



Why You Need a Will

Even if the size of your estate isn't presently large, you simply **must** have a Last Will and Testament if you have children; it is of the utmost importance so that in the event of your unexpected death you can

- determine the percentage of distribution;
- provide for a guardian; and
- otherwise make the important arrangements for your children's care and custody.

It is particularly important to have a Last Will and Testament if you are not formally married but have children with a partner. Although you may consider yourselves husband and wife, New York law **does not recognize** 'common-law' marriage. Your children's rights will be much more difficult to establish and there may be instances where the rights of young children could be lost entirely. It is especially difficult, and at times impossible, to prove the relationship where the children live in another country.

For these and many other important reasons, you should be sure you have a current, valid Last Will and Testament. Feel free to call for an appointment to discuss this or any other legal issue.

If you have any question feel free to pose it to us by clicking on our "[contact us](#)" button and sending us an e-mail. While we cannot promise to personally reply to every question, we certainly will try to do so. We will update this page if we receive commonly asked questions.

Beyond having a valid Last Will and Testament, be sure to make it clear to loved ones whether you wish to participate in the organ donation program. Recently, a woman from Oakdale got into a heated legal dispute regarding the proper care for her deceased husband's remains. To prevent a similar situation, and for more information regarding organ donations, please visit <http://www.organdonor.gov/>

Additionally, if you or a loved one is receiving benefits under Medicare, it is imperative to stay updated to changes which may have a significant impact on benefits received. Please visit <http://www.MyMedicare.gov> to learn more about these changes, and as always, feel free to give us a call with any questions you may have regarding these or other legal matters.

Keegan & Keegan, Ross & Rosner, LLP
147 N. Ocean Avenue
Patchogue, New York 11772

Phone: 631-475-9400
Fax: 631-475-0601
Website: <http://www.keeganlaw.us>