

## **ALABAMA ADVANCE DIRECTIVE**

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# ADVANCE DIRECTIVE FOR HEALTH CARE

(Living Will and Health Care Proxy)

This form may be used in the State of Alabama to make your wishes known about what medical treatment or other care you **would** or **would not** want if you become too sick to speak for yourself. You are not required to have an advance directive. If you do have an advance directive, be sure that your doctor, family, and friends know you have one and know where it is located.

Section 1. Living Will
I,, being of sound mind and at least 19 years old, would like to make the
following wishes known. I direct that my family, my doctors and health care workers, and all others
follow the directions I am writing down. I know that at any time I can change my mind about these
directions by tearing up this form and writing a new one. I can also do away with these directions by
tearing them up and by telling someone at least 19 years of age of my wishes and asking him or her to
write them down.
I understand that these directions will only be used if I am not able to speak for myself.
If I become terminally ill or injured:
Terminally ill or injured is when my doctor and another doctor decide that I have a condition that
cannot be cured and that I will likely die in the near future from this condition.
Life sustaining treatment - Life sustaining treatment includes drugs, machines, or medical
procedures that would keep me alive but would not cure me. I know that even if I choose not to have
life sustaining treatment, I will still get medicines and treatments that ease my pain and keep me
comfortable.
Place your initials by either "yes" or "no":
I want to have life sustaining treatment if I am terminally ill or injured Yes No
Artificially provided food and hydration (Food and water through a tube or an IV) - I understand
that if I am terminally ill or injured I may need to be given food and water through a tube or an IV to
keep me alive if I can no longer chew or swallow on my own or with someone helping me.
Place your initials by either "yes" or "no":
I want to have food and water provided through a tube or an IV if I am terminally ill or injured.
Yes No

### If I Become Permanently Unconscious:

Permanent unconsciousness is when my doctor and another doctor agree that within a reasonable degree of medical certainty I can no longer think, feel anything, knowingly move, or be aware of being alive. They believe this condition will last indefinitely without hope for improvement and have watched me long enough to make that decision. I understand that at least one of these doctors must be qualified to make such a diagnosis.

Life sustaining treatment – Life sustaining treatment includes drugs, machines, or other medical procedures that would keep me alive but would not cure me. I know that even if I choose not to have life sustaining treatment, I will still get medicines and treatments that ease my pain and keep me comfortable.

Place your initials by either "yes" or "no":
I want to have life-sustaining treatment if I am permanently unconscious Yes No
Artificially provided food and hydration (Food and water through a tube or an IV) – I understand
that if I become permanently unconscious, I may need to be given food and water through a tube or an
IV to keep me alive if I can no longer chew or swallow on my own or with someone helping me.
Place your initials by either "yes" or "no":
I want to have food and water provided through a tube or an IV if I am permanently unconscious.
Yes No
Other Directions: Please list any other things you want done or not done.  In addition to the directions I have listed on this form, I also want the following:
If you do not have other directions, place your initials here:
No, I do not have any other directions.

# Section 2. If I need someone to speak for me.

This form can be used in the State of Alabama to name a person you would like to make medical or other decisions for you if you become too sick to speak for yourself. This person is called a health care proxy. You do not have to name a health care proxy. The directions in this form will be followed even if you do not name a health care proxy.

Place your initials by only o	ne answer:		
I do not want to nam	ne a health care prox	xy. (If you chec	k this answer, go to Section 3)
I <b>do</b> want the person about my wishes.	listed below to be r	my health care p	proxy. I have talked with this person
First choice for proxy:			
Relationship to me:			
Address:			
City:	State	Zip	
Day-time phone number:			
Night-time phone number:			
choice: Second choice for proxy:			
Relationship to me:			
Address:			
City:	State	Zip	
Day-time phone number:			
Night-time phone number:			
Instructions for Proxy			
Place your initials by either	•		
		at whether to give	ve me food and water through a tube
or an IV. Yes No	1		

Place your initials by only one of the following:
I want my health care proxy to follow <b>only</b> the directions as listed on this form.
I want my health care proxy to follow my directions as listed on this form <b>and</b> to make any decisions about things I have not covered in the form.
I want my health care proxy to make the final decision, even though it could mean doing something different from what I have listed on this form.
Section 3. The things listed on this form are what I want.
I understand the following:
■ If my doctor or hospital does not want to follow the directions I have listed, they must see that I get to a doctor or hospital who will follow my directions.
■ If I am pregnant, or if I become pregnant, the choices I have made on this form will not be followed until after the birth of the baby.
■ If the time comes for me to stop receiving life sustaining treatment or food and water through a tube or an IV, I direct that my doctor talk about the good and bad points of doing this, along with my wishes, with my health care proxy, if I have one, and with the following people:
Section 4. My signature
Your name:
The month, day, and year of your birth:
Your signature:
Date signed:

## Section 5. Witnesses (need two witnesses to sign)

I am witnessing this form because I believe this person to be of sound mind. I did not sign the person's signature, and I am not the health care proxy. I am not related to the person by blood, adoption, or marriage and not entitled to any part of his or her estate. I am at least 19 years of age and am not directly responsible for paying for his or her medical care.

Name of first witness:

Signature:	
Date:	
Name of second witness:	
Signature:	
Se	ction 6. Signature of Proxy
I,	, am willing to serve as the health care proxy.
Signature:	Date:
Signature of Second Choice fo	or Proxy:
I,	, am willing to serve as the health care proxy if the first choice
cannot serve.	
Signature:	Date:



# CRITICAL STEP: SHARE YOUR COMPLETED DOCUMENT!

Your document is only helpful if people know where to find it when it is needed. It's important to discuss the decisions outlined in your document with anyone you designate to act on your behalf in a health emergency. Here's a quick guide to sharing your document once it has been completed and satisfies the legal requirements for your state (if applicable).

#### WHO NEEDS A COPY OF YOUR DOCUMENT?

- Anyone assigned a decision-making role in the document
- A spouse or significant other
- A trusted family member or friend
- Any doctors you see on a regular basis
- Any hospital or facility in which you regularly receive care
- A lawyer and/or estate planner, if you have one

#### **HOW TO SHARE YOUR DOCUMENT**

Use Cake! Upload your document to a free Cake account for safekeeping.
 Share 24/7 secure document access with anyone that has an email address\*

Create your free Cake account: <a href="https://www.joincake.com/share-free">www.joincake.com/share-free</a>

2) **Or, print** and provide copies to everyone who needs one

#### WHY PLAN & SHARE WITH CAKE?

- Get a personalized checklist that guides you through each step
- Make healthcare, financial, funeral, and legacy decisions
- Create, upload, and print all your end-of-life documents
- Share 24/7 document access with anyone that has an email address\*

Create your free Cake account: <a href="https://www.joincake.com/share-free">www.joincake.com/share-free</a>

<sup>\*</sup> Some healthcare providers may require a paper copy of your document to be able to enter it into their records.