What is a Will?

A will is a legal document that outlines your wishes regarding the distribution of your assets and the care of any minor children upon your death. Key aspects of a will include:

Asset Distribution: Specifies who will receive your property and possessions.

Guardian Appointment: Names a guardian for your minor children, which is crucial if you have young children to ensure they are cared for by someone you trust.

Executor Appointment: Designates an executor to manage the distribution of your estate.

What is a Trust?

A trust is a legal arrangement in which one party (the trustee) holds and manages assets on behalf of another party (the beneficiary). Trusts can be set up for various purposes, including:

Living Trusts: Created during your lifetime and can help manage your assets if you become incapacitated.

Revocable Trusts: Can be altered or revoked by the grantor during their lifetime.

Irrevocable Trusts: Cannot be changed once established and can offer tax benefits.

Differences Between Wills and Trusts

Probate: Wills must go through probate, a legal process to validate them, which can be time-consuming and costly. Trusts, on the other hand, can often avoid probate.

Privacy: Wills become public record once they go through probate, while trusts can remain private.

Flexibility: Trusts offer more flexibility in managing your assets and can be used for a variety of purposes, such as managing assets during your lifetime and providing for pets.

Terrica Jennings & Associates

Your Advocate, Advisor, and Ally

We're more than your attorneys; we're your advocates, your advisors, and your allies. Our commitment to you is unwavering support and expert legal representation, every step of the way.

Find out more

We can help clients in Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Florida. For clients in other states, we offer a referral service. Reach out to us to learn how we can support you in securing your legacy and ensuring peace of mind for you and your loved ones:

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Estate Planning & Immigration Attorneys & Mediators

Leave a Legacy, Not a Legal Mess Create Your Estate Plan

Wills, Trusts, Advance Directives, etc.





About Terrica Jennings, Esq.

Terrica Jennings, Esq. stands as a guiding light at Terrica Jennings & Associates, where her rich blend of legal expertise and heartfelt empathy shapes the firm's ethos. With over a decade of experience in the legal field, Terrica brings a personal touch to her practice, making her not just an attorney but a compassionate advocate for her clients.

Our Commitment to You

At Terrica Jennings & Associates, our dedication goes beyond providing legal services; it's about forging a partnership rooted in trust, empathy, and unwavering support. We understand that navigating legal matters can be daunting, which is why our commitment to you is built on three foundational pillars:



Personalized Attention

Every client's situation is unique, deserving undivided attention and tailored solutions. From your first consultation to the resolution of your case, you can count on personalized care that recognizes and respects your specific needs and objectives.



Empathy and Understanding

Our firm is anchored in the principle of empathy. We handle your legal matters with the utmost sensitivity and understanding, ensuring you feel seen, heard, and valued.



Expert Guidance

With over a decade of legal expertise and a broad license to practice across Washington, D.C., Florida, and Maryland, our firm offers comprehensive knowledge in estate planning. We're here to provide you with expert guidance, simplifying complex legal processes and ensuring that your rights are protected and your future is secure.



Estate Planning Services

At Terrica Jennings & Associates, we provide a comprehensive suite of estate planning services designed to secure your legacy and ensure peace of mind for you and your loved ones. Our areas of focus include:

Wills

Drafting detailed and legally sound Guiding families through the probate wills that clearly articulate your process and ensuring the smooth wishes.

Trusts

Establishing various types of trusts Structuring your estate to protect to manage and protect your assets.

Living Wills/Advance Healthcare **Directives**

Creating directives that outline your Ensuring the smooth transition of healthcare preferences in case of incapacity.

Power of Attorney

Designating trusted individuals Creating plans that provide for the decisions on your behalf.

Probate and Estate Administration

administration of estates.

Asset Protection

your assets from creditors and legal

Business Succession Planning

your business to the next generation or new ownership.

Special Needs Planning

to make financial or healthcare care and financial stability of loved ones with special needs.

What is Estate Planning and Why is it Important?

Estate planning is the process of arranging and managing your assets during your lifetime and beyond. It involves the preparation of legal documents to ensure your wishes are carried out regarding your healthcare, financial affairs, and distribution of assets.

What's the Purpose of Making an Estate Plan?

The purpose of making an estate plan is to ensure your assets are distributed according to your wishes and to prevent legal complications. Without an estate plan, your assets can be tied up in probate for years, placing an unnecessary burden on your heirs and family members. An estate plan helps minimize income, gift, and estate taxes, ensuring more of your wealth is preserved for your loved ones. Without a will, state laws will dictate the distribution of your possessions, and courts will decide on the custody of vour children.

Here's Why it's Crucial



Protect Your Loved Ones

Ensure that your family members and loved ones are taken care of according to your wishes. Estate planning helps prevent disputes and provides clear instructions for asset distribution.



Avoid Probate

Proper estate planning can help your family avoid the lengthy and costly probate process, allowing for a smoother transition of assets.



Minimize Taxes

Effective estate planning strategies can minimize estate taxes, preserving more of your wealth for your heirs.



Healthcare Decisions

Establishing advance healthcare directives and powers of attorney ensures that your medical and financial decisions are handled according to your preferences if you become incapacitated.



Business Continuity

If you own a business, estate planning is essential for ensuring its smooth transition to the next generation or new ownership.



Special Needs Provision

Ensure that your loved ones with special needs are provided for without jeopardizing their eligibility for government benefits.

