

What types of services are available under the program?

Legal Services for the Elderly (LSE) provides advice, information, and document preparation for:

- Estate Planning including powers of attorney, wills and advance directives; and
- Guardianship.

Who is eligible for services?

Anyone age 60 or older and living in Mecklenburg County is eligible for assistance. There are no income guidelines, but the program is intended to help the economically and socially needy who could not otherwise afford an attorney.

Legal Services for the Elderly is funded partially through the United States Department of Health and Human Services authorized by Title III B of the Older Americans Act and United Way of Central Carolinas. Services are also made possible

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:30am to 5:00pm

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Other Client Help Lines
Mecklenburg County:
704.376.1600
Outside Mecklenburg:
800.438.1254
Spanish Language Line:
800.247.1931

Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, Inc. is an equal opportunity agency providing services to clients without regard to race, sex, handicap, age, national origin or religion.

LSSP is a United Way
of Central Carolinas
Member Agency.



A Program of
Legal Services of
Southern Piedmont



a full measure of justice
for those in need

What is a Will?

A **will** is a document that details your wishes upon your death. It names a personal representative to carry out your wishes. It may contain specific gifts to specific individuals or organizations, such as your favorite niece, your alma mater, your church, or a charity. It lists who is to receive your assets, and how much each person or organization is to receive.

What is a Living Will?

A **living will** is written instructions to your doctor stating your desire that, under certain conditions, your life not be prolonged by extraordinary or artificial means.



What is a General Power of Attorney?

A **general power of attorney** is a document that appoints another person to manage your affairs. It must be recorded with the Register of Deeds in the county where you live.

A general power of attorney grants broad powers. These powers should only be given to someone you trust. If your appointee misuses these powers, you **WILL BE** responsible for all unauthorized acts.

What is a Health Care Power of Attorney?

A **health care power of attorney** is a document that appoints another person to make health care decisions for you should your physician determine that you are no longer able to make these decisions for yourself.

What is Guardianship?

Guardianship is a legal process used when a person can no longer make or communicate sound decisions or has become susceptible to fraud.

Because guardianship may remove considerable rights, it should only be considered as a last resort. There are two types of guardians.

- A “Guardian of the Person” is responsible for the person’s care, custody, and control.
- A “Guardian of the Estate” is responsible for managing the person’s property, estate, and business affairs.

A “General Guardian” has both of these responsibilities.