

## 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 AND PARTNERS

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## GENDERS AND PARTNERS



## UPDATING YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT



Specialists in Personal Injury Law

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## DID YOU MAKE YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT LAST CENTURY?

We're more than 5 years into the new century, and a lot has changed ...

### Have you kept up to date?

Maybe it's time to **remake your Will**, to be sure that it accurately reflects your current intentions and circumstances.

### Did you know ...

- \* Over the last ten years there have been many changes to the state and commonwealth legislation relating to Wills, Insurance, Probate, Superannuation, Trusts and Family Relationships;
- \* Getting married has always automatically revoked all prior Wills (with rare exceptions), but that now in South Australia Divorce will have a specific effect upon a deceased's person's estate, without revoking the Will;
- \* If you own assets jointly with another person, then after you die they will own those assets by right of survivorship, regardless of what your Will says;

\* Trustees of deceased estates no longer have to invest in Trustee (capital guaranteed) investments;

\* Payments from Insurance or Superannuation with nominated beneficiaries might not go to the people you name in your Will;

\* Companies and Trusts live on after you, and assets owned by them need careful planning to allow you to deal with them in your Will;

\* Administration Bonds are no longer obtainable;

\* There is new legislation coming which may allow domestic partners of either sex (previously known as defactos) to have similar legal entitlements as a lawful spouse;

### Apart from all the changes to the law, what about the changes in your life?

Since you last made your Will ...

Are you quite sure that the Executors named in your current Will are still up to the job of administering your estate after you've gone?

Have you married, separated, divorced or cohabited with anyone ?

Have you gained or lost any family members?

Have you bought or sold an interest in a business, company or trust?

What is happening with your health? - Don't forget, for a 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. It is too late when a person becomes mentally or physically incompetent.

Without a valid and up-to-date Will, 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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