



Avoiding Legal Problems

Plan ahead to **P**rotect yourself with the **P**ower of legal rights & resources and **P**revent Problems with the help of **P**eople and **P**aper and **P**ersistence!

Remember the 7Ps!



Plan Ahead *A gift to loved ones!*

- Make sure your wishes are known in advance. Some ways include:
 - Health Care Power of Attorney
 - Financial Power of Attorney
 - Living Will
 - Last Will & Testament



Protect Yourself *You are worth it!*

- Watch out for schemes, scams and people who may try to take advantage of you.
- Protect your property, money, personal information and personal safety.



Power *Arm yourself with knowledge & skills!*

- Know about your legal rights, options and resources. Contact these organizations for help:
 - Your local Legal Aid office
 - Disability Rights Ohio
 - Pro Seniors, Inc.
 - Your local bar association



Prevent Problems *The "best" solution!*

- It is better to avoid the problem in the first place.
- Use the seven "Ps" to prevent problems.
- If you do have a legal problem, deal with it early. Get help so a small problem doesn't turn into a big crisis.



People *You are not alone!*

- Only let people you trust have access to your property, your money or your personal information.
- Build a small support group of people you trust completely who can help you when needed.



Paper *Get it in writing!*

- Don't sign anything you don't understand.
- Get receipts for anything you pay for and copies of anything you sign.
- Keep important papers where you can find them.



Persist *Stand up & stick with it!*

- Stick up for yourself.
- Ask questions and insist on answers.



Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc. is a non-profit law firm serving the civil legal needs of western Ohio's low-income individuals, families and seniors. This information is not legal advice. It is general information. It is not a substitute for talking to a lawyer about your situation. You may still need help from a lawyer. **Find videos, forms, helpful links and more at: www.legalaidline.org.** Last updated October 2018

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