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Sudden Wealth Syndrom

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Sudden Wealth Syndrome



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CASE STUDY 1

Sudden inheritance following the death of a close relative

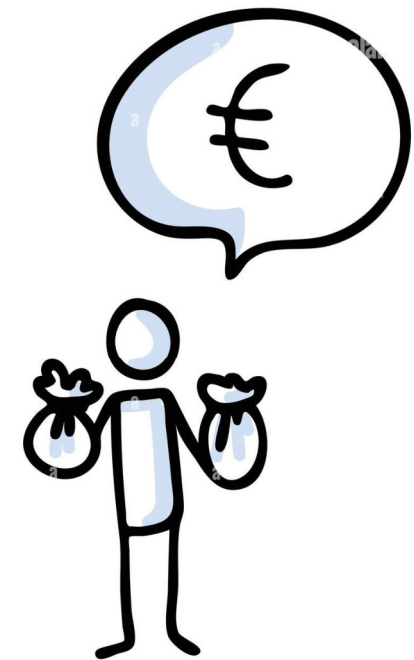
- Marcus is the co-founder of a tech company in France, he is married with two children (minors) and lives a “low-key” lifestyle.
- There was a partial cash-out in 2011 – the remaining shareholding is 25%.
- Marcus has an operational role in the company – he is the CTO and a board member.
- Marcus has a heart attack and sadly dies instantly.
- His wife, Maria, did not have any knowledge of the realized and unrealized wealth but has now inherited a significant sum.



CASE STUDY 2

Acquiring a significant sum of money from a business exit event
(e.g. sale of the business)

- Sara and Daniel are two scale up entrepreneurs.
- They have a fast growing SaaS tech business, which is mostly bootstrapped (only early stage business angels).
- There has been a focus on growth – they have not been paid large salaries or dividends, so they have minimal private wealth / liquidity.
- An exit was always a consideration, but they have now received an offer from a strategic buyer.
- After a busy and emotional M&A process, the deal is done and money is sitting in the accounts (EUR 50m each).



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CASE STUDY 3

Acquisition of a significant lump sum following a divorce settlement

- Eric's divorce from his wife, Louise, has just been finalised after a long marriage.
- As a result of the financial proceedings, Eric received a substantial settlement, comprising:
(i) funds deposited in Switzerland, Spain and the UK, (ii) shares in several companies, (iii) a beneficial interest in several off-shore trusts and (iv) several pieces of real estate located in Switzerland, Spain and the UK.
- Eric dedicated his entire time to family matters and the three children, ceasing his work as a journalist and leaving all the financial matters to Louise.
- Louise was born in a very wealthy family, with complex structures of trusts, private foundations and family businesses.
- After the divorce, Eric started a new relationship with a woman who had also been through a messy divorce and has a child from that marriage. They are already living together in a new apartment in the UK.



CASE STUDIES OVERVIEW

Case Study 1: Sudden inheritance following the death of a close relative

Case Study 2: Acquiring a significant sum of money from a business exit event (e.g. sale of the business)

Case Study 3: Acquisition of a significant lump sum following a divorce settlement