

COMPARING PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS AND WILLS IN A WEEK

As we have been developing our Wills in a Week program, we've been asked by clients and prospective clients about the differences between the Wills in a Week program and private consultations. So far, we only do the Wills in a Week program for couples who do not have a taxable estate in Massachusetts. If your marital estate has more than \$2 million dollars (this is determined by adding up the equity in your Massachusetts real estate, all your bank accounts, retirement accounts, investment accounts, and DEATH BENEFITS OF LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES) it will owe estate taxes to the Commonwealth.

Additionally, our Wills in a Week program includes one workshop where we explain the documents that we recommend to clients who fit into a specific mold. That is, married couples who only have children of the same marriage who do not have special needs.

This program includes the drafting and signing of the documents, along with funding a trust with one piece of real estate. We provide guidance on how to complete the funding of the trust to the clients, but we do not map it out for our Wills in a Week clients like we do in our private consults.

Wills in a Week	Private Consultation
One group session/workshop	Consultation in a private setting
General recommendations on how to avoid probate	Roadmap to avoid probate – specific instructions
30-day review period of documents	90-day review period of documents
Changes in 30 days is limited to spelling errors, not content or anything substantive	Changes in 90 days is not limited
Limit of 2 attorney emails during the whole process	Unlimited emails, phone calls, meetings (zoom or otherwise) until the 90 days period is over
Documents are predrafted; limited to leaving everything to spouse, and then to kids in equal shares	All documents are completely tailored to the clients wishes & family circumstances
No annual review included – annual reviews will be quoted at the requested time.	Annual review included
No tax planning	Tax planning if necessary
No planning for modern families	Ability to plan for modern families
Only includes deeding one property to trust	Ability to deed more than one property into trust
For couples who do not have pre-existing estate planning documents or people who never funded an old plan and are willing to start over from scratch	Ability to review existing estate planning documents and make recommendations to update