

PENNSYLVANIA CONSOLIDATED STATUTES
TITLE 20. DECEDENTS, ESTATES AND FIDUCIARIES
CHAPTER 54. HEALTH CARE
SUBCHAPTER D. COMBINED FORM

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20 Pa.C.S. § 5471 (2010)

§ 5471. Example

The following is an example of a document that combines a living will and health care power of attorney:

DURABLE HEALTH CARE
POWER OF ATTORNEY AND
HEALTH CARE TREATMENT INSTRUCTIONS
(LIVING WILL)

PART I
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS ON
HEALTH CARE DECISION MAKING

You have the right to decide the type of health care you want.

Should you become unable to understand, make or communicate decisions about medical care, your wishes for medical treatment are most likely to be followed if you express those wishes in advance by:

- (1) naming a health care agent to decide treatment for you; and
- (2) giving health care treatment instructions to your health care agent or health care provider.

An advance health care directive is a written set of instructions expressing your wishes for medical treatment. It may contain a health care power of attorney, where you name a person called a "health care agent" to decide treatment for you, and a living will, where you tell your health care agent and health care providers your choices regarding the initiation, continuation, withholding or withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment and other specific directions.

You may limit your health care agent's involvement in deciding your medical treatment so that your health care agent will speak for you only when you are unable to speak for yourself or you may give your health care agent the power to speak for you immediately. This combined form gives your health care agent the power to speak for you only when you are unable to speak for yourself. A living will cannot be followed unless your attending physician determines that you lack the ability to understand, make or communicate health care decisions for yourself and you are either permanently unconscious or you have an end-