, is provided for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as a recommendation, advertisement, or legal advice. The information provided is based upon the information available at the time the materials were created and are subject to change at any time. Clearstead disclaims any liability for any direct or incidental loss incurred by applying any of the information. All financial and estate planning decisions must be evaluated as to whether they are consistent with your financial situation. You should consult with a financial and legal professional before making any decisions.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Cindy L. Steeb at:

csteeb@clearstead.com

www.clsconsultingllc.com (Resource Tab)

www.Clearstead.com