

Why use Rossi Legal ...

Rossi Legal has been serving South Australians since 1989. We are a medium sized firm with barristers and solicitors practising in most areas of the law, with offices in Adelaide and Salisbury. There are a number of keys to our success.

- Skill and Experience
- Coordinated Legal Service
- Balanced Perspective
- Clear Advice
- Full Representation
- Local Knowledge
- Service to the Profession and the Community
- Professional Association and Gold Alliance Firm

We are small enough to deliver personalised cost effective service, yet large enough to offer expertise in a broad range of legal areas

Areas of Law

- Wills & Estates
- Powers of Attorney
- Advance Care Directives
- Contested Estates
- Probate
- Employment & Industrial Law
- Work Injury & Illness
- Personal Injury
- Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Medical Negligence
- Public Liability
- Family Law
- Defamation
- Business & Company Law
- Civil & Commercial Litigation
- Criminal & Police Matters
- Real Estate & Conveyancing
- Debt Collection & Insolvency
- Unlawful Discrimination
- Public Notary



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WILLS & ESTATES

Wills

Powers of Attorney

Advance Care Directives



Are your wishes known?

 **Rossi Legal**

BARRISTERS • SOLICITORS • NOTARIES





What is a Will?

A Will is a legal document which sets out what you want to happen with your property, personal belongings and other assets after you die. The Will appoints an executor who will be responsible for ensuring that your wishes are carried out. You can also specify what you would like to happen in relation to your funeral and also who will look after your infant children.

Who needs a Will?

Some people think a Will is only for the elderly or the sick. It is a good idea to have a Will in place no matter how old you are or what your circumstances are as there are many uncertainties in life and it is important to have assurances in place which will allow you to live with peace of mind.

What is a Power of Attorney?

A Power of Attorney is a legal document which appoints an agent to handle your legal and financial affairs when you are alive. The agent can also be appointed to act when you are alive and have lost mental capacity to make decisions. This is known as an Enduring Power of Attorney. It is important to appoint someone you trust. The same person as you appoint to be executor of your Will can also be your Attorney but they must be over 18 and consent to act.

Why do I need a Power of Attorney?

In the case that you are absent for an extended period of time or if you become mentally incapacitated, your Attorney will ensure your financial and legal matters are dealt with, with your best interests in mind.



Why do I need an Advance Care Directive?

An Advance Care Directive specifically deals with your health, accommodation and personal welfare. It can set out your wishes as to what is to happen if you are in the final stages of a terminal illness or if you are in a coma or a vegetative state and therefore unable to make the difficult but vital decisions. An Advance Care Directive allows you the opportunity to state where you would live in such circumstances and how you would like to live and what action you would want to be taken at various stages of your life.

What happens if I don't have these legal documents?

If you do not have a Will then your assets will be distributed based on laws set by parliament which are fixed and may not match your wishes.

If you do not have a Power of Attorney or Advance Care Directive in place and you become mentally incapacitated it is too late to prepare these documents. Your family may need to apply to a tribunal for orders appointing a person to handle your affairs. Again, this may not be in accordance with your wishes.

In some cases the Public Trustee and/or the Public Advocate may be appointed to handle your legal, financial and personal affairs in which case you, nor your family, will have control over your affairs and wishes.