

Why your family NEEDS an Estate Plan **During the Coronavirus Pandemic**

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As we continue to navigate this pandemic, it is expected in the next few weeks we will continue to see people being diagnosed and unfortunately dying from the Coronavirus (COVID-19). For all of us this pandemic has severely impacted our day-to-day lives. Whether we are working from home with our children running around in the background, or struggling to visit a parent or sibling confined in a nursing home, this virus requires us to hold our family close and protect what we love.

We should start thinking about what plans we have in place if we are quarantined after a diagnosis, admitted to the hospital or become incapacitated and unable to make our own decisions OR for a situation we hope will not happen, a diagnosis of Coronavirus. Perseverance and a determination to build a better future is how we will get through this difficult time. Planning for the future after this pandemic is the responsible thing to do. What do we want to be doing in our lives in the next five years, what do we want to achieve, what have we learned that can lead us to a more productive and fulfilling life?

Here are some questions to ask yourself:

1. Who can legally handle my finances?
2. Who can make medical decisions and knows my wishes?
3. Who can release or access my medical records?
4. Who would I want the Court to appoint to manage decisions while you are living?
5. Who would I want the Court to appoint to manage the distribution of assets if you pass away?



What can you do right now at home?

1. Contact a lawyer to help draft your Estate Planning documents such as a Power of Attorney or a Will (In Illinois an Executive Order now permits remote notarization and remote witnessing);
2. Make sure you have beneficiaries on your various accounts;
3. Consider providing secure access for online accounts to your trusted loved ones;
4. If you already have an Estate Plan, revisit the documents and determine if any changes or amendments need to be made.



Attorney Tony Ezzi practices in Estate Planning, Probate and Adult Guardianship. He realizes that Estate Planning involves extremely difficult topics and decisions, but he is here to support you through the entire process. If you or someone you know would like to learn more, please contact Ezzi Law. **At the present time ALL meetings and signings shall take place remotely.**