

# ESTATE PLANNING CASTING TIMELINE

YOU ARE...	ALIVE & WELL	ALIVE BUT INCAPACITATED	DECEASED
MONEY & INVESTMENT DECISIONS	<p>Initial Trustee (Usually you, but you can pick someone else)</p> <p>General Financial Agent</p>	<p>Incapacity Successor Trustee</p> <p>Durable Financial Agent <i>(can be the same as general financial agent)</i></p>	<p>Death Successor Trustee <i>(can be the same as incapacity successor trustee)</i></p> <p>Pour-Over Will Executor <i>(only needed for probate)</i></p>
CHILD & PET CARE DECISIONS	<p>You</p>	<p>Other Parent or Guardian of Minor Children</p> <p>Pet Caretaker</p>	<p>Other Parent or Guardian of Minor Children</p> <p>Pet Caretaker</p>
YOUR MEDICAL DECISIONS	<p>You</p>	<p>Health Care Agent or Proxy</p>	

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What if I don't select every fiduciary listed?

If someone needs authority to act on your behalf, the court can appoint someone. Depending on the exact need, the title of this person and type of court case will vary, but an interested person can almost always petition to have someone appointed when the need is there. Using a court to have someone appointed is usually not ideal, as the process can be expensive and time-consuming.

### What if a bank won't take the power of attorney?

This happens from time to time. If the assets can't be easily moved to a more amenable institution, then a guardianship or conservatorship may be necessary to gain access to the funds. Usually, the court will select the person you named as your agent to serve as your court-appointed guardian or conservator.

### What if someone I select can't or won't serve?

To protect against this, it's always a good idea to name alternate fiduciaries to serve if your first choice can not serve. If you name no alternates, then a court may need to get involved to appoint someone.

### What if my incapacity is only temporary?

After you are no longer incapacitated, you are able to resume controlling your own affairs. You can also allow your successor trustee to continue to serve. It's your choice.

### Can I change my mind?

Of course! As long as you have legal capacity, you can update your cast of characters as often as you wish.