WHO ARE WE?

WILLS & ESTATES

As a mid-sized law firm, Devry Smith Frank *LLP* ("DSF") balances professional, knowledgeable and customized legal solutions with a focus on delivering value. We are large enough to handle the most complex Estates matters, but have an overhead structure and the flexibility to be cost effective. We are driven to deliver value to our clients in all that we do. The lawyers in our Wills & Estates Group have extensive experience advising clients in the complete range of legal services related to estate planning, estate administration, and estate litigation.

As part of a full-service firm, we work with our Business, Tax, Real Estate, Not-For-Profit & Charities, and Family Law Groups to ensure that our clients' legal and family interests are protected and their goals are achieved.

Wills and Powers of Attorney are the cornerstone of your estate plan and should be signed only after careful consideration and legal advice. To learn more about our Wills & Estates Group, please visit: http://www.devrylaw.ca/wills-and-estates/

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TOP TEN REASONS TO MAKE A WILL:

- 1. Determine what happens to your estate
- 2. Appoint an Executor of your choosing
- 3. Ensure your loved ones are provided for
- 4. Appoint a guardian for minor children
- 5. Protect assets (business / personal)
- 6. Minimize tax and probate fees
- 7. Make estate administration easier for your executors
- 8. Make charitable gifts
- 9. Create a trust for a spouse, a child, or a disabled dependent
- 10. Avoid disputes regarding the distribution of assets

To learn more about our Wills & Estates Group, please visit: http://www.devrylaw.ca/wills-and-estates/

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BE PREPARED:

Wills and Powers of Attorney play a significant role in your estate planning. A properly planned Will is extremely important and can ensure that you are able to clearly communicate your wishes, and structure your affairs both during your lifetime and after your death in accordance with your wishes, making it easier for the persons who you wish to inherit your assets to obtain and use them, and avoid any confusion or misunderstanding among family members and friends as to your intentions. If you do not have a Will, the law determines who is entitled to apply to the court to manage your estate and how your assets are to be distributed. This may be significantly different from your wishes.

A Will only takes effect upon your death, therefore it is equally important that you have valid Powers of Attorney for Property and for Personal Care in place so that you can authorize persons to make decisions on your behalf and assist you in dealing with your property and your healthcare if you become incapacitated or otherwise unable to provide instructions or make decisions regarding your property or your healthcare. Your Attorney must act in your best interest and in accordance with the law.