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## Basic Estate Planning Documents

### Power of Attorney - Healthcare Proxy/Living Will - Last Will and Testament

**1. Power of Attorney** - Powers of attorney generally grant a person the ability to act on your behalf over a broad range of legal, financial, and medical decisions. The *durable* power of attorney is used to give its holder these abilities in the event the grantor is incapacitated at a later time. A Power of Attorney is not a guardianship over a person.

**2. Healthcare Proxy or Living Will** - A Healthcare Proxy names a person to speak on your behalf for Medical and Healthcare, if you are not able to. A Living Will, or Advanced Directive, gives specific instructions on the types of life-prolonging treatments an individual wishes to receive in the event he/she is unable to communicate their desires.

**3. Basic Will or Trust** - A Last Will and Testament is the most common way for people to direct the distribution of their estate after they have passed. A Last Will and Testament is a document of directions on how to divide an Estate. *Where, to whom and how, do you want your belongings, your assets, your home, etc., to go, after you are gone?* Certain Wills also allow for the utilization of Trusts. Trusts are instruments created either during a person's lifetime, or in a person's Will, that have a wide range of potential benefits, from tax-savings to avoiding probate.



Are your Estate Planning documents in place?

Are your Estate Planning documents current with your wants, needs and life circumstances?

The Law Office of Scott D. Bloom offers complimentary consultations to help guide you in creating the most beneficial and appropriate Estate Planning documents.