



Registration of a Will

Registration of a Will is not mandatory hence many individual when sign his/her Will, they believe that no one in family will challenge genuineness of Will or create any doubts on his Will which is witnessed by two known witnesses who can support to appear before court of law to prove that Will is genuine.

Some individuals get attestation of a Notary Public in addition to two witnesses, this can further strengthen genuineness since a neutral lawyer appointed by court as Notary Public also sign as "Before Me" attestation.

Registration is done at Government office by a process where a person who has made Will appear before Govt. officer to record that he has made his Will. Following points to be noted:

1. Registration of Will is not mandatory, it is as per wishes of the person who has made Will.
2. There is not specific time frame for registration of a Will, it can be registered any time during lifetime of person who made his/her Will.
3. Will can be signed at residence or any other place as per wish of person who made Will, however it has to be in presence of Two witnesses.
4. There is no Govt fees to be paid for registration of Will except for scanning or photocopy charges.
5. Registration of Will should be done at the Office of Sub-registrar within nearest to residence of person who made Will.
6. For registration of a Will, following has to be arranged :
 - a. Original signed Will
 - b. Personal visit of personal who made his Will with two passport size photo
 - c. Person visit of Two witnesses (these can be different or same witnesses who signed Will) with two passport size photo of both witnesses
 - d. PAN card or any photo proof of person who has made Will
 - e. PAN card or any photo proof of both witnesses who will visit for registration
 - f. Current / latest utility bill of residence of person who has made Will
7. Sub-registrar Offices where records are kept on computers can return the original Will after registration on same day.
8. Sub-registrar Offices where manual records are maintained, registration of Will take few days / months and in the meantime an Original is kept with Registrar against issue of a 'receipt'.
9. Inspection of registered Will is not allowed for public, such inspection is only allowed to person who has made his Will.
10. After death of person who has registered Will, the Sub-registrar can allow copy or access of records to family with due validation.