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Memo

TO: Friends & Family
DATE: January 5, 2020
RE: FREE FORMS and WEBSITES FOR TEXAS RESIDENTS

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

Excellent Free Texas Websites:

- Texas Law Help – forms approved by Texas Supreme Court - www.texaslawhelp.org (excellent site)
- Houston Bar Association's website (www.hba.org) – consumer, family and elder law booklets
- State Bar of Texas' website – www.texasbar.com
- University of Houston – <http://www.law.uh.edu/peopleslawyer/homepage.html>
- Texas Office of the Attorney General – www.oag.state.tx.us
- The Texas Probate Web Site - www.texasprobate.com
- Texas Health & Human Services - <https://hhs.texas.gov/>
- Harris County Law Library - <https://www.harriscountylawlibrary.org/>
- Houston Volunteer Lawyers – Texas holographic 2020 will article
<https://www.makejusticehappen.org/sites/makejusticehappen.org/files/Final%20DIY%20Holographic%20Will%20Packet.pdf>
- Texas State Law Library - <https://guides.sll.texas.gov/legal-forms/wills-estates>

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

1. Statutory Durable Power of Attorney – for financial affairs – very powerful so beware!
2. HIPAA Release – so people that you designate can talk to your medical providers
3. Medical Power of Attorney for Health Care Designation of Health Care Agent
4. Directive to Physicians and Family or Surrogates also known as a “Living Will”
5. Declaration of Guardian in the Event of Later Incapacity or Need of Guardian
6. Appointment of Agent to Control Disposition of Remains – to handle funeral arrangements
7. Will – to show where you want your estate to go & who should handle the probate
8. Declaration for Mental Health Treatment – optional – talk to your doctor before signing
9. Texas Department of Health Standard Out-of-Hospital Do-Not-Resuscitate Order – optional- talk to your doctor before signing
10. Statement of Intent for End of Life – NEW – talk to your doctor before signing

Additionally:

The Texas Legislature meets in even years (next session 2022) and often adds/modifies documents for Texas residents. Some of these sites might not be up-to-date.

This information is provided for educational purposes only & this memo does not create an attorney-client relationship.