





4 Common Estate Planning Documents

	DOCUMENT	IN EFFECT	PURPOSE	BENEFIT	
	Durable Power of Attorney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During your lifetime (capacity and incapacity) • Automatically terminates on death 	Agent to manage, your financial affairs including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing and accessing bank account • Making investment decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signing and filing tax returns • Paying bills • Hiring service providers • Selling real estate • Applying for certain governmental benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During your lifetime (capacity and incapacity) • Automatically terminates on death
	Patient Advocate/ Medical Power of Attorney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During lifetime (only when incapacitated) • Automatically terminates on death 	Agent to make medical and mental health care decisions, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent to treatment, tests, hospitalization, surgical or therapeutic procedures • Hire doctors, dentists, nurses, and other care providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Withdraw or refuse consent to medical treatment • Access medical records • Follow through with “living-will” and end of life care wishes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automatic legal authority upon Acceptance of Appointment • Avoids Probate Court and the need for a court appointed Guardian
	Revocable Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During lifetime AND after death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agent to manage Trust assets during lifetime and after death 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automatic legal authority upon Acceptance of Appointment • Avoids Probate Court
	Last Will & Testament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All assets in your individual name that require probate will “pour-over” to your Trust 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch all to ensure that all your assets not titled in the trust, flow to your trust for ultimate distribution