



**Publication:** Kouga Express - Main  
**Title:** Ensuring your legacy here's what to do  
**Publish date:** 07 Sep 2023  
**Page:** 8

**Reach:** 19995  
**AVE:** R 20611.80  
**Author:** Staff Reporter

# Ensuring your legacy – here's what to do



DO you have a will? Is your will up to date? Who will inherit from you when you can no longer express your wishes? These are critical questions to ask when considering your legacy.

A will is a must-have legal document that guarantees your assets are distributed in line with your wishes after you have passed.

To ensure your wishes are maintained, it is advisable to have a will drafted by a legal practitioner who can navigate all the necessary legal requirements.

Legal Aid SA is amongst the law firms who are stepping up in support of this cause. During National Wills Week, September 11 to September 15, Legal Aid SA will provide a will drafting service to the public at no cost.

This initiative aims at raising awareness about the significance of having a will and ensuring it is current.

To take advantage of this opportunity, visit your nearest Legal Aid South Africa office. Please bring your ID document, a detailed list of your assets (such as property, clothing items, family heirlooms, and funds), and the particulars of those you intend to leave your assets to.

Whether you are yet to create a will or wish to update your existing one, Legal Aid SA is here to assist you throughout National Wills Week.

For further information, visit the Law Society of South Africa's website: [https://](https://www.lssa.org.za/our-initiatives/advocacy/national-wills-week/)

## DRAFTING A WILL

### WHAT IS A WILL?

A will is a legal document that details what should happen with your property after your death

### WHAT DO I NEED TO DRAW UP A WILL?

- Your ID #
- Full name and ID # of your spouse
- How are you married?
- Copy of marriage certificate
- If divorced - copy of decree of divorce/settlement
- Full names and ID # of all persons you want to benefit from your will
- Details of all assets you own, as well as liabilities

### WHAT MAKES A WILL VALID?

- It must be in writing (handwritten, typed or printed)
- Signed
- Signed in the presence of 2 or more witnesses
- Signed on each page, if the will is more than 1 page long

### HOW DO I SIGN MY WILL?

You can sign your will with your signature. If you cannot sign, you can use your:

- Initials
- Thumbprint
- A mark (X)

Signing with a thumbprint or a mark requires a Commissioner of Oaths to commission that it is your thumbprint or mark

## WILL CHECKLIST

- My full names, ID number
- The full names, ID numbers of all beneficiaries (the people I am leaving my belongings to)
- An executor - someone, or a bank, attorney, accountant that will manage my estate when I die
- Signature (or thumbprint or mark - these have to be commissioned by a Commissioner of Oaths)
- At least 2 witnesses, who are 14 years or older
- Make sure trusted people know you have a will and where it is, so your estate can be managed according to your wishes

## TESTAMENT-WEEK

**11 - 15 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**Maak gerus 'n afspraak vir 'n gratis konsultasie om die opstel van u Testament te bespreek.**

Dit is belangrik om 'n geldige Testament in plek te hê.

PROKUREUR: HERMAN PIETERSE  
KONTAK: 042 293 3333  
EPOS: [reception@attorneys.law.za](mailto:reception@attorneys.law.za)

22 SCHELDE STREET, JEFFREYS BAY

(In samewerking met die Legal Practice Council & South African Law Society)

BRITZ

PROKUREUR • AKTEBESORGER • NOTARIS  
ATTORNEY • CONVEYANCER • NOTARY

HENNI BRITZ

B.Juris, B.Proc (UP)      E-POS/E-MAIL: [britzattorney@truewan.co.za](mailto:britzattorney@truewan.co.za)

1 Mimosatraat, Wavecrest, Jeffreysbaai  
Posbus 600, Jeffreysbaai, 6330

TESTAMENTE WEEK 11 – 15 SEPTEMBER.  
Kontak ons gerus vir u GRATIS testament  
WILL'S WEEK 11 – 15 SEPTEMBER.  
Feel free to contact us for your FREE will.

[www.lssa.org.za/our-initiatives/advocacy/national-wills-week/](http://www.lssa.org.za/our-initiatives/advocacy/national-wills-week/)

- ISSUED BY THE COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AID SOUTH AFRICA