

## Client Newsletter

***SPECIAL OFFER - We are offering a special on our wills and power of attorneys. Purchase any basic will or power of attorney during this time for \$110.00 and receive 25% off another will or power of attorney. This works out a great saving if your wife, partner or friend also requires a will or power of attorney.***

### ***Wills, Probate and Estates***

#### ***What happens if you don't have a will?***

Many people believe the Government will take their assets if they die without a will. This isn't generally the case but it could happen if you have no living next of kin. It also means that the legal procedures get more complicated and time-consuming and may cause expense, worry and even hardship to your family. If you die without a will, your assets will be distributed in accordance with the Queensland Succession Act. This Act may not distribute your assets in the way you would have wanted.

If you already have a will it is important to remember to update your will if your circumstances change, for example if you get married or have children, as you're testamentary wishes may have changed.

It is also prudent to update your will, even if your circumstances have not changed, if you cannot easily locate one of the witnesses who were present when you signed your will.

Why? ... In the unfortunate event an application for probate must be made, it is necessary to obtain an affidavit from one of the two witnesses. If they cannot be located there may be additional costs and stress associated with the application for probate.

#### ***Can I make a will myself?***

Sure. You can make a will yourself if you wish; printed will forms are available from stationers. However, it is not in your best interests to draft your will yourself. There have been many cases where homemade wills were either unclear, not properly drawn up or caused an unwanted tax liability. Many of these cases end up in court and carry on for years, causing distress and perhaps hardship to the family of the deceased.

Our firm does not charge a large fee for making a will, and since it is one of the most important legal documents you will ever make, it is false economy to try to do it without skilled professional advice.

How we can help? Having Rowe Lawyers draw up your will is in your interest because we will:

- Make sure your will is valid, that is, properly drawn, signed and executed.
- Make sure your wishes are clearly expressed in the will.
- Advise you regarding adequate provision for your spouse and children, or for any former spouse or any dependants
- Advise you on choosing an executor and on the executor's right to be paid for his or her time and trouble in administering your estate
- Advise you on the best way to arrange your affairs
- Keep the will in a safe place in our office, without charge.

Get your WILL today from Rowe Lawyers in 3 easy steps! At Rowe Lawyers we have developed an efficient and easy way to prepare your Will at minimal cost:

Step 1 - Contact our office by email or telephone and provide your contact details, including Name,