

7 Must-Dos

When Naming Guardians for Your Kids



One: Couples

If you name a couple to act as guardians, make sure you decide what should happen if the couple breaks up or if one dies or is incapacitated.

Documenting this properly is critical to ensuring the well-being and care of your children, no matter what.

Two: More Than One

Name more than one potential guardian. What if something happens to your first choice? Decide and documents who will succeed your first nominee.

Three: Finances

Avoid taking financial resources into consideration when deciding who should raise your children/ Your guardians do not have to (and often should not) be the financial decision makers for your kids.

Regnum Legacy Can Help

Take CONTROL of Your Legal Life & Ensure the Well-Being & Care of Your Family With a COMPLIMENTARY Family, Life, and Legacy Meeting (Normally \$750)

The Legacy Meeting is absolutely FREE and there is NO OBLIGATION and NO PRESSURE

We understand that meeting with a lawyer isn't high on your list of fun things to do. Many of our clients felt the same way before their Legacy Meeting with us! They love the peace of mind that comes with knowing everything is set up the right way for themselves, their future, and their loved ones.

Schedule you **FREE** Family, Life, and Legacy Meeting at www.regnumlegacy.com or call (951) 228-9979



Four: Living Trust

Consider creating a living trust that prevents a Court from taking jurisdiction over your money and your loved ones through probate, which is totally public and doesn't protect your money from your family's later divorces and lawsuits.

Five: Exclude People

Exclude anyone who might challenge your guardian decisions or who you know you'd never want to care for your kids. Do it in writing!

<u>Six: Short</u> Term Plan

Make arrangements for the short term. What would happen to your kids in the immediate hours until your permanent guardians could arrive? We recommend a Kids Protection Plan® to cover that critical time of care.

<u>Seven: Separate</u> <u>Documents</u>

Name your guardians in a separate, freestanding document, not simply a Will.

Naming a guardian in a Will or Power of Attorney will make it more difficult for you to change your nomination and your children could be left waiting for a guardian until your Will is admitted to probate or for your power of attorney to take effect.



No child should have to spend the night in the custody of strangers after their parents die.

The Barber Family: A Cautionary Tale

Melanie and Casey Barber were the All-American parents of three little boys. On July 31, 2006, the Barber family was in a tragic car accident. The boys survived, their parents didn't. But, that was just the beginning of their nightmare.

From the thousands of pages of court records filed in the guardianship case of the Barber boys, it appears that Mel and Casey had talked about naming guardians to provide for the care of their sons, they just never got around to documenting what they wanted. They probably thought their family would be able to easily work out who would take care of the boys, if anything happened.

That's Not What Happened.

After the accident, which happened in Arizona, while the family was traveling, the boys were in the foster care system for a short time while the police located family members.

The first family member found was an aunt who proceeded to keep the boys away from the rest of the family. They then went to live with the same aunt while the family went to Court to fight over who would raise the boys.

Since then, over 1,000 pages of court documents have been filed, 9 lawyers have been involved, and tens (or even hundreds) of thousands of dollars have been spent.

I started Regnum Legacy to make sure that this kind of thing never happens again! No child should have to spend the night in the custody of strangers after their parents die.