

## Signing a Codicil

A Will is a very formal legal document that has to be signed in a certain way under state law. Since a Codicil is an amendment to a Will, the same signing procedure applies. The following declarations should be made in the presence of the Notary Public and at least two witnesses. The witnesses should not be beneficiaries under the will or codicil. A man making a Codicil to a Will is called a "Testator" and a woman making a Codicil to a Will is called a "Testatrix." After you execute the Codicil the original should be placed with your other legal documents in a safety deposit box or a fire proof cabinet. You should keep a copy in your Document Portfolio.

### Before signing

#### Testator/Testatrix Should Repeat The Following:

"The document before me is a Codicil to my Last Will and Testament. It has been drafted at my direction, has been made without influence from others and is my free and voluntary act. I know what I own and to whom I want to leave it and my Codicil sets out my wishes. I am over 18 years of age and am of sound mind."

Turn the Codicil on its side and sign each page in the margin of the pages where there are not signature lines on the page. Where there are lines for you to sign, sign your full name as it appears in your Will.

#### To Witnesses:

Please sign on the two pages of the Codicil where there are places for you to sign. Please note that your name should also be printed in the blanks on the next to last page.

### After Signing

The Testator/Testatrix And Witnesses Should Raise Their Hand And Repeat The Following:

"I swear to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help me God."

Testator/Testatrix Should Repeat:

"I signed the Codicil in the presence of the witnesses and it was my free and voluntary act."

#### Witnesses Should Repeat:

"I saw the Testator/Testatrix sign the Codicil and all the signings were done in the same room at the same time."