LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

I, _____, live in _____ (city), _____ (county), _____ (state). I am of legal age to make a will and of sound mind. I make this will freely, and it is my last will (this "Will"). I cancel every will and codicil I signed before this Will.

Before you use this form: print it and sign it in ink in front of two adult witnesses who receive nothing under it. An e-signature does not make a will valid in most states. Louisiana uses a notarial testament with a notary, Texas and Florida have their own self-proving affidavits, and Ohio, D.C. and Maryland have none for paper wills. Check your state's rules, or use the LawVault builder, which prints the right pages for you.

1. MY FAMILY

Marital status (check one): [ ] I am not married. [ ] I am married to _____. [ ] I am divorced. [ ] I am widowed.

My children are: _____. When this Will refers to "my children", it means these children and any child born to me or adopted by me after I sign this Will. A child adopted before age 18 is treated the same as a child born to the adopting parent.

I leave nothing under this Will to the following persons, by deliberate choice and not by oversight (optional): _____.

2. EXECUTOR

I appoint _____ as executor of this Will. If that person does not serve for any reason, I appoint _____. The person serving is my "Executor". No bond is required of any Executor named here. My Executor may act with as little court supervision as the law allows.

My Executor may, without court order where the law allows, manage, sell, lease or mortgage my property, settle claims, hire advisers, file my tax returns, and distribute property in cash or in kind.

3. GUARDIAN FOR MY CHILDREN

If any child of mine is a minor when I die and no parent of that child is able to have custody, I name _____ as guardian of the person of that child, or if that person cannot serve, _____.

4. DEBTS, EXPENSES, AND TAXES

My Executor will pay my legally enforceable debts, the expenses of my last illness and funeral, the costs of administering my estate, and any estate taxes from my residuary estate before it is divided. Real estate I give passes subject to any mortgage on it.

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5. SPECIFIC GIFTS

I make the following gifts (item or amount, and who receives it): _____; _____; _____.

If a person named above does not survive me, that gift becomes part of my residuary estate. If I no longer own an item when I die, that gift ends.

6. RESIDUARY ESTATE

My "residuary estate" is all property I own at my death that is not given away above. I give my residuary estate to _____, in these shares: _____. If a person named here does not survive me, that person's share passes to that person's descendants who survive me, by right of representation.

If no one named above is entitled to my residuary estate, it passes to _____, or if that is not possible, to my heirs under the laws of the state where I live.

7. PROPERTY FOR YOUNG BENEFICIARIES

If any person becomes entitled to property under this Will while under age _____, my Executor will deliver it to _____ as trustee, to hold in a separate trust for that person and use for their health, education, support and maintenance, and to pay out what remains when the person reaches that age.

8. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A person who does not survive me by _____ days is treated as having died before me. Property such as life insurance, retirement accounts, jointly owned property and payable-on-death accounts passes to the people named in those arrangements, not under this Will. If any part of this Will is held invalid, the rest remains in effect.

9. SIGNATURE OF TESTATOR

I sign my name to this Will, which has _____ pages including the witnesses' page. I have initialed each page. I declare to the witnesses below that this is my will and that I sign it willingly. Signed on _____ at _____.

10. ATTESTATION OF WITNESSES

On the date written above, the testator declared to us that this document is the testator's will and signed it at the end in our presence. All of us were present together at the same time. At the testator's request, each of us then signed below as a witness, in the presence of the testator and of each other. To the best of our knowledge, the testator is of legal age to make a will, of sound mind, and acting freely. Each of us is an adult, and none of us is named to receive property under this Will.

Witness 1 printed name and address: _____

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Witness 2 printed name and address: _____

SIGNATURES

Testator

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Witness 1

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Witness 2

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

SELF-PROVING AFFIDAVIT (OPTIONAL; NOT USED IN OHIO, D.C., MARYLAND, CALIFORNIA OR LOUISIANA)

State of _____, County of _____. We, the testator and the witnesses whose names are signed on the will, being first sworn, state that the testator signed the will willingly as the testator's will; that each witness signed it at the testator's request, in the presence of the testator and of each other; and that, to the best of each witness's knowledge, the testator was 18 or older (or otherwise able to make a will), of sound mind, and under no constraint or undue influence.

Testator: _____ Witness 1: _____ Witness 2: _____

Subscribed, sworn to and acknowledged before me on _____. Notary Public: _____. My commission expires: _____. (Seal)

HOW TO SIGN (NOT PART OF THE WILL)

Do not sign electronically. Print the will single-sided and sign it in ink. Sit in one room with your witnesses (and the notary, if you use the affidavit). Tell them this is your will, sign at the end while they watch, then have each witness sign while you and the others watch. Initial the bottom of every page and fill in the page count.

Keep the original somewhere safe and tell your executor where it is. Review it after a marriage, divorce, birth or adoption, or a move to another state.

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