

Earthquakes and Tsunami's Remind Us to Update Our Legal Paperwork **By Rudy Wartella**

The recent 9.0 magnitude earthquake in Japan and the resulting tsunami's remind us of how important it is to have your legal paperwork updated. It is important to have your Will, Advance Medical Directives, Powers of Attorney, Family Care Plans, and NEO paperwork up-to-date.

Take the time now to make sure that your legal paperwork is updated or prepared. As we have seen, tragedy can strike very unexpectedly. If you don't have a Will, Advance Medical Directive, or Power of Attorney, now may be a good time to get them.

It is recommended that you review your Will at least once a year to ensure that it still accurately reflects your personal circumstances and desires. Check the expiration date on your Powers of Attorney and make sure they still meet your needs.

If you have reviewed your will and would like to make some changes, the Torii Station Legal Assistance Office can prepare a new one for you. If you don't have a Will, and would like to get one, we can prepare one for you.

Please call 644-4332 for an appointment for a Will or an Advance Medical Directive. Powers of Attorney can be prepared on a walk-in basis. The legal assistance office is located on Torii Station in Building 218, Room 219. March, 2011.

Suggestions about Where to Store Important Legal Documents Some Legal Documents need to be Readily Accessible.

Document	Location
Will	Fireproof Box or other safe place (be sure to let your personal representatives know where you keep your Original Will)
Family Care Plan	Copy in "Grab" Bag; Originals with Unit and Agent
Powers of Attorney	Copy in "Grab" Bag; Original with Agent
Neo Packet	Copy in "Grab" Bag
Living Will/Advance Medical Directives	Medical Records and with Agent

*A "grab bag" is recommended for containing copies of important legal documents that you may need with little or no warning. Copies of passports, driver's licenses, birth certificates, social security cards, and the legal documents mentioned above. Of course it is important to safeguard this bag against theft or other misuse.