## The Problem...

- Many older whole life policies have accumulated large policy loans. These loans may be a result of automatic premium loans taken by the insurance carrier to cover premium costs, or they may be loaned cash value from the policy received by the policy owner.
- Due to the sustained low interest rate environment, non-guaranteed dividend rates have fallen sharply. However, policy loan rates remain unchanged.
- Policy loan rates today are often much higher than the current dividend rate. When dividend rates were $10 \%$ or higher, an $8 \%$ loan rate did not seem problematic. Now that dividends are down to nearly $5 \%$, these policy loan rates create negative arbitrage.
- Due to the loan interest cost, policies with loan balances become very expensive to maintain.
- The loan becomes an increasing drag on policy performance and on the net death benefit payable.
- Additionally, if loans are allowed to accumulate for too long, the policy may lapse causing an enormous phantom income tax problem.

LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES WITH LOANS

## A Possible Solution...

- Complete a 1035 exchange to roll over both the cash value and loan balance into a universal life insurance policy (current assumption / equity indexed). This generally provides:
- Flexibility to reduce or eliminate the policy loan balance.
- Loan rates that are much more attractive than the existing policy loan rate.
- Some insurance carriers, through specific products, offer an attractive loan provision, which is usually at only a $1 \%$ spread for the first 10 years, and then it becomes a "wash loan."
- M Proprietary Products with lower cost of insurance charges may provide a positive impact for a policy with a loan, resulting in less charges and "drag" on the policy performance.
- Provide a mechanism to manage and maintain coverage under a new insurance product design.
- A whole life policy can only reduce a policy loan using paid up additions. When this is done, the death benefit drops substantially and the full annual premium is still due each and every year.

LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES WITH LOANS

## Case Study



## Illustration: Policy Values Paying Off Loan

## Policy Income Report

This table details income taken from the policy as partial withdrawals and loans. It assumes current policy charges at a Current Rate of $4.25 \%$ years $1-10,4.75 \%$ years 11+. All values shown in this table are as of the EOY.


## Disclosures

The example provided is not representative of all clients' experiences and are not indicative of any future performance or results.

Illustrated pricing assumes indicated gender, smoking status, underwriting classes, issues ages, state of issue, interest rate assumptions, and in-force durations as specified in the presentation. To continue coverage beyond stated durations may require substantially higher premiums. Illustrated products and options shown based on product availability and pricing as of this date. Any product guarantees, including the death benefit, are subject to the claims paying ability of the issuing insurance company. This presentation is not complete without the accompanying illustrations. This information has been taken from sources, which we believe to be reliable, but there is no guarantee as to its accuracy. This material is intended for informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal or tax advice and is not intended to replace the advice of a qualified attorney, tax advisor or plan provider.

The policy values reflect current policy charges, current cost of insurance rates, current mortality and expense risk charges, average fund expenses and the stated hypothetical gross rate of return. The policy values are hypothetical for illustration purposes only and may not be used to project or predict investment results. Policy values will vary based on the actual performance of sub-account investments selected, actual insurance charges over the life of the plan and the timing of premium payments. Please refer to the attached illustrations for illustrated values assuming maximum policy charges and a o\% return. Loans and partial withdrawals will decrease the death benefit and cash value and may be subject to policy limitations and income tax.

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