My Will be done

(Steps to be taken for the legal creation of a Last Will and Testament)

A **Will** is a legal document executed during the lifetime of an adult, to ensure the distribution of his/her assets after their death.

A Will is inter alia useful to ensure:

- the distribution of assets according to the wishes of the testator (the settlor of the will);
- the administration of an estate to care for [minor or elderly] beneficiaries;
- as much as may be possible, minimization of any issues of controversy after a testator's death.

For the formation of a Will, there are particular statutory formalities that must be followed.

Please make sure to seek legal advice.

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Information to be provided

- Name of executor/executrix. This is a [trustworthy] individual(s), selected by the testator who will have the responsibility of administrating the estate of the deceased. If a beneficiary is a minor, please name a trustee.
- If applicable, listing of all real estate. Legal descriptions are required.
- **Listing of personal and any other property.** Vehicles, jewelry, family heirlooms, share certificates *etc*.
- Bank account (s) details. Bank account and branch number (s).
 Not account balances.
- Names of beneficiary (ies). List names of all beneficiaries, what they are to inherit and what share they each will take.
- Names of witnesses. List the names of two witnesses.
- If applicable, list charities or societies.

Points to consider

- A will may be revoked by marriage
 Divorce may take away a gift (s) from former spouse
 - Witnesses cannot receive gifts