DOCUMENTS ALL ADULTS SHOULD CONSIDER

**Power of Attorney** – permits someone else to act for you when you cannot act for yourself; if “durable” it extends through periods of disability and can continue until revocation or death, may be for a limited purpose or limited duration

**Medical Power of Attorney/Health Care Surrogate** – allows someone to give to, and receive from, health care providers, insurers, etc., allows someone to make health care decisions for you and can continue until revocation or death

**Living Will/Advance Directives** – tells health care providers who will speak for you when you cannot speak for yourself about life support, also tells your loved ones and health care providers your wishes with respect to life support, applies only if two physicians have independently examined you and determined that you are terminally ill and/or permanently unconscious

**Trust** – a document that allows you to designate a person, known as a Trustee, to protect you and your assets, may be revocable or irrevocable, depending upon your circumstances and the purposes of the trust, may be a living trust or a testamentary trust

**Will** – tells your family, the court and taxing authorities who will receive your assets, who will administer your estate and, if there are minor children, may also nominate a guardian, may contain a trust

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