Top 5 Reasons to Have a Will

Just as you want the best for your loved ones now, while you’re alive, you also want the best for them after you’re gone. And leaving a positive legacy for the people you care about starts with having a legally sound will. Here are the top 5 reasons why you should have a will:

1. **You decide how your estate will be distributed.** If you die without a will, there is no guarantee that your intended desires will be carried out. Having a will helps minimize any family fights about your estate that may arise, and also determines the “who, what, and when” of your estate.

2. **It provides an opportunity to tie up other important legal loose ends.** Should you lose the ability to make decisions for yourself, authorizing a power of attorney will manage legal and financial matters on your behalf, or drafting an advanced healthcare directive will guide the healthcare proxy and healthcare providers with end-of-life decisions, etc.

3. **To avoid a lengthy probate process.** Having a will speeds up the probate process and informs the court how you’d like your estate divided. If you die without a will the probate court will decide how to divide your estate without your input, which can cause long, unnecessary delays.

4. **Make gifts and donations.** The ability to make gifts is a good reason to have a will because it allows your legacy to live on and reflect your personal values and interests.

5. **Because tomorrow is not promised.** Procrastination and the unwillingness to accept death as a part of life are common reasons for not having a will. Sometimes the realization that wills are necessary comes too late – such as when an unexpected death or disability occurs.

**Do you need help with creating a will?**

Call Cascade at 800.433.2320 for your Free Will Kit Questionnaire and Simple Will preparation and be connected with an attorney for review and preparation of a Simple Will.

**For more information contact**

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