

“Why Every Family Needs a Will — No Matter Your Age”

By Maria Alvarez, Esq.

Introduction

Many people put off writing a will because it feels distant or unnecessary. Yet, life changes quickly — marriages, new homes, children, and even career shifts can impact your financial and legal future. Having a will isn't about expecting the worst; it's about protecting those you love most.

Why Wills Matter for Everyone

A will ensures your wishes are respected and your loved ones avoid unnecessary stress. Even young adults benefit from documenting their choices — from digital accounts to pet guardianship. Without one, state law decides who inherits your belongings, often in ways that don't reflect your personal relationships.

Common Misconceptions

- *“I don't have enough money to need a will.”*
Estate planning isn't just for the wealthy; it's for anyone with possessions, savings, or dependents.
- *“My spouse automatically gets everything.”*
Not always true. Without a will, assets might be divided among other relatives.

Steps to Get Started

1. **List your assets** – Include accounts, property, and personal valuables.
2. **Choose an executor** – Pick someone responsible and detail-oriented.
3. **Name beneficiaries** – Be clear to prevent confusion later.
4. **Review annually** – Life changes, so should your will.

About the Author

Maria Alvarez, Esq. is an estate planning attorney based in San Antonio, TX. She specializes in helping bilingual families protect their legacies and navigate probate law with empathy and clarity.