

East Midlanders at risk from out of date Wills

New research released this month has revealed that as many as 68 per cent of people across the East Midlands do not know if their Will is up to date.

Research conducted on behalf of the Law Society shows that thousands of people risk leaving loved ones with nothing after their death because they do not know the contents of their own Will.

Martin Fallows from East Midland's law firm, Shacklocks, said:

“Once a Will is made the majority of people tend to put it away and forget about it and not realise that a change in circumstances, such as remarriage or divorce, should always be reflected in their Will or they risk not having their wishes carried out upon their death.”

Martin warns that changing circumstances are not always reflected in a person's Will, meaning that parts of the deceased's estate will not be passed on to family and friends. Martin points out that there are a number of circumstances which could require a change to an existing Will, and not just the obvious ones, including:

- Divorce or separation
- Selling of an asset, such as property
- Purchasing a large asset, such as a second home
- Having children or grandchildren
- Starting or selling a business
- People who marry or remarry or enter civil partnerships can be particularly at risk if they fail to take action

“We make regular on-going contact with our clients so that we can update them on changes in the law which might affect them and changes in their lives which will affect their Will. Making a Will is only the start of the process. Keeping your Will up to date is essential if the correct people are going to benefit from your assets.

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If you would like a free initial consultation with Shacklocks please contact Helen Simpson on 0845 602 2344

Ends

Notes to Editors

About Shacklocks

Shacklocks is a business committed to valuing lifetime relationships with clients. The firm provides legal, financial and investment advice to businesses and private clients and was established over 150 years ago.

Shacklocks holds the prestigious Lexcel accreditation, awarded by the Law Society only to firms demonstrating high levels of quality, client care and management. It currently has a staff of 70 people, including nine partners.

Shacklocks has been featured in the legal 500 annual survey of the top UK law firms for the last five years and has seven offices throughout the East Midlands.

The firm's Managing Partner is Martin Fallows who can be contacted at martinf@shacklocks.co.uk or on 07872 339718

If you would like an image to accompany this story or an interview with a lawyer experienced in business legal issues please contact Kim Peatfield. We are also happy to discuss feature ideas on other law related issues and provide specialists, comments, statistics and advice on forthcoming legislation.

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