

Advance Medical Directives & Health Care Agents

Below you will find links to resources about Advance Medical Directives and Health Care Agents. Additionally, you can find information on how to seek aid from a lawyer, if needed. Some areas of the state have more information than others. You may wish to look at information from other areas as well as your own.

National Resources

[Health Care Decision Making](#)

This guide from the American Bar Association provides information on how to appoint a health care agent. Additionally, this guide includes a simple version of a Health Care Advance Directive. This will help you choose someone to make health care decisions for you if you can't.

[Consumer's Tool Kit for Health Care Advance Planning](#)

If you are thinking of making a health care advance directive (such as a living will), you can use these tools provided by the American Bar Association. These resources will help you communicate what is important if you are faced with a serious illness.

[Making Medical Decisions for Someone Else: A How-To Guide](#)

If you are named a health care agent and make health care decisions for someone else or may sometime in the future, you can use this handbook provided by the American Bar Association.

Statewide Resources

[Power of Attorney & Conservatorship](#)

Find more information about what power of attorney means using this guide from Legal Aid of East Tennessee.

[The Declaration for Mental Health Treatment Form](#)

This guide from the state of Tennessee provides helpful information about Declarations for Mental Health Treatment. A DMHT is a legal document where you can communicate your wishes in the case of a mental health crisis. Additionally, this resource provides a sample form for you to fill out a DMHT.

Legal Advice:

[TN Free Legal Answers](#)

If you are in Tennessee, the website, Free Legal Answers, allows you to ask a lawyer for help with a legal issue at no cost. It is fast and easy, and all you need is a computer. This is a FREE service for people who cannot afford a lawyer.

How it works:

- You will answer a few questions to see if you qualify for their service. If you qualify, you will have the option to create an account.
- If you are eligible, you can ask their volunteer attorneys a non-criminal legal question.
- Once your question receives a response, you will get an email. You will need to sign into the website to read your response and ask any additional questions.

Visit <https://tn.freelegalanswers.org/> to sign up.

Last updated on May 16, 2024.

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