

# A Guide to Making Your Will



Will your family's heirloom jewelry be treasured by future generations, or remembered as the cause of an emotional rift between siblings? The same question can be asked about other cherished assets like coin collections, antiques, or a family vacation home.

Advanced planning for the distribution of assets, as well as consideration of current gifts, can maximize your tax benefits while also reflecting the personalized needs of family members.

Our experience in trusts and estates can help you anticipate and address the many choices available when creating or updating your will.

Here are five important steps we can discuss with you as you plan for your family's future.

1. Identify the property you want to include in your will.
2. Decide who will inherit your property.
3. Select an executor to handle your estate.
4. Make sure your will is legal – improper execution is just one basis on which a will can be contested.
5. Store your will in a secure, but accessible place.

Contact estate planning attorneys, Justin T. Precht, Esq. ([jprecht@ritter-randolph.com](mailto:jprecht@ritter-randolph.com)) or Erica L. Groman, Esq. ([egroman@ritter-randolph.com](mailto:egroman@ritter-randolph.com)), to discuss preparing or updating your will.

Procrastination can forfeit your right to make highly personal decisions about the distribution of assets that carry great monetary and sentimental value.