

Basic Legal Planning For End of Life



- **Powers of Attorney**
 - A POA allows you to appoint your ‘attorney-in-fact’ to make decisions when and if you can’t act on your own behalf.
 - There are different types of POAs.
 - When choosing your ‘attorney-in-fact’ it is important you choose someone you trust, and to have discussions with them about how you would want things to be handled, should you be unable to make decisions.

- **Directives**
 - Directives are legal documents that allow you to document your preferences regarding treatment and care, including end-of-life wishes.

- **Last Will & Testament**
 - Your Will is a legal document that expressed your wishes as to how their property is to be distributed at death, and names one or more persons (the executor) to manage the estate until its final distribution.
 - Like with selecting a your Power of Attorney, be sure to choose an executor your trust, and have a conversation with them about your wishes.
 - Make sure to review your Will periodically and update with any life changes (marriage, divorce, birth or death of a family member).
 - If you have named beneficiaries on financial/investment accounts, be sure to update these as well as they will often supersede your Will.
 - If you move to a new state, you will need to make sure you update your Will so that it is enforceable in your new state of residence.

- **Legal Documents Checklist**
 - _____ General Power of Attorney (Financial Matters)
 - _____ Durable Power of Attorney (Health Care Decisions)
 - _____ Declaration Relating to Use of Life Saving Procedures
 - _____ Organ & Tissue Donor Directive
 - _____ Declaration of Designee for Final Disposition and Ceremonies
 - _____ Last Will & Testament

Additional Resources

Cedar Rapids Police Department

505 1st St SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
(319) 286-5375 ext. 5485
www.cedar-rapids.org/police

Crime Stoppers

1-(800) -272-7463

Cedar Rapids Fire Department

713 1st Avenue SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
(319) 286-5200 – Main Number
(319) 286-5277 – Public Educator
www.cedar-rapids.org/government/departments/fire

Marion Police Department

6315 US-151
Marion, IA 52302
(319) 377-1511
www.cityofmarion.org/departments/police-department

Marion Fire Department

3933 Katz Drive
Marion, IA 52302
(319) 377-8237
www.cityofmarion.org/departments/fire-department

Hiawatha Police Department

101 Emmons St.
Hiawatha, IA 52233
(319) 393-1212

Linn County Sherriff's Office

P.O. Box 669, 310 2nd Avenue SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406
(319) 892-6100
www.linncounty.org

Mount Vernon Police Department

213 1st St NW
Mount Vernon, IA 52314
(319) 895-6141
www.cityofmtvernon.com

Linn County Emergency Management

6301 Kirkwood Blvd SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
(319) 892-6500
<http://www.linncounty-ema.org>

Aging Services

317 7th Ave SE Suite 302B
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
(319) 398-3644
<https://www.unitypoint.org/cedarrapids/aging-services-1>

Heritage Area Agency on Aging

6301 Kirkwood Blvd SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
(319) 398-5559
www.HeritageAAA.org

Horizons: A Family Service Alliance

819 5th Street SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
(319) 398-3943
www.horizonsfamily.org

LifeLong Links

(Families & Caregivers can get info on services for older adults & persons with disabilities age 18+)
(866) 468-7887
www.lifelonglinks.org

AARP

(866) 554-5378
www.aarp.org/ia

United Way of East Central Iowa

317 7th Avenue SE Suite 401
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401
(319) 398-5372
<http://www.uweci.org/>

