

## STORING YOUR WILL

### Reviewing Your Will

We recommend that all clients review their Wills at least every five years to ensure that all the details remain correct, and the content of the Will still reflects your wishes.

As well as this regular review, any change to your circumstances should also prompt you to revisit the terms your Will.

In particular, the following events may have an unexpected impact on the distribution of your estate:

- Your marriage/civil partnership: this will automatically revoke any Will which pre-dates your marriage/civil partnership.
- Your divorce/dissolution of a civil partnership: any gift in your Will to your former spouse/civil partner will automatically be revoked. The rest of the Will remains valid.
- The birth of any children or grandchildren: this may alter any gifts to children or grandchildren in the Will and affect the overall distribution of your estate.
- The death of someone named in your Will: a gift to that person is likely to fail and this will affect the overall distribution of your estate.
- You receiving a large inheritance: this may impact on the value of your estate and the Inheritance Tax consequences of gifts included in your Will.

If any of these or other significant events take place please do not hesitate to contact us for advice.

### Storing Your Will

You will have been offered the opportunity to store your Will with us free of charge, which we recommend, or you may have chosen to store your Will at home.

#### Storage at GL Law

If you have chosen to store your Will with us this will be placed in our secure strong room for safekeeping. Our strong room can only be accessed by certain restricted members of staff and is subject to a robust checking in and out policy when documents are placed there or removed.

We do not charge for the ongoing storage of documents or for the removal of documents from storage.

We advise that you let your Executors know you have stored your Will with us, providing them with our contact details for future reference. We will provide you with a photocopy of your Will for your records and suggest that you store this with your financial papers so it can be easily located. Our address and reference number are noted on the front cover of your Will.

You may also like to consider preparing a 'personal assets log' for your executors containing account names, numbers etc. in relation to all your assets. This will assist them with the administration of your estate.

## **Storage at home**

If you do choose to store your Will at home you should ensure it is placed in a secure, ideally fireproof safe. It is important that your Executors know where to find the Will.

You should be aware that if someone destroys or defaces your Will it may no longer be a valid document. This could result in your estate being distributed according to the statutory intestacy rules, rather than to the beneficiaries you have chosen.

If at any point you change your mind about storing your Will at home, we would be happy to store the document for you free of charge.

Please contact us if there are any queries regarding this information.

## **How can GL Law help you?**

We have specialist lawyers who will take time to get to know you in order to provide you with advice tailored to your specific needs and wishes.

Full and transparent information about our fees structure will be provided at the outset, and the basis of our charging agreed before we begin work.

For further information please contact us on 0117 906 9400 or email [hello@gl.law](mailto:hello@gl.law)

*The content of this guide is intended for general information purposes only and shall not be deemed to be or constitute legal advice.*

**For more information or to speak to a solicitor please contact us by calling 0117 906 9400 or email [hello@gl.law](mailto:hello@gl.law)**