

ADVANCED DIRECTIVE FOR HEALTH CARE

The facts...

As long as you can, you make your own medical decision. But what happens when you can't communicate? If you become so sick or disabled that you can't talk to your doctor, who will make medical decisions for you? A Health Care Directive allows you to appoint your agent and express your own medical preferences.

It's generally easy to get authorization consenting to medical treatment. The system is geared toward medical treatment intent on saving lives. Consenting to treatment is the easy part, but withdrawing or refusing treatment is much more difficult.

- If there is dissention within the family, then without a Health Care Agent, your family may have to file legal proceeding for Guardianship to make decisions for a disabled person. This process involves the Court, several lawyers, doctors and usually at least \$4,000 to \$15,000 in cost. Your guardian will also need to report your care management plan at least annually to the court.
- The Georgia Advanced Directive for Health Care can solve this problem. It has three parts:
 1. It names an agent to make decisions on your behalf, as well as back-up agents if the primary contact is not available. It also identifies the person responsible for your funeral arrangements.
 2. It provides your Living Will instructions. You can say how you want to be treated if you get seriously ill or fall into a long-term coma. We can even customize the form to address advanced dementia, brain damage, or end stage conditions.
 3. Lastly, you name a standby guardian, just in case a formal guardianship hearing is required.
- We use a standard form approved by the state and often handed out by the hospital. We are familiar with the different approaches of Georgia, Florida, and North Carolina. We help you understand the decisions you make and provide the proper witnesses and notaries.
- It is important that you give your family the tools to help you if you cannot help yourself.

Contact **E A Corn, LLC** today at **706-896-3451** or info@eacornllc.com.