

# DBA VS LLC – WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR ME?

Disclaimer:

This worksheet is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Please consult an attorney or accountant to determine what's best for your individual business needs.

1

## How would you describe your career?

- ☐ Just starting out
- ☐ Preparing to publish my first book
- ☐ Already published (1-3 books)
- ☐ Running a small press or full-time author business

2

## Business structure priorities

What matters most to you?

- ☐ Business name separate from my legal name
  - ☐ Keep things cheap and simple
  - ☐ Protect my personal assets
- ☐ Look professional to vendors/stores
- ☐ Ready for long-term growth
- ☐ Make taxes easier/more organized

3

## DBA (Doing Business As) Checklist

- ☐ I want to publish under a pen name/small press name
- ☐ I don't need legal protection from liability (yet)
  - ☐ I need things to be low cost and simple
  - ☐ I'm not making significant income (yet)
- ☐ I want a business name for my author identity

3

## LLC (Limited Liability Company) Checklist

- ☐ I want to protect my personal assets
- ☐ I am earning consistent/significant income
- ☐ I want a legal entity that can own ISBNs, sign contracts, and open a bank account
  - ☐ I want a professional setup
- ☐ I plan to grow (multiple books, several pen names, other authors under me)

4

## Based on the above selections, I am leaning more towards:

What do I still need to look into?

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- ☐ A DBA
- ☐ AN LLC

- ☐ I'm not sure yet, I need to do more research and speak to a professional

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