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WILLS FOR HEROES VOLUNTEER ENROLLMENT FORM

Yes, I want to participate in the Wills for Heroes project. Please contact me to serve at a Wills for Heroes clinic in my community.

Name _____

Telephone _____

Firm _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Address _____

Counties in which you will participate

City, State, Zip _____

Signature _____

Date _____

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN
THE ALABAMA STATE BAR VOLUNTEER
LAWYERS PROGRAM WILLS FOR
HEROES PROJECT**

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

P. O. Box 671

Montgomery, Alabama 36101

(334) 269-1515

Fax: (334) 261-6312

Web Site: <http://www.alabar.org>

E-mail Address: vlp2@alabar.org

Published by

ALABAMA
STATE BAR



WILLS FOR HEROES™

a program for lawyers
to give back to those
who give so much



WILLS FOR HEROES: A PROGRAM FOR LAWYERS TO GIVE BACK TO THOSE WHO GIVE SO MUCH

Everyday, firefighters, police and emergency medical personnel devote their lives to serving their communities, and they are prepared to pay the ultimate price in the line of duty. The Wills for Heroes project of the Alabama State Bar Volunteer Lawyers Program was created to provide the legal community with a way to show its appreciation for the efforts and sacrifices of these brave men and women. The Wills for Heroes project offers first responders free basic estate planning services. This service is intended to give them peace of mind by knowing that their affairs are “in order” should the unthinkable occur.

WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

The Wills for Heroes project is computer-driven enabling lawyers from any practice area to draft a simple Will, Power of Attorney and Health Care Directive for those first responders who qualify for the program. First responders whose estates are valued at less than six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) are eligible for the program. Individuals who require or want a more complex estate plan are directed to consult with an attorney of their choice or may contact the state bar lawyer referral service for referral to a trust and estates attorney.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

By using established computer technology and software, lawyers participating in the

program are able to provide personalized documents that have built-in safeguards to ensure that a quality product is delivered to the first responders. This same computer technology allows the Wills for Heroes project to be a one-day pro bono project. As a result, the project limits the time commitment for the lawyers participating.

DO I NEED TO BE AN ESTATE LAWYER?

No. Generally speaking the project requires a short training session to familiarize the participating lawyers with the computer program and to review a questionnaire that the first responders will complete prior to the event day. The questionnaire includes a brief explanation of the planning process and requests key information that each first responder must provide in order to complete the documents. The questionnaire also helps to provide some procedural safeguards relating to whether the first responder is a candidate for the project. In addition, an attorney specializing in Trust and Estates will be available on the day of each program to handle any unforeseen questions or circumstances that may arise.

A significant benefit of the Wills for Heroes project is that the Wills and other documents can be drafted by the lawyers and executed by the first responder in a single day. Volunteer lawyers and support staff travel to the fire or police station with laptop computers preloaded with the necessary software and they meet “one on one” with the first responders. On the day of the event, information from the question-

naire completed by the first responder is entered into the computer program. The Alabama State Bar through a partnership with the Wills for Heroes Foundation™ has been provided a user-friendly software program called HotDocs™ by LexisNexis. HotDocs™ is a document assembly software that converts the information entered in the computer from the questionnaire into a complete documents template. The software program simply presents a series of pre-programmed questions that correspond to the questions in the questionnaire completed by the first responders.

Based on the answers that a first responder provides to the questions in the questionnaire, HotDocs™ generates a personalized Will, Power of Attorney and Health Care Directive. Once the documents are generated by the computer, they are printed, reviewed by the lawyer and first responder, and when complete, executed by the first responder.

The Wills for Heroes program is one way for lawyers to become involved in their community.

HOW DO I VOLUNTEER?

To volunteer, please complete the enrollment form on the reverse side and return it to the Alabama State Bar Volunteer Lawyers Program or you can volunteer on line at www.alabar.org/wfh.