

- **What happens to the Will if Probate oversight is not required?**

If all of a decedent's assets pass outside of Probate Court supervision, most state's still require an executor to file the original Will with the Probate Court in the county in which the decedent resided at death, along with an original death certificate and a statement that there are no probate assets. Within a certain number of years, if the decedent inherits an asset from a long-lost relative, the inheritance would follow the terms of the Will on file with the Probate Court.

In conclusion, the Last Will and Testament is an essential tool of any basic estate plan and serves to express personal wishes to family, friends and other loved ones concerning how one's estate should be handled. If a Will is chosen as the primary estate planning tool, it is advisable to review the document every five (5) years or so and to revise the Will, as needed, to reflect any changes in circumstances.



**Butenhof & Bomster, PC**  
132 Middle Street – Manchester, NH 03101  
**Phone (603) 296-0428 Fax (603) 296-0430**  
**office@butenhofbomster.com**

At Butenhof & Bomster, PC, we focus our practice in the areas of elder law, estate planning, Medicaid planning, special needs trusts planning, guardianships, and probate and trust administration. Simply put, our philosophy is that each client's circumstances are unique and deserving of individualized attention and planning, regardless of whether such planning involves the creation of a complex trust structure or simply the execution of a health care power of attorney.

---

## **The New Hampshire Council on Autism Spectrum Disorders**

On August 22, 2008 New Hampshire's Governor John Lynch signed HB 1634 into law establishing the NH Council on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

The Council includes representation from the State's Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Education, the Autism Society of NH, health care professionals, families, and an individual with ASD. The Council is charged with insuring that the recommendations announced last spring by the Legislature's blue ribbon Commission will result in policy changes and improved outcomes for citizens affected by autism.

"There's general agreement that a number of service systems need to adjust their policies and practices in response to the unique needs of this population," said Kirsten Murphy, the mother of two sons with ASD and an appointee to the Council. "Our job will be to bring the right people to the table so that this happens quickly and in a way that reflects best practices in the treatment and support of individuals with ASD."

Issues that will be taken up by the newly established Council include the implementation of universal screening for young children, better coordination of care, alternative models of supported employment, and insurance reform.