

WILL CONTESTATION



WHAT IS A WILL CONTEST?

A will contest is a lawsuit most commonly filed by a disgruntled family member or friend who thinks the will is invalid

WHO CAN CONTEST A WILL?

A person must have legal “standing” to be able to contest a will in probate court.
A person with legal standing can be:

Current beneficiaries that are named in the will

Previous beneficiaries who were disinherited but were included in a previous will

An individual not named in the will but who would be eligible to inherit property based on a state’s intestacy laws

LEGALLY VALID REASONS FOR CONTESTATION



The will is incomplete or faulty.



The person who made the will is not of sound mind.

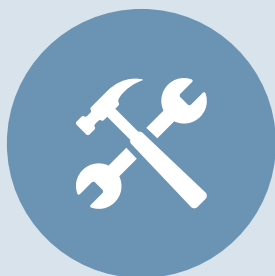


The person who made the will was coerced into signing it.



The will was procured by fraud.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR WILL OR TRUST FROM CONTESTATION:



Do not “do it yourself”!



Discuss your wishes with your family.



Keep your estate plan up to date.



Use a professional estate planning attorney.