

Preparing to Write Your Will

Before meeting with your attorney, you'll want to gather the following information:

1. WILL

- An existing will (if applicable)

2. ASSETS

List of assets and approximate value (include copies of any official documentation):

- Home(s)
- Vehicle(s)
- Checking and savings accounts
- Stocks, bonds and other investments
- IRAs and other retirement accounts, and a list of beneficiaries
- Life insurance policies, list of beneficiaries and who pays the premiums
- Artwork and valuables (jewelry, silver, antiques, etc.)

3. DEBTS

List of debtors and amounts owed (include copies of bills and correspondence):

- Mortgage(s)
- Credit cards
- Other loans

4. FAMILY

- Name(s) of current and/or former spouse(s)
 - Date and place of any divorce(s) or separation(s)
 - Death certificates of deceased spouse(s)
- Name of partner or companion
 - Copy of any agreement or contract with that person about the ownership or disposition of your property, if there is one
- Names and birth dates of your children, and whether or not they are still living
- Names of parents, whether or not they are still living
- Names of siblings, whether or not they are still living
- If you are single with no children or grandchildren, list your siblings, nieces, nephews, cousins, and cousins' children

5. BENEFICIARIES

- For each beneficiary, list the following:
 - Full names
 - Addresses and other contact information
 - Social Security number
 - Birth certificates or adoption papers for any minor children.
- Indicate any trusts that need to be set up for distributions, and at what age
- Indicate if any of your beneficiaries are on Medicaid or SSI and if your bequests need to go into a special-needs trust

6. EXECUTORS/GUARDIANS/TRUSTEES

- List names, addresses and phone numbers for your primary and a back-up for any or all of the following:
 - Executor of your will
 - Guardian for your children
 - Trustee for any trusts

Eddy & Schein Group can help you with these preparations and with finding a geriatric health care manager.

If you, or someone you know, could benefit from having a Personal Finance Manager, please contact Eddy & Schein Group for a **free phone consultation**.

Visit our [website](#) or call us: [New York 212-987-1427](#) or [California 917-881-7042](#)