

Document Security in the Face of Natural Disasters

2018 had plenty of natural disasters including wildfires in California, flooding in North Carolina and the southeast due to tropical storms and even a months-long volcanic eruption in Hawaii. A fire at the Natural Museum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, impacted hundreds of years of artifacts and history. *The Atlantic* reported in its Sept. 4, 2018, article "[What Was Lost in Brazil's Devastating Museum Fire](#)" that political candidate Marina Silva called the fire, quote, "a lobotomy in the Brazilian memory," unquote.

The danger of natural disasters is real for business owners, as well. Statistics from the Federal Emergency Management Administration's website, FEMA.gov, indicate that nearly 40 percent of small businesses don't reopen after a natural disaster. From 2006 to 2010, businesses that were damaged by floods filed claim requests that averaged \$85,000.

Your personal financial information is as valuable and in just as much danger. Your records, trust documents, wills and any financial information can be damaged by just an inch or two of water or disappear in the heat of a fire. So, what can you do?

The immediate concern in any emergency is safety. But after the water begins to recede, and the smoke clears, and the earth stops shaking, what is your next step forward? How can you move forward after such an event? How do you replace the irreplaceable?

As many people find, some things just can't be replaced. So, before you find yourself in such a situation, you need to have a plan that allows for another option to store your secure information. A digital cloud-based backup is a great option for any document, picture or family record. In the event of a disaster, copies of your documents, family photos, birth certificates, passports, wills and trusts and anything else can be accessed through the cloud.

This has been a concern of our clients over time, which is why we have developed a solution for your document storage needs. When you partner with our company, you receive access to Generational Vault®, a secure online portal that allows you to easily organize, manage and access your financial life. This secure online portal allows you to upload important documents and view your financial information.

Every time you log in to Generational Vault, you have immediate access to detailed financial information. You can view a snapshot of your financial picture, a simple-to-understand summary of all your financial accounts, detailed records of your assets, important financial reports and dynamic charts. Watch how your investments are progressing and manage your expenses and income from one central location. Generational Vault keeps a running record of our work together, so you'll always know where to look if you want to review a decision or check on the progress of your plan.

Generational Vault helps to ensure that all your important information will be safe, secure and accessible anytime, anywhere. All data is secured with an SSL Certificate that uses a 2048-bit public encryption key, one of the strongest available, to help protect your financial life. And since you might not be the only person who needs access to the information in your Generational Vault, you can manage your Generational Vault data authorizations so that your loved ones will be able to access your financial and legal information when it matters the most.

In addition, the Generational Vault is provided to our clients for no additional charge.

You have worked hard to provide the best possible life for those around you. Now, you can organize the resources and experiences you have accumulated to make a lasting impression on those you love and the causes in which you believe. Make sure you have a digital cloud-based document storage solution in place before disaster strikes.

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Sources:

1. <https://www.fema.gov/protecting-your-businesses>
2. <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/09/brazil-rio-de-janeiro-museum-fire/569299/>