



Estate & Succession Planning Dubai



Whitmill
Highly Personalised Expertise



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A Will is a legal document that declares your intentions as to what should happen to the distribution of your assets, on death.

These assets typically include real estate, money, investments, jewellery, vehicles and personal or household belonging that you own, and they can be bequeathed to individuals, families or institutions, either in part or as a whole.

A Will can also be used to specify other wishes including the appointment of temporary and permanent long-term guardians for children, contributions to charitable causes and specifying funeral arrangements.

For those that have assets in the UAE there is a simple reason to make a Will. The Government of Dubai official website states that 'The UAE courts will adhere to Sharia law in any situation where there is no Will in place'.

Whitmill believe it is of the utmost importance to secure our client's assets in the GCC region as well as any worldwide interests. Our professional network provides the necessary expertise to put in place measures that will ensure the security of our clients' assets and put in place a succession plan as required to ensure the succession of monetary, as well as non-monetary interests such as guardianship.

UAE Wills

We can assist to draft and finalise a regional or worldwide Will and then make the necessary arrangements to submit, register and execute the Will in the UAE courts. Whitmill can take care of every step of the process and escort clients to the courts for the execution.

This is an easy and straight forward process which can be prepared and executed in one to two days. An Arabic legal translation of the Will is also required to be submitted with the UAE courts.

DIFC Wills

DIFC Wills and probate has been set up in the past two years allowing non-Muslim expats as well as foreign investors who do not reside in the UAE to register Wills in the DIFC. The DIFC Wills registration is possible as the DIFC has its own set of laws, following UK common law which is overseen by the DIFC Courts.

In the first one to two years the registration of a DIFC Will was not a popular choice as it was untested as well as being expensive, limiting the expat demographic who would chose to use the service.

From 2017 however, a change in the service and pricing has increased the audience and appeal, making it available to a wider demographic.

DIFC Wills are now being offered as an option for all our clients. Whitmill have seen an increased interest from Expats from both the East and West registering Wills with the DIFC.

It is important that all documents are executed in English and under the UK common law that is being practiced by many Ex Commonwealth countries such as India Pakistan and Australia.

FEES & Charges

UAE Will

- Government Fee: 200 USD
- Arabic Translation Fee: 150 USD
- Our fee: from 800 USD

DIFC Will

- Government Fee: 2750 USD
- Our Fee from: 800 USD

Succession planning

Whitmill's professional team will also be able to advise on worldwide succession planning and more complex options such as the establishment of International Company Structures, International Trusts and Foundations in order to set up a Corporate or family succession plan in confidence.

Please note that the information and any commentary on the law or tax related matters contained in this document is only intended as a general statement and is provided for information purposes only and no action should be taken in reliance on it without specific legal or tax advice. Every reasonable effort is made to make the information and commentary accurate and up to date, but no responsibility for its accuracy and correctness, or for any consequence of relying on it, is assumed by the author. Further this factsheet is not intended to amount to legal advice.

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