
Appendix F

Sample Living Will

Below is an example of language used for a living will. It is strongly recommended that individuals adapt the language to meet their own needs and check the specific laws of their state of residence (a helpful Web site is http://www.finance.cch.com/tools/poaforms_m.asp).

Sample: Living Will

I, _____, of _____, willfully and voluntarily making known my desire that my dying shall not be artificially prolonged under the circumstances set forth below, do hereby declare:

If at any time I should have an incurable injury, disease, or illness certified to be a terminal condition by two physicians who have personally examined me, one of whom shall be my attending physician, and the physicians have determined that my death will occur whether or not life-prolonging procedures would serve only to prolong the moment of death artificially, I direct that such procedures be withheld or withdrawn, and that I be permitted to die naturally with only the administration of medication or the performance of any medical procedure deemed necessary to provide me with comfort care.

In the absence of my ability to give directions regarding the use of such life-sustaining procedures, it is my intention that this declaration shall be honored by my family and physicians as the final expression of my legal right to refuse medical or surgical treatment and accept the consequences from such refusal.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand and in the presence of two witnesses declare this to be my declaration this _ day of 200_ .