

Preparing For a Council of Advisors

Step One: Share the purpose and goals of a COA with your spouse and commit to pray together about your participation in a COA.

Step Two: Gather your company purpose-mission statements, as much financial data as you are able to share, your company core values, succession plan, P & L statements, Balance Sheets, brief history of the company and other information that will help the members of the COA understand your company.

Step Three: Evaluate your current needs for leadership, relationships and stewardship in your company. Evaluate your own needs, weaknesses and strengths in making sound decisions for the company. Identify areas of business that you would like to share with others, such as finance, marketing, planning, and human resources.

Step Four: Pray for the members of your COA. Ask the Lord to provide the right persons of His choice. Write down the names of those persons God reveals to you and be prepared to approach these members explaining the purpose and goals of the COA. Ask them to pray with their spouse regarding their participation.

Step Five: Meet with the potential members of your COA. Reinforce the critical need for confidentiality, objectivity and the four goals of the COA: *Perspective, Encouragement, Accountability* and *Action*. Come to agreement on the times and dates of meetings.

Step Six: Be ready to change the membership when the needs of the company outgrow the gifts and graces of the members of your COA or when obvious incompatibilities in relationships develop.