



April 2026 Newsletter



Dear Cherished Clients, Advisors, Colleagues, and Friends,

Welcome to our April newsletter. We hope you have had a chance to enjoy the warmer weather and the change of season. There are several upcoming events this month, and we would love for you to take a look and see what may be of interest. We always enjoy the opportunity to connect outside of the office.

In this month's article, we take a closer look at how legal planning supports medical decision making when it matters most. Even when documents are already in place, understanding how they function in real situations can make a meaningful difference. As always, if questions come to mind about your own planning, our office is here to help.

Warm Regards,



When Legal Planning Supports Health and Stability

Many people who have already completed their estate plan feel a sense of relief knowing the major documents are in place. That is an important first step. What is less obvious is how those documents actually function when a medical situation arises.

In practice, the difference between a plan that exists and a plan that works often comes down to a few practical details.

One of the most common issues is access. A healthcare power of attorney may name the right person, yet that individual may not know where the document is stored or how to provide it quickly. In a hospital setting, timing matters. If the document cannot be produced when it is needed, decisions may be delayed while staff determine who has authority.

Another situation that comes up more often than expected involves outdated

choices. The person originally named to make decisions may no longer be the best fit. Relationships change, people move, and availability shifts over time. A document that was well thought out years ago may no longer reflect what would work best today.

There is also the question of how clearly preferences are communicated. A living will provides guidance, yet many families have never discussed those preferences in practical terms. When a situation becomes urgent, even a well drafted document may leave room for uncertainty if conversations have not happened ahead of time.

Medical situations do not always involve long term care or end of life decisions. Short term events, such as surgery or recovery from an illness, can still require someone to step in. In those moments, having both the legal authority and a clear understanding of expectations can make the process much smoother.

For many clients, the most valuable step may not be creating new documents, but taking a few minutes to confirm that everything still works as intended. Knowing who is named, where documents are located, and whether those choices still make sense can prevent unnecessary complications later.

Legal planning supports health and stability when it is not only in place, but also current and accessible.

If it has been some time since you last reviewed these details, our office would be glad to help take a closer look with you. You may call us at 866-603-5976 or [reach out through our website](#), and we will follow up to arrange 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 seeing you as spring has finally sprung!

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 May!

13th Annual Hike for Hospice House

Saturday, May 2nd from 9:00am-12:00pm
326 West Francis Street, Williamsburg, VA

Come support Hospice House of Williamsburg on the Lawn at the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg for their 13th Annual Hike for Hospice House. This event is not just about walking, it is about celebrating life, love and community as you support those in need of care and compassion. There will be activities for friends and families all raising funds in support of this extremely important community resource. Children 12 and under get free admission, each ticket purchased includes a free T-shirt in support of this cause! Assorted snacks and water bottles will also be provided. For more information about this event, how to sign up, or to donate to this important cause, [click here](#).

Spring Vintage Market

Saturday, May 2nd from 10:00am-4:00pm
319 Main Street, Smithfield, VA

With over 75 vendors, come to Downtown Smithfield for their Spring Vintage Market! Friends and families are welcome to this free event to explore a wide range of vintage items. Shop for one-of-a-kind antiques, crafts, and other restored or upcycled items, perfect for special and unique gifts for yourself or someone else! Need a bite to eat or something to drink? A food court will be there to fuel you and your shopping habits if you need a break. There will also be live music if you get tired of shopping and want to take a dance break! To learn more about this event or what vendors and artists will be there, [click here](#).

Hampton Mosaic Festival

Saturday, May 2nd from 12:00pm-7:00pm
Mill Point Park
100 Eaton Street, Hampton, VA

Experience the unique cultures of different civilizations through art, music, food, dance, and history at the Annual Hampton Mosaic Festival. Perfect for children and adults, come participate in interactive activities such as games, heritage crafts, stage entertainment, DIY art stations, and so much more! Celebrate different world cultures and embrace diversity through many different art forms that are guaranteed to bring about a sense of belonging. For more information about this event, [click here](#).

Art at the River Juried Art Show

Sunday, May 3rd from 10:00am-4:00pm
Riverwalk Landing
425 Water Street, Yorktown, VA

Come down to Riverwalk Landing to enjoy a Sunday filled with creativity and wonder everywhere you turn. Showcasing over 35 local artists, bring your family and friends for an afternoon filled with unique art located all throughout Historic Yorktown's waterfront. Spot something that catches your interests? Paintings, Pottery, Glass Art, Jewelry, Woodwork, and many more will be on display and for sale! Food and drinks will be located all through the waterfront if you need to stop for a bite to eat or drink. For more information about this event, [click here](#).

River Walk Spring Craft Show

Saturday, May 9th from 8:45am-1:45pm
701 River Walk Parkway, Chesapeake, VA

Stroll through the grounds of the Clubhouse to shop for local handmade goods from a variety of artists and vendors. Explore the art works of local artists to experience and support the creativity of the local community. With over 35 artists and vendors, you are guaranteed to find one-of-a-kind and unique goods and gifts! This free event is family friendly, so friends and families are welcome to start the spring season off with a unique shopping experience. Not

necessarily looking to shop? You can still come and enjoy the art of the local community and socialize. Check out more information about this [event here](#).

2026 Newport News Spring Vendor Fair

**Saturday, May 16th from 9:00am-3:00pm
14425 Old Courthouse Way, Newport News, VA**

Join the Salvation Army for their Spring Vendor Fair to celebrate that start of warm weather and spring spirit! This festive fair will feature countless numbers of vendors who will be showcasing and selling handmade goods and brand name items. There will be local artisans and craftsmen, so come support your community by exploring their handmade and one-of-a-kind items. Whether you are looking for something unique or something more commonly known, there will surely be something to satisfy you! Families and friends are welcome, as this is a free event open to all. Grab a bite to eat from a wide range of food vendors while you shop and explore the different kinds of goodies. For more information about this event and the current sponsors or to register as a vendor, [click here](#).

42nd Annual Spring Stockley Gardens Arts Festival

**Saturday, May 16th, from 10:00am-5:00pm & Sunday, May 17th, from
12:00pm-5:00pm
Stockley Gardens Park
1300 Stockley Gardens, Norfolk, VA**

Come support the Hope House Foundation for their 42nd Annual Spring Stockley Gardens Arts Festival! This two-day event features over 125 artists from all across the world, showcasing their individual artistic and creative ability in all different types of art forms. 100% of the proceeds from the festival support individuals with developmental disabilities supported by the Hope House Foundation. This festival is free and open to all, so friends and families are welcome to come enjoy the peaceful nature of art in a variety of different cultures and forms. There will also be live music and a wide variety of food for all to enjoy, if you get hungry or want to bust a move! Come enjoy the spirit of spring and explore what the local community and artists from across the seas have to offer. For more information about this event or to sign up to volunteer, [click here](#).

17th Annual Virginia Beach Surf Art Expo

Saturday, May 23rd - Monday, May 25th from 10:00am-7:00pm
3-7th Streets Virginia Beach Boardwalk, Virginia Beach, VA

Join the Virginia Beach Surf Art Expo for their 17th Annual Surf Art Expo at the Virginia Beach Boardwalk. Featuring over 80 artists, join them as you walk down the boardwalk of Virginia Beach to experience a unique art experience surrounding surfing and beach vibes. You'll be able to experience the beach and surfing lifestyle through art as you are exploring what Virginia Beach, and the artists have to offer. This event is free and perfect for individuals of all ages! Bring your family and friends to experience the calm and refreshing feeling of ocean life. Check out more information or if you are interested in signing up as an artist 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

Baked Tortellini

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 cup diced yellow onion
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 pound mild Italian sausage
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon chicken flavored bouillon
- 1 (28-ounce) can crushed tomatoes
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 ½ teaspoons sea salt
- 1 bunch kale, stemmed and roughly chopped (about 4 cups)
- 20 ounces fresh tortellini
- 3 cups shredded mozzarella
- Grated Parmesan, for serving (optional)
- Minced flat leaf parsley, for serving (optional)
- Red pepper flakes, (optional)

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F with a rack in the center position. Lightly grease a 9x13 baking dish.

2. Heat the olive oil in a large pot or Dutch oven over medium heat. Once the oil is glistening, add the onion and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and sausage and cook, breaking up the sausage with a wooden spoon, until browned, about 5 minutes more. Drain off any excess fat.
3. Stir in the tomato paste, bouillon, and kale until the kale is wilted, about 4 minutes. Stir in the crushed tomatoes, heavy cream, and salt.
4. Add the tortellini to the prepared baking dish and sprinkle with 1½ cups of the mozzarella. Pour the kale and tomato mixture over the tortellini and gently stir to combine. Sprinkle it with the remaining mozzarella.
5. Cover tightly with foil and bake until bubbling, about 35 minutes. Remove the foil and turn on the broiler. Broil until the cheese is lightly browned, about 5 minutes.
6. Divide between bowls and top with Parmesan, parsley, and red pepper flakes, if using, before serving.

**Recipe courtesy of themodernproper.com*

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.

Wilson Law PLC | 430 McLaws Circle, Suite 102 | Williamsburg, VA 23185 US

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