

A LITTLE ABOUT US...



Genders & Partners was established in 1848 and is now Adelaide's oldest law firm, and one of its most respected. It has undergone several changes of name throughout its history: before Dr John Jefferson Bray became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of South Australia, he was a partner with this firm, which was then known as Genders Wilson & Bray. At other times it has been known as Genders Wilson & Pellew, Genders Wilson & Abbott, or Genders Wilson & Partners.

For over 40 years this firm has been at the forefront of personal injury law in South Australia. In a 1994/95 national survey, we were voted as "the leading plaintiff practice in Adelaide for personal injury claims."* We have retained this impressive distinction ever since.

We have been involved in several of the largest personal injury compensation claims in Australia. We obtained the South Australian record (\$8.05million) award of damages for one of our personally injured clients.

* Legal Profiles - 1994/95 Edition - an independent guide to the expertise of leading Law Firms in Australia and New Zealand.



GENDERS & PARTNERS

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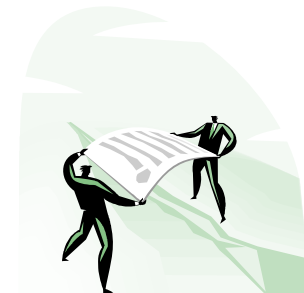
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GENDERS & PARTNERS



LIVING WILLS



Specialists in Personal Injury Law

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LIVING WILLS

Any adult person of sound mind can create a variety of legal documents setting out their wishes and directions in advance of certain conditions being met. These documents are called advance directives or Living Wills.

For a Living Will to be legally valid, the person making it must be mentally competent to understand the nature and intention of the document. He or she must also understand the consequences of completing and signing the document, and must do so without any coercion, pressure or influence by others.

WHAT IS A LIVING WILL?

In South Australia there are a number of legally recognised documents known as Living Wills, including:-

Enduring Power of Attorney

Enduring Power of Guardianship

Medical Power of Attorney

Natural Death Act Form

An **Enduring Power of Attorney** is a legal document that allows you to choose a person to make legal and financial decisions for you and to sign other legal documents on your behalf. This is normally used when a person becomes mentally or physically incompetent, but it must be prepared and signed before that person becomes incompetent.

A **Medical Power of Attorney** is a legal document that allows you to designate an agent (usually a relative or a close friend) to make health care decisions for you if you should become either physically or mentally unable to make such decisions for yourself. This document may allow your medical agent to make a treatment decision for you if you become comatose, incompetent, or otherwise mentally or physically incapable of communication.

An **Enduring Power of Guardianship** is a legal document that allows you to choose a person to make decisions for you which may not be covered by an Enduring Power of Attorney and a Medical Power of Attorney ie for matters relating to where you live, what non-medical care you receive, etc.

A **Natural Death Act Form** is sometimes known as a Do Not Resuscitate Anticipatory Directive. It is a legal document that allows you to tell doctors and hospitals in advance that you do not want to be kept alive on support systems if there is no hope of a recovery to a normal life. If you desire that your life not be artificially prolonged in the event of a terminal illness, you should consult with a solicitor to have a directive to physicians prepared for you.

These "Living Will" documents, together with a valid Last Will and Testament, will make life much easier for your loved ones should you become incompetent or die. Without these important documents, your loved ones may not only have to deal with their grief, but also with unnecessarily complicated legal matters.

For further advice and assistance, please call us to arrange an appointment.

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