

March 2026 Newsletter



Dear Cherished Clients, Advisors, Colleagues, and Friends,

Welcome to our March newsletter. Questions about legal planning often arise in everyday conversations. Someone mentions helping a parent with appointments, a friend talks about updating documents, or a news story reminds us how quickly circumstances can change. These moments often prompt people to think about whether their own arrangements are clear.

In this month's article, we look at how medical decisions are handled when someone cannot speak for themselves and how planning ahead can help those situations proceed more smoothly. Even when documents are already in place, it can be helpful to revisit how they work and whether they still reflect your wishes. As always, if questions come to mind about your own planning, our office is here to help.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna".



Quips & Quotes

"Just living is not enough -
one must have sunshine,
freedom, and a little flower."

- Hans Christian Anderson

Medical Decisions Without Court Involvement in Virginia: How to Plan Ahead

Many people who have completed an estate plan already have documents in place that address medical decision making. A healthcare power of attorney, HIPAA, and living will are often part of that process. Even so, it can be helpful to revisit how these documents actually work and why they matter when a serious medical situation arises.

When someone becomes unable to communicate with doctors or make decisions about treatment, medical providers typically need clear legal authority before they can accept instructions from another person. A healthcare power of attorney provides that authority by identifying the individual who can speak on your behalf.

Since this document is prepared ahead of time, it allows medical decisions to be handled privately rather than through the court system. The person you choose is able to communicate with doctors, receive information about your condition, and help guide care when you are unable to do so yourself.

A living will addresses a different but related issue. Rather than naming a decision maker, it explains your wishes about certain medical treatments in situations involving end of life care. Providing that guidance can be especially helpful for family members who may otherwise feel uncertain about what you would want.

Even when these documents already exist, it is worth confirming that they still reflect your preferences. The person named to act may have changed, relationships evolve over time, and advances in medical care can lead people to rethink their views about treatment.

Taking a few minutes to review these documents occasionally can help ensure that they continue to provide the clarity they were designed to offer. When the right planning is in place and up to date, medical decisions are far more likely

to remain in the hands of the people you trust rather than becoming a matter that must be resolved through the court system.

If it has been a while since your healthcare power of attorney or living will was reviewed, our office would be glad to help take a look and discuss whether any updates may be appropriate. You may call us at 866-603-5976 or [connect through our website](#), and we will follow up to schedule a time to talk.



Maintenance Members

We are enjoying our time with you as we are in full swing this 2025/26 Maintenance year. If you have not scheduled yet, **please call us ASAP as your deadline for scheduling is May 1st.**

Look for more fun events as we continue the year. We started off with our annual shred it event on Saturday, October 18, 2025. Thank you to all our wonderful attendees. We had over 150 people attend and I believe everyone had a great time. I know we truly enjoyed chatting with each of you and the day was so beautiful! We were sad to have to cancel our Holiday Open House on Friday, December 5, 2025 due to the weather. We look forward to a spring event to catch up with you and hope you had a joyous season! We hope you continue to stay safe and warm this challenging and somewhat crazy winter season.

We thank you again for the generous donations for our pet charities! We continue to be a donation center so please keep our beloved pets in mind when you visit us! **Blankets are in high demand right now if you have only gently used or see any on sale you would like to donate!** We look forward to seeing many of you at the events we have planned for the rest of our maintenance year. Check out our website under 'Events' for our Coffee with Donna, and other dates that we will add to the calendar as we schedule them. We are working on our schedule so keep an eye on our event calendar.

Why Appointment Rescheduling May Incur Additional Costs

Understanding the Value Behind the Work

At our firm, we understand that life can be unpredictable. Emergencies arise, plans shift, and sometimes it is necessary to reschedule appointments. We are always happy to work with you to find a new time that fits your needs. However, we want to be transparent about why such rescheduling—especially

on short notice—will result in additional costs, particularly when your legal documents must be updated to reflect the changes.

Time Reserved for You

When we schedule your appointment, we set aside dedicated time for you—time that is specifically blocked out in our calendar. This means we turn away other clients who need assistance during that window. Rescheduling usually results in lost time that cannot be recovered or filled on short notice.

Behind-the-Scenes Work

Estate planning and legal work involve far more than just the time we spend face-to-face. Prior to your appointment, we prepare your documents, review your file, and pre-draft materials for efficiency and accuracy. When a date is changed, these documents must be re-dated, re-reviewed, and in many cases, entirely revised to maintain legal accuracy. This additional time and attention translate into added cost of time spent in staff hours, printing costs, and attorney time.

Legal Accuracy Matters

Dates are more than just calendar entries—they can have legal significance. For example, a change in the date of a trust signing, power of attorney, or healthcare directive can impact witness requirements, notary acknowledgments, or even your chosen strategy for asset transfers. To protect the integrity of your documents, we must reprocess, reprint, and in some cases, have new documents executed.

Staffing and Scheduling Impact

Changes in appointments ripple through our office. Team members who prepare, witness, notarize, and finalize your documents all work within a carefully coordinated schedule. Last-minute changes mean their time and efforts must also be redirected—sometimes involving after-hours adjustments or delays to other clients' work.

Our Commitment to You

Our goal is always to provide exceptional service, clear communication, and legal excellence. We are committed to transparency in our fees and will always explain any additional costs up front. We simply ask for your understanding and consideration when appointments need to be rescheduled.

In Summary:

We respectfully request as much notice as possible for any changes. By doing so, you help us protect the integrity of your legal documents and allow our team to continue delivering the personalized attention you deserve—efficiently and cost-effectively.

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” – Benjamin Franklin

Upcoming Events

Check out our website www.wilsonlawplc.com on our events page as we schedule our upcoming events! Also look for us on our Facebook page and our social media. We hope to see you at some of our local events below. Enjoy your April!

Daffodil Festival

**Saturday & Sunday, March 28th & March 29th
from 9:00am - 5:00pm**

6504 Main Street, Gloucester, VA

Join Gloucester for their 40th Annual Daffodil Festival to honor Gloucester's heritage, beautiful daffodils and open armed spirit. The theme this year is Anchored in Tradition, with over 200 unique vendors filled with great food and local treasures! All are welcome as there will be engaging activities and fun for all ages! With headlining entertainment from Bobby Blackhat and The Deloreans, amazing music will fill the air with the perfect energy for the weekend. For more information about the activities for this event or to apply to be a vendor, [click here](#).

Family Fun Day Food Truck Fundraiser

Saturday, March 28th from 12:00pm - 4:00pm

The Legacy of HOPE Foundation

239 Buxton Avenue, Newport News, VA

Join The Legacy of HOPE Foundation at this free community event in supporting local food trucks and small businesses. With a variety of amazing foods, come support the community as all proceeds will go towards community programs. Perfect for all ages, families and friends will have a great deal of fun. Featuring free clothing and games to participate in! [Check out more information about this event here](#).

First Fridays

Friday, April 3rd

Come to Norfolk for Downtown Norfolk's favorite block party, a free event perfect for families and friends of all ages! Browse through local vendors and come have an eventful night in the city of Norfolk. With live music, come dance your heart out while shopping for unique items and gifts from local vendors and sponsors. Support the Norfolk community by filling the streets with good energy and great people! For more information about or to participate in this event as a vendor or volunteer, [click here](#).

11th Annual Spring Fling

Saturday, April 11th from 10:00am-3:00pm

Scottish Rite Masonic Center

65 Saunders Road, Newport News, VA

Join the Tidewater Demolay for their 11th Annual Spring Fling fundraiser to support local vendors and artists throughout the community. While browsing local vendors, stop and get a hot dog or burger and some fries inside to give you some fuel! Come shop for unique items and popular brands perfect for all ages. Participate in the raffle by purchasing a \$1 raffle ticket for the opportunity to win some great prizes! For more information about this event, [click here](#).

Spring Artisans & Farmers Market

Saturday, April 18th from 12:00pm-4:00pm

Crush It Art Bar

15154 Carrollton Blvd, Suite A, Carrollton, VA

Come to Crush It Art Bar to explore what they have at their Spring Artisans & Farmers Market! Start the spring season off right by browsing through what local vendors and businesses have to offer. Featuring local makers, farmers, and small businesses come to support the community and enjoy the beginning of spring! With handmade, homegrown, and unique gifts and trinkets, all are guaranteed to find something for themselves or their loved ones. There will be food and drinks if you get hungry or just want to take a break from all the shopping, socialize with your community and come to see what the local vendors have to offer! For more information about this event or to get a drink ticket, [click here](#).

Yorktown Market Days – Sister Cities French Market

Saturday, April 18th from 8:00am-3:00pm

331 Water Street, Yorktown, VA

Come visit Yorktown for their themed Sister cities French market Days! Featuring creations from local artists and vendors bringing a touch of Paris to the waterfront in Yorktown. Filled with locally grown and crafted goodies, come sip and shop with the sound of French music in the air. Families and friends are guaranteed to find something to their liking while celebrating our connection to Port-Vendres, Yorktown's sister city. From ranges of fresh baked breads and unique wines, there will be something to satisfy your cravings! Check out more information about this event [here](#).

2026 Virginia Beach Spring Arts, Crafts & Vendor Market

Sunday, April 24th from 10:00am-5:30pm

222 Central Park Ave, Virginia Beach, VA

Come to Virginia Beach for their 2026 Virginia Beach Spring Arts, Crafts & Vendor Market. With local vendors, come shopping through all things spring to prepare to start your spring season off right! This free event features all kinds of unique and one-of-a-kind goods encompassing the creativity of the community and the upcoming spring season. Come support all the local creators and small businesses featured in this fair and enjoy a unique shopping experience encompassing the spring spirit! For more information about this event or to apply to be a vendor, [click here](#).

Spring Art Festival

Saturday, April 25th from 10:00am-6:00pm

Chesapeake City Park

900 City Park Drive, Chesapeake, VA

Come to Chesapeake City Park to celebrate their Spring Art Festival! With over 170 artists, prepare to see the city brought to life with great art and music from the community. Become immersed in local art, live music and locally crafted food. Come support local businesses, vendors and artists with their special and unique crafts and art! This free event is perfect for families and friends to celebrate with art, crafts, and a wide variety of foods. For more information about this event and the current sponsors or to register as an artist, [click here](#).

2nd Annual Spring FunFest

Saturday, April 25th from 10:00am-5:00pm

Poquoson Museum

968 Poquoson Ave, Poquoson, VA

Come support the local community in their 2nd Annual Spring FunFest organized by Project 49. With local artists and vendors, shop around through all sorts of goodies and crafts perfect for people of all ages! This free event features music and local food drinks to surely get you moving, fueled, and ready for spring. There will also be carnival games and other activities if you're in no mood to shop but to just have fun and socialize with your community! For more information about the activities for this event, [click here](#).

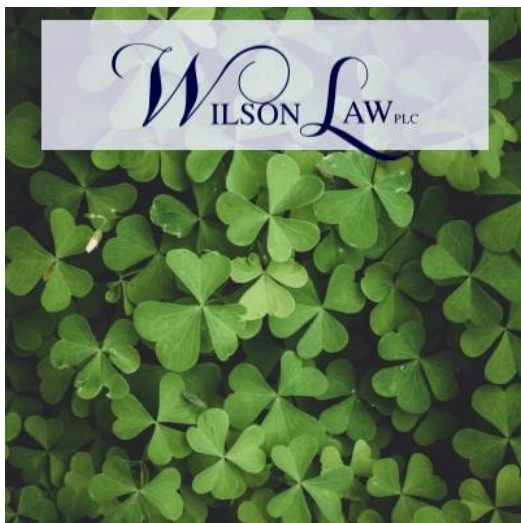
60th Annual Art on the Square

Sunday, April 26th from 10:00am-5:00pm

Junior Women's Club of Williamsburg

**W Duke of Gloucester Street and Colonial Williamsburg Lot P4,
Williamsburg, VA**

Join the Junior Women's Club of Williamsburg for the Annual Art on the Square at this free community event in supporting fine artists from across the country. With a variety of amazing art, come support the art community as all proceeds will go towards visual and performing art's organizations throughout the community. Friends and families will have a great time view unique art from artists all across the country. Buy a raffle ticket to enter in a chance to win an original oil painting by local artist Gulay Berryman! Check out more information or if you are interested in participating in this event, [click here](#).



**Did you read our
blog this month?**

Be sure to stay up to date with the latest news from Wilson Law by [clicking here](#).

Love Wilson Law?

Don't keep us a secret!
We love referrals and
knowing that you loved
our services. Don't wait
to bring someone else
into our client family!



Recipe Corner

Brown Butter Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Cookies

Ingredients

- 2 sticks (1 cup) salted butter
- 1 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 cups old fashioned oats
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 2 cups chocolate chunks or chips
- flaky sea salt, for sprinkling (optional)

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350° F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Add the butter to a skillet set over medium heat. Cook until the butter begins to brown, about 3-4 minutes. Remove from the heat and transfer to a heatproof bowl. Let cool 5 minutes or so.
3. To the brown butter, mix in the brown sugar, eggs, and vanilla, mixing until smooth. Add the flour, oats, baking soda, and salt. Gently fold in the chocolate.
4. Roll the dough into rounded tablespoon size balls and place 2 inches apart on the prepared baking sheet. Gently flatten the dough down. Bake 8 minutes. Remove from the oven, rotate and tap the baking sheet on the counter 1-2 times to flatten. Bake another 2-3 minutes or until the cookies are just beginning to set on the edges.
5. Let the cookies cool on the baking sheet. They will continue to cook slightly as they sit on the baking sheet. Sprinkle with flaky salt (if desired). Eat warm (highly recommended) or let cool and store in an airtight container for up to 4 days.

Learn More On Our Website



Attorney Donna L. Wilson

Before practicing law, Donna was a teacher and Special Education Consultant. Her lifelong interest in law, in combination with her experiences working to help families with special needs issues, led her to the specialized area of estate planning. Her ability to communicate effectively allows her to explain the intricacies of estate planning to her clients in a manner in which they can easily comprehend, enlightening them as to the infinite resources available to them in the designing of their estate plan.

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