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CRITICAL DOCUMENTS FOR MANAGING FINANCIAL AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

1. Durable Power of Attorney – authorizes agent to manage your financial affairs;
2. Medical Power of Attorney – authorizes agent to make your health care decisions if you are unable to make the decision;
3. HIPAA Authorization – authorizes others to access your medical information including health insurance claims;
4. Advance Directive – expresses your wishes regarding medical treatment in the event you are diagnosed with a terminal illness or have life changing event and unable to make the decision at that time;
5. DNR – Do Not Resuscitate- Authorizes paramedics in a certain emergency situations not to revive you;
6. Declaration of Guardian- informs the court as to your choice regarding a guardian in the event one becomes necessary;
7. Last Will & Testament – instructions as to how to dispose of your property after death;
8. Disposition of Remains – instructions regarding your burial wishes;
9. Mental Health Medical Directive – expresses your wishes regarding mental health treatment if you are unable to make the decision.

This is not a complete list of all documents available and is not a substitute for legal advice. Please consult a professional to determine what legal documents would be best for you or your loved one.