

# Advance Health Care Directive in California

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An Advance Health Care Directive is also known as a “living will” in some states. California passed a law in 2000 replacing the living will, or Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, with an Advance Health Care Directive. The Advance Health Care Directive allows an individual to provide specific instructions for health care including what measures should be taken.

## **Maintaining Control over your Health Care Decisions**

Some people prefer to have any and all measures taken to save the person’s life while others prefer to request that no “extreme measures” be taken. “Extreme measures” might include putting someone in a coma for an undetermined length of time or it may mean living on machines, or keeping someone alive when they may have no ability to talk, think and/or communicate with others. An Advance Health Care Directive allows a person to control whether he should be allowed to die without intervention from machines and without compromising his quality of life.

## **Getting Legal Help**

Experienced California Estate Planning and Elder Law Attorney Shannon Howell can help you create the documents you need to protect your health and your loved ones. **Contact us today to discuss your individual planning needs at (619)-739-4657.**

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