

Where There's a Will There's a Way... to Research your Family

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Will

A legal document listing everything a person own: property, possessions, money, shares and everything else (described collectively as their estate) where that person decides in life how to divide and share out their estate after their death.

(<https://www.bequeathed.org>)

Executor

An executor is someone named in a will, or appointed by the court, who is given the legal responsibility to take care of a deceased person's remaining financial obligations. This means taking care of everything from disposing of property to paying bills and taxes. (<https://estate.findlaw.com>)

Trustee

The trustee acts as the legal owner of trust assets and is responsible for handling any of the assets held in trust, tax filings for the trust, and distributing the assets according to the terms of the trust. (<https://www.fidelity.com>)

Administratrix

An outdated term for a female administrator -- the person appointed by a court to handle probate on behalf of someone who died without a will. Now, whether male or female, this person is called the administrator or, in some states, personal representative.

(<https://www.nolo.com>)

Codicil

A codicil is a testamentary or supplementary document similar but not necessarily identical to a will. In some jurisdictions, it may serve to amend, rather than replace, a previously executed will. In others, it may serve as an alternative to a will.

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Codicil_\(will\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Codicil_(will)))

Timeline

Obituary => Tombstone / Burial => Death Certificate => Will