

## CHAPTER 178

### UNIFORM PARTNERSHIP ACT

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**178.01 Citation; definition of terms; knowledge and notice.** (1) This chapter may be cited as the "Uniform Partnership Act"

(2) In this chapter:

(a) "Bankrupt" includes bankrupt under the federal bankruptcy act or insolvent under any state insolvent act.

(b) "Business" includes every trade, occupation or profession.

(c) "Conveyance" includes every assignment, lease, mortgage or incumbrance.

(d) "Court" includes every court and judge having jurisdiction in the case.

(e) "Person" includes individuals, partnerships, limited liability companies, corporations, other associations and, to the extent authorized by governing instrument or court order, personal representatives and trustees.

(f) "Real property" includes land and any interest or estate in land.

(3) A person has "knowledge" of a fact within the meaning of this chapter not only when that person has actual knowledge thereof, but also when that person has knowledge of such other facts as in the circumstances shows bad faith.

(4) A person has "notice" of a fact within the meaning of this chapter when the person who claims the benefit of the notice (a) states the fact to such person, or (b) delivers through the mail, or by other means of communication, a written statement of the fact to such person or to a proper person at his or her place of business or residence.

History: 1971 c. 66; 1983 a. 189; 1993 a. 112, 482

**178.02 Rules of construction.** (1) The rule that statutes in derogation of the common law are to be strictly construed shall have no application to this chapter.

(2) The law of estoppel shall apply under this chapter.

(3) The law of agency shall apply under this chapter.

(4) This chapter shall be so interpreted and construed as to effect its general purpose to make uniform the law of those states which enact it.

(5) This chapter shall not be construed so as to impair the obligations of any contract existing July 9, 1915, nor to affect any action or proceedings begun or right accrued before said date.

(6) In any case not provided for in this chapter the rules of law and equity, including the law merchant, shall govern.

**178.03 Partnership defined.** (1) A partnership is an association of 2 or more persons to carry on as coowners a business for profit.

(2) But any association formed under any other statute of this state, or any statute adopted by authority, other than the authority of this state, is not a partnership under this chapter, unless such association would have been a partnership in this state prior to the adoption of this chapter; but this chapter shall apply to limited partnerships except insofar as the statutes relating to such partnerships are inconsistent herewith.

History: 1993 a. 491

**178.04 Determination of whether partnership exists.** In determining whether a partnership exists, these rules shall apply:

(1) Except as provided by s. 178.13, persons who are not partners as to each other are not partners as to third persons.

(2) Joint tenancy, tenancy in common, tenancy by the entireties, joint property, common property, or part ownership does not of itself establish a partnership, whether such coowners do or do not share any profits made by the use of the property.

(3) The sharing of gross returns does not of itself establish a partnership, whether or not the persons sharing them have a joint or common right or interest in any property from which the returns are derived.

(4) The receipt by a person of a share of the profits of a business is prima facie evidence that person is a partner in the business, but no such inference shall be drawn if such profits were received in payment as a debt by instalments or otherwise; as wages of an employe or rent to a landlord; as an annuity to a surviving spouse or representative of a deceased partner; as interest on a loan, though the amount of payment vary with the profits of the business; or as the consideration for the sale of the good will of a business or other property by instalments or otherwise.

History: 1975 c. 94 s. 91 (5); 1975 c. 199; 1993 a. 491.

The receipt of a share of profits is deemed prima facie evidence that a person is a partner, but a partnership will not be implied merely because of common ownership of property, whether or not profits are shared. *Anderson v. Anderson*, 54 W (2d) 666, 196 NW (2d) 727.

Partnership to engage in the sale or purchase of real estate is void under the statute of frauds except where all parties have performed the contract, thus indicating their acquiescence in its terms. In re Estate of Schaefer, 72 W (2d) 600, 241 NW (2d) 607.

**178.05 Partnership property.** (1) All property originally brought into the partnership stock or subsequently acquired, by purchase or otherwise, on account of the partnership is partnership property.

(2) Unless the contrary intention appears, property acquired with partnership funds is partnership property.

(3) Any estate in real property may be acquired in the partnership name. Title so acquired can be conveyed only in the partnership name.

(4) A conveyance to a partnership in the partnership name, though without words of inheritance, passes the entire estate of the grantor unless a contrary intent appears.

Whether real estate is a part of partnership property depends upon whether it was acquired on account of the partnership, and, where held in the name of a partner, upon the intention of the parties; but the fact that realty, individually owned, is used for partnership purposes is insufficient to support a finding that the land is partnership property. Estate of Schreiber, 68 W (2d) 135, 227 NW (2d) 917.

**178.06 Partners are agents of partnership.** (1) Every partner is an agent of the partnership for the purpose of its business, and the act of every partner, including the execution in the partnership name of any instrument, for apparently carrying on in the usual way the business of the partnership of which the partner is a member binds the partnership, unless the partner so acting has in fact no authority to act for the partnership in the particular matter, and the person with whom the partner is dealing has knowledge of the fact that the partner has no such authority.

(2) An act of a partner which is not apparently for the carrying on of the business of the partnership in the usual way does not bind the partnership unless authorized by the other partners.

(3) Unless authorized by the other partners or unless they have abandoned the business, one or more but less than all the partners have no authority to: (a) Assign the partnership property in trust for creditors or on the assignee's promise to pay the debts of the partnership; (b) dispose of the good will of the business; (c) do any other act which would make it impossible to carry on the ordinary business of the partnership; (d) confess a judgment; or (e) submit a partnership claim or liability to arbitration or reference.

(4) No act of a partner in contravention of a restriction on the partner's authority shall bind the partnership to persons having knowledge of the restriction.

History: 1993 a. 482.

Where one partner repeatedly entered into renewals of an employment contract with a pharmacist to operate a drug store without objections by the other partners, the contract is valid even though highly favorable to the employee, so long as the partner received no personal benefit which the other partners did not share. Reliable Pharmacy v. Hall, 54 W (2d) 191, 194 NW (2d) 596.

Nothing in ch. 178 overrides statute of frauds, ch. 706; ch. 706, rather than ch. 178, provides protection for those involved in real estate transactions with partnerships. Marth v. Edwards, 159 W (2d) 773, 465 NW (2d) 248 (Ct. App. 1990).

**178.07 Conveyance of real property of partnership.**

(1) Where title to real property is in the partnership name, any partner may convey title to such property by a conveyance executed in the partnership name; but the partnership may recover such property unless the partner's act binds the partnership under the provisions of s. 178.06 (1), or unless such property has been conveyed by the grantee or a person claiming through such grantee to a holder for value without knowledge that the partner, in making the conveyance, has exceeded the partner's authority.

(2) Where title to real property is in the name of the partnership, a conveyance executed by a partner, in the partner's own name, passes the equitable interest of the partnership, provided the act is one within the authority of the partner under s. 178.06 (1).

(3) Where title to real property is in the name of one or more but not all the partners, and the record does not disclose the right of the partnership, the partners in whose name the title stands may convey title to such property, but the partnership may recover such property if the partners' act does not bind the partnership under s.

178.06 (1), unless the purchaser or the purchaser's assignee is a holder for value, without knowledge.

(4) Where the title to real property is in the name of one or more or all the partners, or in a third person in trust for the partnership, a conveyance executed by a partner in the partnership name, or in the partner's own name, passes the equitable interest of the partnership, provided the act is one within the authority of the partner under s. 178.06 (1).

(5) Where the title to real property is in the names of all the partners a conveyance executed by all the partners passes all their rights in such property.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.08 Admission by partner is evidence against the partnership.** An admission or representation made by any partner concerning partnership affairs within the scope of the partner's authority as conferred by this chapter is evidence against the partnership.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.09 Notice to or knowledge of partner charges partnership.** Notice to any partner of any matter relating to partnership affairs, and the knowledge of the partner acting in the particular matter, acquired while a partner or then present to the partner's mind, and the knowledge of any other partner who reasonably could and should have communicated it to the acting partner, operate as notice to or knowledge of the partnership, except in the case of a fraud on the partnership committed by or with the consent of that partner.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.10 Partnership liable for wrongful act of partner.** Where, by any wrongful act or omission of any partner acting in the ordinary course of the business of the partnership, or with the authority of the partner's copartners, loss or injury is caused to any person, not being a partner in the partnership, or any penalty is incurred, the partnership is liable therefor to the same extent as the partner so acting or omitting to act.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.11 Partnership liable on partner's breach of trust.** The partnership is bound to make good the loss if any of the following occurs:

(1) One partner acting within the scope of his or her apparent authority receives money or property of a 3rd person and misapplies it.

(2) The partnership in the course of its business receives money or property of a 3rd person and the money or property so received is misapplied by any partner while it is in the custody of the partnership.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.12 Liability of partners.** All partners are liable: (a) Jointly and severally for everything chargeable to the partnership under ss. 178.10 and 178.11; (b) jointly for all other debts and obligations of the partnership; but any partner may enter into a separate obligation to perform a partnership contract.

**178.13 Partnership by estoppel.** (1) When a person, by words spoken or written or by conduct, represents himself or herself, or consents to another representing him or her to any one, as a partner in an existing partnership or with one or more persons not actual partners, he or she is liable to any such person to whom such representation has been made, who has, on the faith of such representation, given credit to the actual or apparent partnership and, if he or she has made such representation or consented to its being made in a public manner, he or she is liable to such person, whether the representation has or has not been made or communicated to such person so giving credit by or with the knowledge of the apparent partner making the representation or consenting to its being made, as follows:

(a) If a partnership liability results, he or she is liable as though he or she were an actual member of the partnership.

(b) If no partnership liability results, he or she is liable jointly with the other persons, if any, so consenting to the contract or representation as to incur liability, otherwise separately.

(2) When a person has been thus represented to be a partner in an existing partnership, or with one or more persons not actual partners, that person is an agent of the persons consenting to such representation to bind them to the same extent and in the same manner as though that person were a partner in fact, with respect to persons who rely upon the representation. Where all the members of the existing partnership consent to the representation, a partnership act or obligation results; but in all other cases it is the joint act or obligation of the person acting and the persons consenting to the representation.

History: 1993 a. 482

**178.14 Liability of incoming partner.** A person admitted as a partner into an existing partnership is liable for all the obligations of the partnership arising before that person's admission as though that person had been a partner when such obligations were incurred, except that this liability shall be satisfied only out of partnership property.

History: 1993 a. 482

**178.15 Rights and duties of partners.** The rights and duties of the partners in relation to the partnership shall be determined, subject to any agreement between them, by the following rules:

(1) Each partner shall be repaid that partner's contributions, whether by way of capital or advances to the partnership property and share equally in the profits and surplus remaining after all liabilities, including those to partners, are satisfied; and must contribute towards the losses, whether of capital or otherwise, sustained by the partnership according to that partner's share in the profits.

(2) The partnership must indemnify every partner in respect of payments made and personal liabilities reasonably incurred by him or her in the ordinary and proper conduct of the partnership's business, or for the preservation of the partnership's business or property.

(3) A partner, who in aid of the partnership makes any payment or advance beyond the amount of capital which he or she agreed to contribute, shall be paid interest from the date of the payment or advance.

(4) A partner shall receive interest on the capital contributed by him or her only from the date when repayment should be made.

(5) All partners have equal rights in the management and conduct of the partnership business.

(6) No partner is entitled to remuneration for acting in the partnership business, except that a surviving partner is entitled to reasonable compensation for his or her services in winding up the partnership affairs.

(7) No person can become a member of a partnership without the consent of all the partners.

(8) Any difference arising as to ordinary matters connected with the partnership business may be decided by a majority of the partners; but no act in contravention of any agreement between the partners may be done rightfully without the consent of all the partners.

History: 1993 a. 482

**178.16 Partnership books.** The partnership books shall be kept, subject to any agreement between the partners, at the principal place of business of the partnership, and every partner shall at all times have access to and may inspect and copy any of them.

**178.17 Partners must render information.** Partners shall render on demand true and full information of all things

affecting the partnership to any partner or the legal representative of any deceased partner or partner under legal disability.

**178.18 Partner accountable as fiduciary.** (1) Every partner must account to the partnership for any benefit, and hold as trustee for it any profits derived by him or her without the consent of the other partners from any transaction connected with the formation, conduct, or liquidation of the partnership or from any use by him or her of partnership property.

(2) This section applies also to the representatives of a deceased partner engaged in the liquidation of the affairs of the partnership as the personal representatives of the last surviving partner.

History: 1993 a. 482

**178.19 Right to an account.** Any partner shall have the right to a formal account as to partnership affairs in any of the following circumstances:

(1) If that partner is wrongfully excluded from the partnership business or possession of its property by his or her copartners.

(2) If the right exists under the terms of any agreement.

(3) As provided by s. 178.18.

(4) If other circumstances render it just and reasonable.

History: 1993 a. 482

**178.20 After fixed term partnership continues as partnership at will.** (1) When a partnership for a fixed term or particular undertaking is continued after the termination of such term or particular undertaking without any express agreement, the rights and duties of the partners remain the same as they were at such termination, so far as is consistent with a partnership at will.

(2) A continuation of the business by the partners or such of them as habitually acted therein during the term, without any settlement or liquidation of the partnership affairs, is prima facie evidence of a continuation of the partnership.

**178.21 Property rights of partner.** (1) The property rights of a partner are that partner's rights in specific partnership property, that partner's interest in the partnership, and his or her right to participate in the management.

(2) A partner is coowner with the other partners of specific partnership property holding as a tenant in partnership.

(3) The incidents of this tenancy are such that:

(a) A partner, subject to the provisions of this chapter and to any agreement between the partners, has an equal right with the other partners to possess specific partnership property for partnership purposes; but a partner has no right to possess such property for any other purpose without the consent of the other partners.

(b) A partner's right in specific partnership property is not assignable except in connection with the assignment of the rights of all the partners in the same property.

(c) A partner's right in specific partnership property is not subject to attachment or execution, except on a claim against the partnership. When partnership property is attached for a partnership debt the partners, or any of them, or the representatives of a deceased partner, cannot claim any right under the homestead or exemption laws.

(d) On the death of a partner the partner's right in specific partnership property vests in the surviving partner or partners, except where the deceased was the last surviving partner, when the partner's right in such property vests in the partner's legal representative. Such surviving partner or partners, or the legal representative of the last surviving partner, has no right to possess the partnership property for any but a partnership purpose.

(e) A partner's right in specific partnership property is not subject to elective rights under s. 861.02 (1) or 861.03 of a surviving spouse or to allowances to a surviving spouse, heirs, or next of kin.

History: 1975 c. 94 s. 91 (6); 1975 c. 200; 1983 a. 186; 1985 a. 37; 1987 a. 393 s. 53; 1993 a. 213, 482.

NOTE: As to sub. (3)(e), see notes in 1985 Wis. Act 37, marital property trailer bill.

**178.22 Partner's interest in partnership.** A partner's interest in the partnership is the partner's share of the profits and surplus, and the same is personal property.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.23 Assignment of partner's interest.** (1) A conveyance by a partner of the partner's interest in the partnership does not of itself dissolve the partnership, nor, as against the other partners in the absence of agreement, entitle the assignee, during the continuance of the partnership, to interfere in the management or administration of the partnership business or affairs, or to require any information or account of partnership transactions, or to inspect the partnership books; but it merely entitles the assignee to receive in accordance with the assignee's contract the profits to which the assigning partner would otherwise be entitled.

(2) In case of a dissolution of the partnership, the assignee is entitled to receive the assignor's interest and may require an account from the date only of the last account agreed to by all the partners.

History: 1993 a. 482.

A partner's interest in partnership property is assignable by inter vivos gift, provided the elements of such a gift are established. Estate of Schreiber, 68 W (2d) 135, 227 NW (2d) 917.

**178.24 Partner's interest chargeable as such with judgment lien.** (1) On due application to a competent court by any judgment creditor of a partner, the court which entered the judgment, order or decree, or any other court, may charge the interest of the debtor partner with payment of the unsatisfied amount of such judgment debt with interest thereon; and may then or later appoint a receiver of the debtor partner's share of the profits, and of any other money due or to fall due to the debtor partner in respect to the partnership, and make all other orders, directions, accounts and inquiries which the debtor partner might have made, or which the circumstances of the case may require.

(2) The interest charged may be redeemed at any time before foreclosure, or in case of a sale being directed by the court may be purchased without thereby causing a dissolution: (a) With separate property, by any one or more of the partners; or (b) with partnership property, by any one or more of the partners with the consent of all the partners whose interests are not so charged or sold.

(3) Nothing in this chapter shall be held to deprive a partner of the partner's right, if any, under the exemption laws, as regards the partner's interest in the partnership.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.25 Dissolution of partnership defined.** (1) The dissolution of a partnership is the change in the relation of the partners caused by any partner ceasing to be associated in the carrying on as distinguished from the winding up of the business.

(2) On dissolution the partnership is not terminated, but continues until the winding up of partnership affairs is completed.

**178.26 Causes of dissolution.** Dissolution is caused:

(1) Without violation of the agreement between the partners (a) by the termination of the definite term or particular undertaking specified in the agreement, (b) by the express will of any partner when no definite term or particular undertaking is specified, (c) by the express will of all the partners who have not assigned their interests or suffered them to be charged for their separate debts, either before or after the termination of any specified term or particular undertaking, (d) by the expulsion of any partner from the business bona fide in accordance with such a power conferred by the agreement between the partners;

(2) In contravention of the agreement between the partners, where the circumstances do not permit a dissolution under any other provision of this section, by the express will of any partner at any time;

(3) By any event which makes it unlawful for the business of the partnership to be carried on or for the members to carry it on in partnership;

(4) By the death of any partner;

(5) By the bankruptcy of any partner or the partnership;

(6) By decree of court under s. 178.27.

**178.27 Dissolution by decree of court.** (1) On application by or for a partner the court shall decree a dissolution whenever any of the following applies:

(a) A partner has been declared a lunatic in any judicial proceeding or is shown to be of unsound mind.

(b) A partner becomes in any other way incapable of performing the partner's part of the partnership contract.

(c) A partner has been guilty of such conduct as tends to affect prejudicially the carrying on of the business.

(d) A partner wilfully or persistently commits a breach of the partnership agreement, or otherwise so conducts himself or herself in matters relating to the partnership business that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business in partnership with him or her.

(e) The business of the partnership can only be carried on at a loss.

(f) Other circumstances render a dissolution equitable.

(2) On the application of the purchaser of a partner's interest under s. 178.23 or 178.24: (a) After the termination of the specified term or particular undertaking; (b) at any time if the partnership was a partnership at will when the interest was assigned or when the charging order was issued.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.28 Dissolution terminates agency of partner.** Except so far as may be necessary to wind up partnership affairs or to complete transactions begun but not then finished, dissolution terminates all authority of any partner to act for the partnership, with respect to the partners, when the dissolution is not by the act, bankruptcy or death of a partner; or when the dissolution is by such act, bankruptcy or death of a partner, in cases where s. 178.29 so requires, and with respect to persons not partners, as declared in s. 178.30.

**178.29 Liability of dissolving partner to partners continues until knowledge of dissolution.** If a dissolution is caused by the act, death or bankruptcy of a partner, each partner is liable to the other copartners for the partner's share of any liability created by any partner acting for the partnership as if the partnership had not been dissolved unless any of the following applies:

(1) The dissolution being by act of any partner, the partner acting for the partnership had knowledge of the dissolution.

(2) The dissolution being by the death or bankruptcy of a partner, the partner acting for the partnership had knowledge or notice of the death or bankruptcy.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.30 Partner's agency after dissolution.** (1) After dissolution a partner can bind the partnership except as provided in sub. (3):

(a) By any act appropriate for winding up partnership affairs or completing transactions unfinished at dissolution.

(b) By any transaction which would bind the partnership if dissolution had not taken place, provided the other party to the transaction

1. Had extended credit to the partnership prior to dissolution and had no knowledge or notice of the dissolution; or

2. Though he had not so extended credit, had nevertheless known of the partnership prior to dissolution and, having no knowledge or notice of dissolution, the fact of dissolution had not been advertised in a newspaper of general circulation in the place (or in each place if more than one) at which the partnership business was regularly carried on.

(2) The liability of a partner under sub. (1) (b) shall be satisfied out of partnership assets alone when such partner had been prior to dissolution:

(a) Unknown as a partner to the persons with whom the contract is made; and

(b) So far unknown and inactive in partnership affairs that the business reputation of the partnership could not be said to have been in any degree due to the partner's connection with it.

(3) The partnership is in no case bound by any act of a partner after dissolution if any of the following applies:

(a) The partnership is dissolved because it is unlawful to carry on the business, unless the act is appropriate for winding up partnership affairs.

(b) The partner has become bankrupt.

(c) The partner has no authority to wind up partnership affairs, except by a transaction with any of the following:

1. A person who had extended credit to the partnership prior to dissolution and had no knowledge or notice of the partner's want of authority.

2. A person who had not extended credit to the partnership prior to dissolution, and having no knowledge or notice of the partner's want of authority, the fact of the partner's want of authority had not been advertised in the manner provided for advertising the fact of dissolution in sub. (1) (b) 2.

(4) Nothing in this section shall affect the liability under s. 178.13 of any person who after dissolution represents himself or herself or consents to another representing him or her as a partner in a partnership engaged in carrying on business.

History: 1993 a 482.

**178.31 Discharge of existing liabilities on dissolution.** (1) The dissolution of the partnership does not of itself discharge the existing liability of any partner.

(2) A partner is discharged from any existing liability upon dissolution of the partnership by an agreement to that effect between the partner, the partnership creditor and the person or partnership continuing the business; and such agreement may be inferred from the course of dealing between the creditor having knowledge of the dissolution and the person or partnership continuing the business.

(3) Where a person agrees to assume the existing obligations of a dissolved partnership, the partners whose obligations have been assumed shall be discharged from any liability to any creditor of the partnership who, knowing of the agreement, consents to a material alteration in the nature or time of payment of such obligations.

(4) The individual property of a deceased partner shall be liable for all obligations of the partnership incurred while the deceased partner was a partner but subject to the prior payment of the deceased partner's separate debts.

History: 1993 a 482.

Notwithstanding agreement between partners, both partners were liable for prior partnership obligation since there was no agreement under (2). *Fox Valley Builders Corp. v. Day*, 71 W (2d) 785, 238 NW (2d) 748.

**178.32 Right to wind up.** Unless otherwise agreed, the partners who have not wrongfully dissolved the partnership or the legal representative of the last surviving partner, not bankrupt, has the right to wind up the partnership affairs; provided, however, that any partner, the partner's legal representative, or the partner's assignee, upon cause shown, may obtain winding up by the court.

History: 1993 a 482.

**178.33 Application of partnership property on dissolution.** (1) When dissolution is caused in any way, except in contravention of the partnership agreement, each partner, as against the other copartners and all persons claiming through them in respect of their interests in the partnership, unless otherwise agreed, may have the partnership property applied to discharge its liabilities, and the surplus applied to pay in cash the net amount owing to the respective partners. But if dissolution is caused by expulsion of a partner, bona fide under the partnership agreement, and if the expelled partner is discharged from all partnership liabilities, either by payment or agreement under s. 178.31 (2) the expelled partner shall receive in cash only the net amount due the expelled partner from the partnership.

(2) When dissolution is caused in contravention of the partnership agreement the rights of the partners shall be as follows:

(a) Each partner who has not caused dissolution wrongfully shall have all the rights specified in sub. (1), and the right, as against each partner who has caused the dissolution wrongfully, to damages for breach of the agreement.

(b) The partners who have not caused the dissolution wrongfully, if they all desire to continue the business in the same name, either by themselves or jointly with others, may do so, during the agreed term for the partnership and for that purpose may possess the partnership property, provided they secure the payment by bond approved by the court, or pay to any partner who has caused the dissolution wrongfully, the value of his or her interest in the partnership at the dissolution, less any damages recoverable under par. (a), and in like manner indemnify him or her against all present or future partnership liabilities.

(c) A partner who has caused the dissolution wrongfully shall have, if the business is not continued under the provisions of par. (b), all the rights of a partner under sub. (1) subject to the provisions of par. (a), and, if the business is continued under par. (b), the right as against the other partners and all claiming through them in respect of their interests in the partnership, to have the value of his or her interest in the partnership, less any damages caused to the other partners by the dissolution, ascertained and paid to him or her in cash, or the payment secured by bond approved by the court, and to be released from all existing liabilities of the partnership; but in ascertaining the value of the partner's interest the value of the good will of the business shall not be considered.

History: 1993 a 482.

Partner who had not wrongfully dissolved partnership had right under (1) to force sale of assets, in absence of contrary agreement. *Dreifuerst v. Dreifuerst*, 90 W (2d) 566, 280 NW (2d) 335 (Ct. App. 1979).

Business run for 8 years by surviving partner held to be winding up under 178.33 (1), not continuing under 178.37. In *Matter of Trust Estate of Schaefer*, 91 W (2d) 360, 283 NW (2d) 410 (Ct. App. 1979).

A deceased or withdrawing partner has no claim to post-dissolution profits where those profits are related to the skill and services of the remaining partners. Fees from work in progress at the time of dissolution constitute partnership assets allocated to each partner according to the partnership formula without any additional compensation to the partner who performs the work. *Gull v. Van Epps*, 185 W (2d) 609, 517 NW (2d) 531 (Ct. App. 1994).

**178.34 Adjustment of rights on dissolution for fraud.** If a partnership contract is rescinded on the ground of the fraud or misrepresentation of one of the parties thereto, the party entitled to rescind is, without prejudice to any other right, entitled to all of the following:

(1) A lien on, or right of retention of, the surplus of the partnership property after satisfying the partnership liabilities to third persons for any sum of money paid by the party entitled to rescind for the purchase of an interest in the partnership and for any capital or advances contributed by the party entitled to rescind.

(2) To stand, after all liabilities to third persons have been satisfied, in the place of the creditors of the partnership for any payments made by the party entitled to rescind in respect of the partnership liabilities.



(3) Indemnification by the person guilty of the fraud or making the representation against all debts and liabilities of the partnership.

History: 1993 a. 482.

### 178.35 Settlement and distribution on dissolution.

In settling accounts between the partners after dissolution, the following rules shall be observed, subject to any agreement to the contrary:

(1) The assets of the partnership are (a) the partnership property, (b) the contributions of the partners necessary for the payment of all the liabilities specified in sub. (2).

(2) The liabilities of the partnership shall rank in order of payment, as follows: (a) those owing to creditors other than partners; (b) those owing to partners other than for capital and profits; (c) those owing to partners in respect of capital; (d) those owing to partners in respect of profits.

(3) The assets shall be applied in the order of their declaration in sub. (1) to the satisfaction of the liabilities.

(4) The partners shall contribute, as provided by s. 178.15 (1), the amount necessary to satisfy the liabilities, but if any, but not all, of the partners are insolvent, or, not being subject to process, refuse to contribute, the other partners shall contribute their share of the liabilities, and, in the relative proportions in which they share the profits, the additional amount necessary to pay the liabilities.

(5) An assignee for the benefit of creditors or any person appointed by the court shall have the right to enforce the contributions specified in sub. (4).

(6) Any partner or the partner's legal representative shall have the right to enforce the contributions specified in sub. (4) to the extent of the amount which the partner has paid in excess of the partner's share of the liability.

(7) The individual property of a deceased partner shall be liable for the contributions specified in sub. (4).

(8) When partnership property and the individual properties of the partners are in possession of a court for distribution, partnership creditors shall have priority on partnership property and separate creditors on individual property, saving the rights of lien or secured creditors as heretofore.

(9) If a partner has become bankrupt or the partner's estate is insolvent, the claims against the partner's separate property shall rank in the following order:

- (a) Those owing to separate creditors.
- (b) Those owing to partnership creditors.
- (c) Those owing to partners by way of contribution.

History: 1993 a. 482.

**178.36 Rights and liabilities on continuing business after dissolution without liquidation.** (1) If any new partner is admitted into an existing partnership, or if any partner retires and assigns, or the representative of the deceased partner assigns, that partner's rights in partnership property to 2 or more of the partners, or to one or more of the partners and one or more 3rd persons and if the business is continued without liquidation of the partnership affairs, the creditors of the first or dissolved partnership are also creditors of the partnership so continuing the business.

(2) When all but one partner retire and assign (or the representative of a deceased partner assigns) their rights in partnership property to the remaining partner, who continues the business without liquidation of partnership affairs, either alone or with others, creditors of the dissolved partnership are also creditors of the person or partnership so continuing the business.

(3) If any partner retires or dies and the business of the dissolved partnership is continued as set forth in subs. (1) and (2), with the consent of the retired partners or the representative of the deceased partner, but without any assignment of the retired or deceased partner's right in partnership property, rights of creditors

of the dissolved partnership and of the creditors of the person or partnership continuing the business shall be as if such assignment had been made.

(4) When all the partners or their representatives assign their rights in partnership property to one or more third persons who promise to pay the debts and who continue the business of the dissolved partnership, creditors of the dissolved partnership are also creditors of the person or partnership continuing the business.

(5) When any partner wrongfully causes a dissolution and the remaining partners continue the business under the provisions of s. 178.33 (2) (b), either alone or with others, and without liquidation of the partnership affairs, creditors of the dissolved partnership are also creditors of the person or partnership continuing the business.

(6) When a partner is expelled and the remaining partners continue the business either alone or with others, without liquidation of the partnership affairs, creditors of the dissolved partnership are also creditors of the person or partnership continuing the business.

(7) The liability of a 3rd person becoming a partner in the partnership continuing the business, under this section to the creditors of the dissolved partnership shall be satisfied out of partnership property only.

(8) If the business of a partnership after dissolution is continued under any conditions set forth in this section, the creditors of the dissolved partnership, as against the separate creditors of the retiring or deceased partner or the representative of the deceased partner, have a prior right to any claim of the retired partner or the representative of the deceased partner against the person or partnership continuing the business, on account of the retired or deceased partner's interest in the dissolved partnership or on account of any consideration promised for such interest or for the retired or deceased partner's right in partnership property.

(9) Nothing in this section shall be held to modify any right of creditors to set aside any assignment on the ground of fraud.

(10) The use by the person or partnership continuing the business of the partnership name, or the name of a deceased partner as part thereof, shall not of itself make the individual property of the deceased partner liable for any debts contracted by such person or partnership.

History: 1993 a. 482.

See note to 178.33, citing In Matter of Trust Estate of Schaefer, 91 W (2d) 360, 283 NW (2d) 410 (Ct. App. 1979).

**178.37 Rights of retiring or deceased partner.** If any partner retires or dies, and the business is continued under any of the conditions set forth in s. 178.33 (2) (b) or 178.36 (1), (2), (3), (5) and (6), without any settlement of accounts as between the retired or deceased partner or the deceased partner's estate and the person or partnership continuing the business, unless otherwise agreed, the retired partner or the deceased partner's legal representative as against such persons or partnership may have the value of the retired or deceased partner's interest at the date of dissolution ascertained, and shall receive as an ordinary creditor an amount equal to the value of the retired or deceased partner's interest in the dissolved partnership with interest, or, at the option of the retired partner or the deceased partner's legal representative, in lieu of interest, the profits attributable to the use of the retired or deceased partner's right in the property of the dissolved partnership; provided that the creditors of the dissolved partnership as against the separate creditors, or the representative of the retired or deceased partner, shall have priority on any claim arising under this section, as provided by s. 178.36 (8).

History: 1993 a. 482.

An executor who is also a partner may not deprive the estate of a deceased partner of its rights to interest or profits under this section, hence, neither the mother, as executrix of her husband's estate nor the one brother, as executor of the estates of both his parents, possessed any authority to waive the estates' rights under the statute, and the executor must choose one of the options provided. McDonald v McDonald, 68 W (2d) 292, 228 NW (2d) 727.

When legal representative has failed or refused to act, heir may maintain action to recover assets for benefit of estate. Schaefer v Schaefer, 89 W (2d) 323, 278 NW (2d) 332 (Ct. App. 1979).

See note to 178.33, citing In Matter of Trust Estate of Schaefer, 91 W (2d) 360, 283 NW (2d) 410 (Ct. App. 1979).

Retiring partner was entitled to share of partnership profit from day of dissolution, less substantial labor and management services made by continuing partner. Lange v. Bartlett, 121 W (2d) 599, 360 NW (2d) 702 (Ct. App. 1984).

A deceased or withdrawing partner has no claim to post-dissolution profits where those profits are related to the skill and services of the remaining partners. Fees from work in progress at the time of dissolution constitute partnership assets allocated to each partner according to the partnership formula without any additional compensation to the partner who performs the work. Gull v. Van Epps, 185 W (2d) 609, 517 NW (2d) 531 (Ct. App. 1994).

**178.38 Right to accounting accrues on dissolution.**

The right to an account of his or her interest shall accrue to any partner, or his or her legal representative, as against the winding

up partners or the surviving partners or the person or partnership continuing the business, at the date of dissolution, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary.

History: 1993 a. 482

**178.39 Recording of partnership agreements; amendments; articles of dissolution.** Partnership agreements, amendments thereof and agreements in dissolution thereof may be recorded in the office of the register of deeds of the county in which the principal place of business of such partnership is located.

History: 1993 a. 301