# SOUTH DAKOTA WILL INSTRUCTIONS

1. This will is designed to be completed on your computer. To do so, use your mouse and click on each field which will be highlighted in gray. This will replace the gray with the words you type.

Example: \_\_\_\_\_\_ [1]\_\_\_\_\_ will become JOHN DOE.

2. Article / Field Completion Instructions

Field [1]	-	Your name.
Field [2]	-	Your name
Field [3]	-	Your County of Residence.

### Article One

Field [4] - Type the name of person you reside with. Fields [5] – [10] are omitted.

## **Article Three**

This article is for you to specify specific property to go to a specific person. If you do not leave any, type none and delete the fields.

Field [11] - Type name.	
Field [12] - Type street a	ddress.
Field [13] - Additional Ad	dress line.
Field [14] - City, State, Zi	ip.
Field [15] - Relationship.	
Field [16] - Describe the	property to go to this person.
Field [17] - Type name.	
Field [18] - Type street a	ddress.
Field [19] - Additional Ad	dress line.
Field [20] - City, State, Zi	ip.
Field [21] - Relationship.	
Field [22] - Describe the	property
Field [23] - Type name.	
Field [24] - Type street a	ddress.
Field [25] - Additional Ad	dress line.
Field [26] - City, State, Zi	ip.
Field [27] - Relationship.	
Field [28] - Describe the	property

# **Article Four**

This article is for you to leave your homestead, if you have one on the date of death to persons designated.

Field [29]	-	Type name of person to receive homestead.
Field [30]	-	Check this box if heirs are selected.

NOTE: If you do not name a person in field 29 and you desire to name a person or persons other than your heirs at law you may delete "heirs at law" and name the person or person(s) to receive your property.

Note: If your home is jointly owned with another and held as joint tenants with rights of survivorship, the home will pass to the survivor and will not be controlled by your will. If this is the case, name the joint tenant in field 29.

### **Article Five**

This article is for you to leave all the rest and remainder of your property except your homestead and any special items you listed in Article Three.

Field [31]	-	Type name of person to receive all other property.
Field [32]	-	Check this box if heirs are selected.

NOTE: If you do not name a person in field 31 and you desire to name a person or persons other than your heirs at law you may delete "heirs at law" and name the person or person(s) to receive your property. If you name a person in field 31 you may also change "heirs at law" in that section to person(s) you designate.

### Article Six

This article is for you to name your personal representative. This must be an adult and can be the person with whom you live.

Field [34]	-	Type name of Personal Representative.
Field [35]	-	Type name of successor Personal Representative.

### **Article Eleven**

All parts of Article 11 are optional. Complete as desired. Be sure to write your initials for any of these items you desire to apply.

Field [36]	-	Type name of Cemetery.
Field [37]	-	Type County.
Field [38]	-	Type State.

### Ending and Signature

-	Your name.
-	Your name.
	- - - - -

All other blanks in the Will are typically completed by hand, such as the names of the witnesses, day, month and year executed, etc.

Once you have completed the Will double check all entries and then print. The Will should be signed by you in front of two witnesses, not related to you. Please sign all pages of the Will in the places designated.

The self proving affidavit is optional but recommended. It is used to prove the Will and make the Will subject to probate. If the affidavit is not completed now, someone will have to locate the witnesses after your death and obtain an affidavit. Therefore, it is best to sign the Will in the present of two witnesses AND a notary public so that the affidavit can be completed by the Notary.

You should keep your Will in a safe place once executed. It is also recommended that you give a copy to your executor or other person as additional proof of execution.

This package contains two wills, one for the man and one for the woman to complete. They are the same. Use the instructions above to complete both.

For additional information, see the Law Summary and Information and Preview links in the search results for this form. A Definitions section is linked on the Information and Preview page.

### LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF

[1]\_\_\_\_\_

### BE IT KNOWN THIS DAY THAT,

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_[2]\_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_[3]\_\_\_\_\_ County, South Dakota, being of legal age and of sound and disposing mind and memory, and not acting under duress, menace, fraud, or undue influence of any person, do make, declare and publish this to be my Will and hereby revoke any Will or Codicil I may have made.

## ARTICLE ONE Marriage and Children

I am not married. I reside with \_\_\_\_\_\_[4]\_\_\_\_. I am a parent of no children.

### ARTICLE TWO Debts and Expenses

I direct my Personal Representative to pay all costs and expenses of my last illness and funeral expenses. I further direct my Personal Representative to pay all of my just debts that may be probated, registered and allowed against my estate. However, this provision shall not extend the statute of limitations for the payment of debts, or enlarge upon my legal obligation or any statutory duty of my Personal Representative to pay debts.

### ARTICLE THREE Specific Bequests of Real and/or Personal Property

I will, give and bequeath unto the persons named below, if he or she survives me, the Property described below:

Name [11] Property: [16]	Address [12] [13] [14]	Relationship [15]
Name [17] Property: [22]	Address [18] [19] [20]	Relationship [21]
Name	Address	Relationship

[23]		

[27]

Property: [28]

### [LIST OR STATE NO PROPERTY LEFT UNDER THIS ARTICLE]

[24]

[25] [26]

In the event I name a person in this Article and said person predeceases me, the bequest to such person shall lapse and the property shall pass under the other provisions of this Will. In the event that I do not possess or own any property listed above on the date of my death, the bequest of that property shall lapse.

### ARTICLE FOUR Homestead or Primary Residence

I will, devise and bequeath all my interest in my homestead or primary residence, if I own a homestead or primary residence on the date of my death that passes through this Will, to:

(select and complete only one)
[29]\_\_\_\_\_.
OR
[30]\_\_\_\_\_, my heirs at law.

If the person or persons, does not survive me, then my homestead or primary residence shall pass under the residuary clause of this Will.

## ARTICLE FIVE All Remaining Property – Residuary Clause

I will, devise, bequeath and give all the rest and remainder of my property and estate of every kind and character, including, but not limited to, real and personal property in which I may have an interest at the date of my death and which is not otherwise effectively disposed of, to:

(select and complete only one) [31] [31] [aw. OR [ my heirs at law.	 _ predeceases me,	In I leave all	the my prope	event rty to my	that heirs at
Appointment of Personal	ARTICLE SIX Representative	, Executo	or or Exe	cutrix	
I hereby appoint[34] estate and this Will. In the event my Pe reason, shall fail to qualify or cease to ac [35] estate and Will.		tive shall p Represent	oredeceas ative, ther	e me, or, I hereby	for any appoint
The term "Personal Representative", as	used in this Will, s	shall be de	emed to r	nean and	include

"Personal Representative", "Executor" or "Executrix".

# ARTICLE SEVEN Waiver of Bond, Inventory, Accounting, Reporting and Approval

My Personal Representative and successor Personal Representative shall serve without any bond, and I hereby waive the necessity of preparing or filing any inventory, accounting, appraisal, reporting, approvals or final appraisement of my estate.

### ARTICLE EIGHT Powers of Personal Representative, Executor and Executrix

I direct that my Personal Representative shall have broad discretion in the administration of my Estate, without the necessity of Court approval. I grant unto my Personal Representative, all powers that are allowed to be exercised by Personal Representatives by the laws of the State of South Dakota and to the extent not prohibited by the laws of South Dakota, the following additional powers:

1. To exercise all of the powers, rights and discretions granted by virtue of any "Uniform Trustees' Powers Law," and/or "Probate Code" adopted by the State of South Dakota.

2. To compromise claims and to abandon property which, in my Executor's opinion is of little or no value.

3. To purchase or otherwise acquire and to retain any and all stocks, bonds, notes or other securities, or shares or interests in investment trusts and common trust funds, or in any other property, real, personal or mixed, as my Personal Representative may deem advisable, whether or not such investments or property be of the character permissible by fiduciaries, without being liable to any person for such retention or investment.

4. To settle, adjust, dissolve, windup or continue any partnership or other entity in which I may own a partnership or equity interest at the time of my death, subject, however, to the terms of any partnership or other agreement to which I am a party at the time of my death. I authorize my Personal Representative to continue in any partnership or other entity for such periods and upon such terms as they shall determine. My Personal Representative shall not be disqualified by reason of being a partner, equity owner or title holder in such firm from participating on behalf of my estate in any dealings herein authorized to be carried on between my Personal Representative and the partners or equity owners of any such partnership or other entity.

5. To lease, sale, or offer on a lease purchase, any real or personal property for such time and upon such terms and conditions in such manner as may be deemed advisable by my Personal Representative, all without court approval.

6. To sell, exchange, assign, transfer and convey any security or property, real or personal, held in my estate, or in any trust, at public or private sale, at such time and price and upon such terms and conditions (including credit) as my Personal Representative may deem advisable and for the best interest of my estate, or any trust. I hereby waive any requirement of issuing summons, giving notice of any hearing, conducting or holding any such hearing, filing bond or other security, or in any way obtaining court authority or approval for any such sale,

exchange, assignment, transfer or conveyance of any real or personal property.

7. To pay all necessary expenses of administering the estate and any trust including taxes, trustees' fees, fees for the services of accountants, agents and attorneys, and to reimburse said parties for expenses incurred on behalf of the estate or any trust hereunder.

8. Unless otherwise specifically provided, to make distributions (including the satisfaction of any pecuniary bequest) in cash or in specific property, real or personal, or in an undivided interest therein, or partly in cash and partly in other property, and to do so with or without regard to the income tax basis of specific property allocated to any beneficiary and without making pro rata distributions of specific assets.

9. To determine what is principal and what is income with respect to all receipts and disbursements; to establish and maintain reserves for depreciation, depletion, obsolescence, taxes, insurance premiums, and any other purpose deemed necessary and proper by them and to partite and to distribute property of the estate or trust in kind or in undivided interests, and to determine the value of such property.

10. To participate in any plan of reorganization, consolidation, dissolution, redemption, or similar proceedings involving assets comprising my estate or any trust created hereunder, and to deposit or withdraw securities under any such proceedings.

11. To perform such acts, to participate in such proceedings and to exercise such other rights and privileges in respect to any property, as if she or he were the absolute owner thereof, and in connection therewith to enter into and execute any and all agreements binding my estate and any trust created hereunder.

12. To compromise, settle or adjust any claim or demand by or against my estate, or any trust, to litigate any such claims, including, without limitation, any claims relating to estate or income taxes, or agree to rescind or modify any contract or agreement.

13. To borrow money from such source or sources and upon such terms and conditions as my Personal Representative shall determine, and to give such security therefor as my Personal Representative may determine.

All authorities and powers hereinabove granted unto my Personal Representative shall be exercised from time to time in her or his sole and absolute discretion and without prior authority or approval of any Court, and I intend that such powers be construed in the broadest possible extent.

### ARTICLE NINE Construction Intentions

It is my intent that this Will be interpreted according to the following provisions:

1. The masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine as well as the neuter, and vice versa, as to each of them; the singular shall be deemed to include the plural, and vice versa.

2. The term "testator" as used herein is deemed to include me as Testator or Testatrix.

3. This Will is not a result of a contract between myself and any beneficiary, fiduciary or third party and I may revoke this Will at any time.

4. If any part of this Will shall be declared invalid, illegal, or inoperative for any reason, it is my expressed intent that the remaining parts shall be effective and fully operative and it is my intent that any Court so interpreting same construct this Will and any provision in favor of survival.

### ARTICLE TEN Misc. Provisions

I direct that this Will and the construction thereof shall be governed by the Laws of the State of South Dakota.

# (I have placed my initials next to the provisions below that I desire to adopt. Unmarked provisions are not adopted by me and are not a part of this Will)

\_\_\_\_\_ If any person named herein is indebted to me at the time of my death and such indebtedness be evidenced by a valid Promissory Note payable to me, then such person's portion of my estate shall be diminished by the amount of such debt.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any and all debts of my estate shall first be paid from my residuary estate. Any debts on any real property left herein shall be assumed by the person to receive such real property and not paid by my Personal Representative.

\_\_\_\_\_ I desire to be buried in the \_\_\_\_[36]\_\_\_\_\_ cemetery in \_\_\_\_\_[37]\_\_\_\_\_County, \_\_\_\_\_[38]\_\_\_\_\_.

I direct that my remains be cremated and that the ashes be disposed of according to the wishes of my Executor.

		I,		_[39]			,	havin	g sig	ned t	this	Will	in the	pres	sence of
						_ and								who	attested
it	at	my	request	on	this	the		day	of				,	20	at
												(	addres	SS),	declare

this to be my Last Will and Testament.

#### Testator/Testatrix

The above and foregoing Will of \_\_\_\_\_\_ [40]\_\_\_\_\_ (name of (name of testator/testatrix) was declared by [41] testator/testatrix) in our view and presence to be his/her Will and was signed and subscribed by (name of testator/testatrix) in our view and the said [42] presence presence and at his/her request and in the view and of [43] (name of testator/testatrix) and in the view and presence of each other, we, the undersigned, witnessed and attested the due execution of the Will of [44] (name of testator/testatrix)on this the \_\_\_\_\_day of , 20 .

Witness Signature	Witness Signature
Print Name:	Print Name:
Address:	Address:
Telephone No	Telephone No

# South Dakota Self Proving Affidavit

I, name to this instrument this day of do hereby declare to the undersigned authority that and that I sign it willingly, that I execute it as my free expressed, and that I am eighteen years of age or of or undue influence.	and voluntary act for the purposes therein
	Testator
We,	x signs and executes this instrument as [his] ] [she] executes it as [his] [her] free and Id that each of us, in the presence and I as witness to the testator's/testatrix stator/testatrix is eighteen years of age or
	Witness
The State of South Dakota County of	
Subscribed, sworn to and acknowledged before, th sworn to before me by, witnes 20	e testator/testatrix, and subscribed and
(Seal) (Signed	d)
	(Official capacity of officer)

## LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF

[1]\_\_\_\_\_

### BE IT KNOWN THIS DAY THAT,

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_[2]\_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_[3]\_\_\_\_\_ County, South Dakota, being of legal age and of sound and disposing mind and memory, and not acting under duress, menace, fraud, or undue influence of any person, do make, declare and publish this to be my Will and hereby revoke any Will or Codicil I may have made.

## ARTICLE ONE Marriage and Children

I am not married. I reside with \_\_\_\_\_\_[4]\_\_\_\_. I am a parent of no children.

### ARTICLE TWO Debts and Expenses

I direct my Personal Representative to pay all costs and expenses of my last illness and funeral expenses. I further direct my Personal Representative to pay all of my just debts that may be probated, registered and allowed against my estate. However, this provision shall not extend the statute of limitations for the payment of debts, or enlarge upon my legal obligation or any statutory duty of my Personal Representative to pay debts.

### ARTICLE THREE Specific Bequests of Real and/or Personal Property

I will, give and bequeath unto the persons named below, if he or she survives me, the Property described below:

Name [11]	Address [12] [13] [14]	Relationship [15]
Property: [16]		
Name [17]	Address [18] [19] [20]	Relationship [21]
Property: [22]		

Name	Address
[23]	[24]
	[25]
	[26]

Relationship [27]

Property: [28]

[LIST OR STATE NO PROPERTY LEFT UNDER THIS ARTICLE]

In the event I name a person in this Article and said person predeceases me, the bequest to such person shall lapse and the property shall pass under the other provisions of this Will. In the event that I do not possess or own any property listed above on the date of my death, the bequest of that property shall lapse.

### ARTICLE FOUR Homestead or Primary Residence

I will, devise and bequeath all my interest in my homestead or primary residence, if I own a homestead or primary residence on the date of my death that passes through this Will, to:

(select and c	omplete only one)	
	[29]	
OR		
	[30]	, my heirs at law.

If the person or persons, does not survive me, then my homestead or primary residence shall pass under the residuary clause of this Will.

## ARTICLE FIVE All Remaining Property – Residuary Clause

I will, devise, bequeath and give all the rest and remainder of my property and estate of every kind and character, including, but not limited to, real and personal property in which I may have an interest at the date of my death and which is not otherwise effectively disposed of, to:

(select and complete only one)					
[31]		In	the	event	that
[31]	_ predeceases me,	I leave al	l my prop	perty to my	heirs at
law.					
OR					
my heirs at law.					
	ARTICLE SIX				
Appointment of Persona	al Representative	, Executo	or or Ex	ecutrix	
••	•	,			
I hereby appoint [34]		, as Pers	onal Rep	presentative	e of my
estate and this Will. In the event my P					
reason, shall fail to qualify or cease to	act as my Personal	Represent	ative, the	en I hereby	appoint
[35]	_ to serve as succ	•		-	• •

estate and Will.

The term "Personal Representative", as used in this Will, shall be deemed to mean and include "Personal Representative", "Executor" or "Executrix".

# ARTICLE SEVEN Waiver of Bond, Inventory, Accounting, Reporting and Approval

My Personal Representative and successor Personal Representative shall serve without any bond, and I hereby waive the necessity of preparing or filing any inventory, accounting, appraisal, reporting, approvals or final appraisement of my estate.

### ARTICLE EIGHT Powers of Personal Representative, Executor and Executrix

I direct that my Personal Representative shall have broad discretion in the administration of my Estate, without the necessity of Court approval. I grant unto my Personal Representative, all powers that are allowed to be exercised by Personal Representatives by the laws of the State of South Dakota and to the extent not prohibited by the laws of South Dakota, the following additional powers:

1. To exercise all of the powers, rights and discretions granted by virtue of any "Uniform Trustees' Powers Law," and/or "Probate Code" adopted by the State of South Dakota.

2. To compromise claims and to abandon property which, in my Executor's opinion is of little or no value.

3. To purchase or otherwise acquire and to retain any and all stocks, bonds, notes or other securities, or shares or interests in investment trusts and common trust funds, or in any other property, real, personal or mixed, as my Personal Representative may deem advisable, whether or not such investments or property be of the character permissible by fiduciaries, without being liable to any person for such retention or investment.

4. To settle, adjust, dissolve, windup or continue any partnership or other entity in which I may own a partnership or equity interest at the time of my death, subject, however, to the terms of any partnership or other agreement to which I am a party at the time of my death. I authorize my Personal Representative to continue in any partnership or other entity for such periods and upon such terms as they shall determine. My Personal Representative shall not be disqualified by reason of being a partner, equity owner or title holder in such firm from participating on behalf of my estate in any dealings herein authorized to be carried on between my Personal Representative and the partners or equity owners of any such partnership or other entity.

5. To lease, sale, or offer on a lease purchase, any real or personal property for such time and upon such terms and conditions in such manner as may be deemed advisable by my Personal Representative, all without court approval.

6. To sell, exchange, assign, transfer and convey any security or property, real or personal, held in my estate, or in any trust, at public or private sale, at such time and price and upon such terms and conditions (including credit) as my Personal Representative may deem

advisable and for the best interest of my estate, or any trust. I hereby waive any requirement of issuing summons, giving notice of any hearing, conducting or holding any such hearing, filing bond or other security, or in any way obtaining court authority or approval for any such sale, exchange, assignment, transfer or conveyance of any real or personal property.

7. To pay all necessary expenses of administering the estate and any trust including taxes, trustees' fees, fees for the services of accountants, agents and attorneys, and to reimburse said parties for expenses incurred on behalf of the estate or any trust hereunder.

8. Unless otherwise specifically provided, to make distributions (including the satisfaction of any pecuniary bequest) in cash or in specific property, real or personal, or in an undivided interest therein, or partly in cash and partly in other property, and to do so with or without regard to the income tax basis of specific property allocated to any beneficiary and without making pro rata distributions of specific assets.

9. To determine what is principal and what is income with respect to all receipts and disbursements; to establish and maintain reserves for depreciation, depletion, obsolescence, taxes, insurance premiums, and any other purpose deemed necessary and proper by them and to partite and to distribute property of the estate or trust in kind or in undivided interests, and to determine the value of such property.

10. To participate in any plan of reorganization, consolidation, dissolution, redemption, or similar proceedings involving assets comprising my estate or any trust created hereunder, and to deposit or withdraw securities under any such proceedings.

11. To perform such acts, to participate in such proceedings and to exercise such other rights and privileges in respect to any property, as if she or he were the absolute owner thereof, and in connection therewith to enter into and execute any and all agreements binding my estate and any trust created hereunder.

12. To compromise, settle or adjust any claim or demand by or against my estate, or any trust, to litigate any such claims, including, without limitation, any claims relating to estate or income taxes, or agree to rescind or modify any contract or agreement.

13. To borrow money from such source or sources and upon such terms and conditions as my Personal Representative shall determine, and to give such security therefor as my Personal Representative may determine.

All authorities and powers hereinabove granted unto my Personal Representative shall be exercised from time to time in her or his sole and absolute discretion and without prior authority or approval of any Court, and I intend that such powers be construed in the broadest possible extent.

### ARTICLE NINE Construction Intentions

It is my intent that this Will be interpreted according to the following provisions:

1. The masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine as well as the neuter, and vice versa, as to each of them; the singular shall be deemed to include the plural, and vice versa.

2. The term "testator" as used herein is deemed to include me as Testator or Testatrix.

3. This Will is not a result of a contract between myself and any beneficiary, fiduciary or third party and I may revoke this Will at any time.

4. If any part of this Will shall be declared invalid, illegal, or inoperative for any reason, it is my expressed intent that the remaining parts shall be effective and fully operative and it is my intent that any Court so interpreting same construct this Will and any provision in favor of survival.

### ARTICLE TEN Misc. Provisions

I direct that this Will and the construction thereof shall be governed by the Laws of the State of South Dakota.

# (I have placed my initials next to the provisions below that I desire to adopt. Unmarked provisions are not adopted by me and are not a part of this Will)

\_\_\_\_\_ If any person named herein is indebted to me at the time of my death and such indebtedness be evidenced by a valid Promissory Note payable to me, then such person's portion of my estate shall be diminished by the amount of such debt.

\_\_\_\_\_ Any and all debts of my estate shall first be paid from my residuary estate. Any debts on any real property left herein shall be assumed by the person to receive such real property and not paid by my Personal Representative.

\_\_\_\_\_ I desire to be buried in the \_\_\_\_[36]\_\_\_\_\_ cemetery in \_\_\_\_\_[37]\_\_\_\_\_ County, \_\_\_\_\_ [38]\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I direct that my remains be cremated and that the ashes be disposed of according to the wishes of my Executor.

		I,		[39]			, havin	g signed	l this	Will in	the pre	esence of
						_ and					who	attested
it	at	my	request	on	this	the	day	of			_, 20_	at
										(ad	dress),	declare

this to be my Last Will and Testament.

### Testator/Testatrix

The above and foregoing Will of \_\_\_\_\_[40]\_\_\_\_\_ (name of testator/testatrix) was declared by \_\_\_\_\_[41]\_\_\_\_\_ (name of testator/testatrix) in our view and presence to be his/her Will and was signed and subscribed by the said \_\_\_\_\_\_[42]\_\_\_\_\_ (name of testator/testatrix) in our view and presence and at his/her request and in the view and presence of \_\_\_\_\_\_[43]\_\_\_\_\_ (name of testator/testatrix) and in the view and presence of each other, we, the undersigned, witnessed and attested the due execution of the Will of

[44], 20	(name of testator/testatrix)on this theday of
Witness Signature	Witness Signature
Print Name:	Print Name:
Address:	Address:
Telephone No	Telephone No

# South Dakota Self Proving Affidavit

I, name to this instrument this day of do hereby declare to the undersigned authority that and that I sign it willingly, that I execute it as my free expressed, and that I am eighteen years of age or o or undue influence.	and voluntary act for the purposes therein
	Testator :
We,	x signs and executes this instrument as [his] ] [she] executes it as [his] [her] free and Id that each of us, in the presence and I as witness to the testator's/testatrix stator/testatrix is eighteen years of age or
	Witness
The State of South Dakota County of	Witness
Subscribed, sworn to and acknowledged bef , th sworn to before me by, withe 20	e testator/testatrix, and subscribed and
(Seal) (Signe	d)
	(Official capacity of officer)