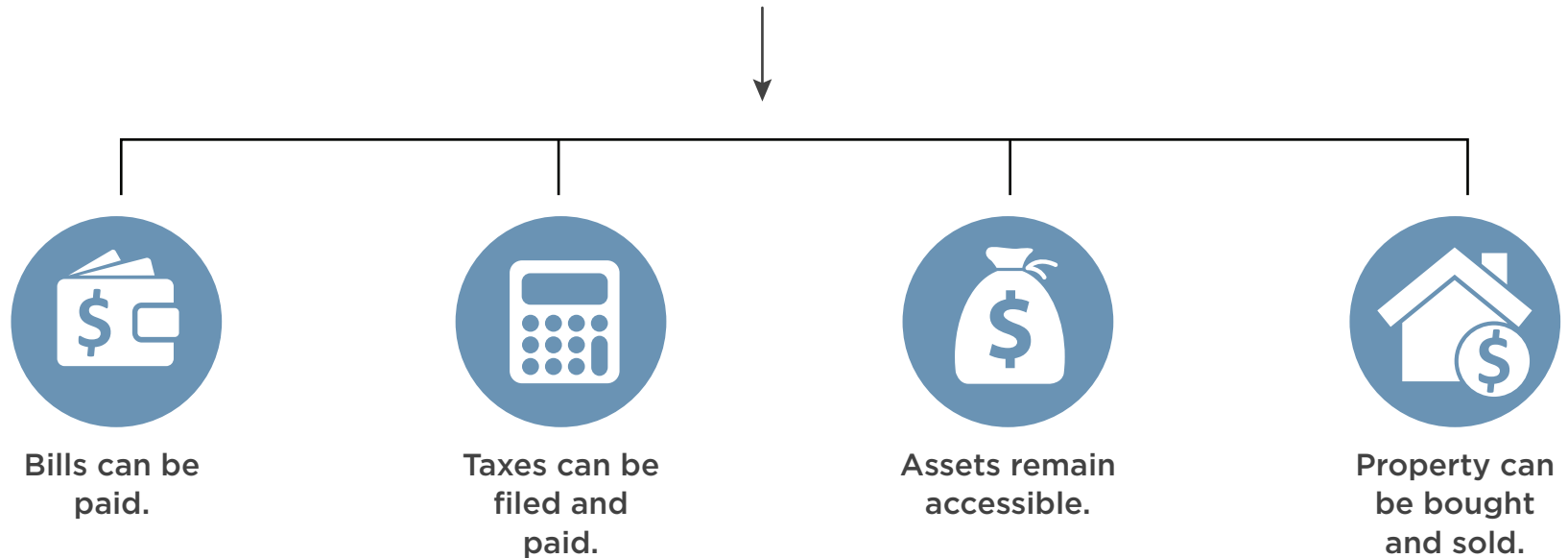


CREATING A FINANCIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY (FPA)



WHAT IS A FINANCIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY?

A Financial Power of Attorney (FPA) is a document appointing someone to manage your assets and property in the event of incapacity due to illness or injury. An FPA ensures that:



WHAT TO ASK WHEN DETERMINING A FINANCIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY



Who is the best choice for this responsibility?



How much authority should they be given?



When should the FPA take effect?

YOU ALREADY HAVE JOINT OWNERSHIP—WHY ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?

Don't rely on joint ownership for asset management during incapacity!

This strategy is unreliable and comes with several risks, including:

LIMITED POWER

Joint owners can't mortgage or sell property.

TAX LIABILITY

Gift tax may apply to joint owner on accounts and titles

GAINS TAX

Lower basis and higher tax may apply if joint owner is added.

PROPERTY SEIZURE

Your assets may be used to pay joint owner debts.