

BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR WILL

Before creating your will, there are some notes you might want to make and some things you might want to think about.

You and your family

What is your birthday and what is that of your spouse? _____

Have you been married before? If so, does your former spouse have any right to your pension, Social Security benefits or other assets? _____

Do you have children? If so, what are their names and ages? Where do they live? Are they all children of (or adopted by) you and your current spouse? Is your family a blended family, with yours, mine and ours or maybe just yours and mine? Which children are yours by birth or adoption? Are any of them minors? _____

If you do not have living children, do you have living parents or siblings or grandchildren? Note their names, ages and contact information.

Are any of these people (or their spouse or child) a resident of a state other than Texas? A citizen or resident of another country?_____

Does someone in your family need your help? Maybe someone who is going to college, or leaving a marriage, or someone who is ill or unemployed and not quite on their feet yet?_____

Who among your family and friends is good with people? Who is well organized? Who is good at standing up for themselves and saying "no?" Who is curious and good at asking questions? Who is careful with their money?_____

Your Assets

Bank Accounts [passes per signature card*]	\$ _____
CDs and Money Market Accounts [pass to owner*]	\$ _____
Money Market Funds [pass to named beneficiary*]	\$ _____
Life Insurance [passes to named beneficiary]	\$ _____
Home: approximate market value [passes to owner*]	\$ _____
Other Real Property, if any [same]	\$ _____
Your IRAs [pass to named beneficiary]	\$ _____
Your Spouse's IRAs [same]	\$ _____
Your 401(k)s, 403(b)s, etc. [same]	\$ _____
Your Spouse's 401(k)s, 403(b)s, etc. [same]	\$ _____

Roth IRAs and Roth 401(k)s, etc. [same]	\$ _____
Stocks, bonds, mutual funds, ETFs, REITs, etc.[same]	\$ _____
Annuities [same if not a life annuity]	\$ _____
Oil-and-gas or mineral leases	\$ _____

* These should be held “joint with right of survivorship” with your spouse in order for 100% to be available immediately—if this does not interfere with Medicaid planning.

Do you own part or all of a business? _____

Do you own any automobiles, RVs or watercraft; art, antiques or collectibles? _____

Do you have a pension plan? What does it pay? Does it pay survivor’s benefits? _____

Were you in the military? Are you receiving any benefits now? _____

How much do you expect to receive from Social Security when you retire? (You can check at www.socialsecurity.gov/) _____