

ADGM Courts' Notary Public and Wills Office

Wills FAQs

1. Who can use ADGM Courts' wills service?

The wills service is available to non-Muslim employees of ADGM and ADGM registered entities, aged 21 years or more.

2. Is there a template for a will?

- The will must be in bilingual format (Arabic and English) certified by a translator licensed by the UAE Ministry of Justice.
- The will must also include the following information:
 - Personal information of the Testator:
 - name as stated in the Emirates ID;
 - Emirates ID number;
 - nationality;
 - date of birth;
 - place of birth; and
 - address.
 - Declaration of religion;
 - Appointment of executor(s) and statement of their powers;
 - Appointment of guardians (if applicable);
 - Identification of the beneficiaries and succession of beneficiaries including their name, nationality, date of birth, place of birth and address or if the beneficiary is a body corporate, the name, place of incorporation and commercial licence number.
 - Description of the estate to be distributed and the allocation amongst beneficiaries (if applicable);
 - The applicable law, and a specific reference to article (17) of Federal Law No. (5) of 1985 on the Civil Transactions Law, which can be done by inserting the following paragraph:

“it is expressly stipulated that this will is in accordance with Article 17 of Federal Law No. (5) of 1985 on the Civil Transactions Law of the United Arab Emirates and the amendments thereto and the substantive provisions governing testamentary disposition and other dispositions taking effect after my death shall be governed in accordance with the provisions of (e.g. this will). Shariah Law shall not apply in any circumstances.”

3. How do I submit a wills notarisation request?

- All requests, along with supporting documents (refer to paragraph 3), must be submitted via the [ADGM eCourts Platform](#).
- The Notary Public will review the request and:
 - approve the request and schedule an appointment for notarisation;
 - request additional documents or propose amendments to the will to be notarised, or both; or
 - reject the request for the reasons set out in an email from the Notary Public.
- Upon approval of the request, an appointment will be scheduled via email for you to attend the ADGM Courts' Notary Public and Wills Office.

4. What documents do I submit with my will notarisation request?

You must upload the following PDF documents with your request:

- the will;
- emirates ID of the Testator;
- passport of the Testator;
- document(s) indicating the ownership of each asset of the estate to be distributed; and
- employment certificate of the Testator.

5. What do I need to bring to my appointment with the Notary Public?

You must bring the following to your appointment with the Notary Public:

- 4 hardcopies of the will with original signatures, each certified with translators stamp
- original Emirates ID and Passport of the Testator;
- a credit or debit card for payment of ADJD's fees (cash or cheque will not be accepted); and
- any other document that may be requested by the Notary Public.

**Once notarisation is finalised, 2 copies will be provided to the Testator, and 2 copies will be retained by the Notary Public.*

6. What are the fees applicable for the notarisation of will?

The fees applicable to the notarisation of a will are set out in [ADGM Courts' Notary Fees](#).

7. Can the Notary Public notarise:

- **a will over assets located outside Abu Dhabi?**

Yes, the Notary Public can notarise a will if the assets are located within the UAE.

- **a will over assets located outside the UAE?**

Yes, the Notary Public can notarise a will if the assets are located outside the UAE. However, any grant of probate will be made in the jurisdiction in which the assets are located.

8. Do ADGM Courts' Notary Public and Wills Office provide a probate service?

ADGM Courts' Notary Public and Wills Office do not provide a probate service. Probate applications must be registered with ADJD's Wills and Probate Office.

9. Do you have a list of recommended law firms who offer will drafting services?

We are currently developing a list of firms who offer will drafting services which will be published on our website in due course. Firms interested in being included in this list should send their contact details to enquiry@adgmcourts.com.