

FRAN BROCHSTEIN

Attorney at Law & Mediator

8978 Kirby Drive
Houston, TX 77054

713 847 6000
CELL 713 805-9591
www.FamilyLaw4u.com
fran@familylaw4u.com

Memo

TO: Friends & Family
DATE: August 15, 2017
RE: FREE FORMS & WEBSITES FOR TEXAS RESIDENTS

My dear friend, Don, died years ago without any legal documents. I had offered to do them for him, but he said he'd already taken care of everything. Unfortunately, he was on life support for several weeks before his wife could "pull the plug". In his memory, I urge everyone over the age of 18 to do their legal documents – even if you don't have "anything".

I recommend the following websites for free Texas estate planning documents and they are also a good start for any legal issues you might have:

The Texas Probate Web Site – look under the link for "forms" - www.texasprobate.com

Excellent Free Texas Websites:

- Texas Law Help – forms approved by Texas Supreme Court - www.texaslawhelp.org
- Houston Bar Association's website (www.hba.org) – consumer, family and elder law booklets
- State Bar of Texas' website – www.texasbar.com
- Texas Young Lawyers website – www.tyla.org
- Richard Alderman from University of Houston – www.peopleslawyer.org
- Texas Office of the Attorney General – www.oag.state.tx.us
- State of Texas website – www.texas.org

I recommend that you read and decide if the following documents are right for you:

1. Statutory Durable Power of Attorney – for financial affairs (WARNING – VERY POWERFUL!)
2. HIPAA Release – so people that you designate can talk to your medical providers
3. Medical Power of Attorney for Health Care (with the Required Disclosure Statement) – for medical decisions
4. Directive to Physicians and Family or Surrogates
5. Declaration of Guardian in the Event of Later Incapacity or Need of Guardian
6. Declaration of Guardian for Minor Children (if you have minor children)
7. Appointment of Agent to Control Disposition of Remains – to handle funeral arrangements
8. Will – to show where you want your "stuff" to go & who will distribute it
9. Gift by a Living Donor – to donate organs
10. Revocation of all prior Powers of Attorney