

By Bruce Talen

Your 18-year-old daughter was knocked unconscious at an intramural soccer game at State U. The ambulance takes her to the local campus Emergency Room where she cannot answer any questions at this point. You get a text from her friends that your daughter is “hurt,” so you call the hospital to see what’s going on. The switchboard operator gets you to the ER attendant, who promptly tells you they can’t acknowledge



anyone's admittance much less disclose anyone's condition due to privacy

Q. DON'T I NEED AN ATTORNEY FOR THE PAPERWORK?

A. You can download the basic form off the state bar association of any state and complete the form yourself. While it's best to have an experienced



Q. WHAT ABOUT A HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE?

A. That's generally part of the same form. Here the child can specify his or her wishes in advance about life-prolonging procedures if found to be persistently unconscious or at the end-stage of a serious incapacitating or terminal illness. This document also provides guidance and support to your Health Care Power of Attorney agent in case of emergency.

mental health records and communicable diseases like
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 form as well. You can obtain this document on state bar
 association websites.

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 gYbghj Yhcd]Vg': cf]bgUbwzcbYwbg]XfU]cb]g
 making sure everyone's Health Care Directive on
 the back of the driver's license is up to date. Call
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 matters by calling the bar association to help you
 determine the documentation that needs to be in place.

TAKEAWAYS

- „ Make an effort to get a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care and Health Care Directive in force for your child going away to college.
- „ K \] Y] h ñ V g h c W b g i h k] h U b U h c f b Y r ñ m i X c b ñ i need a lawyer to create the necessary forms.
- „ Di h g [] b Y X W d] Y g c b U Y k] h m i f d f] a U f m \ Y U h · W f Y d f c j] X f z c b Y] b U g U Z h m X Y d c g h V c l U b X U W d m i in the glove compartment of your child’s car if your child has one on campus.

*Always consult with your CPA and professional advisor on matters involving income taxes.

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Commerce does not provide tax advice or legal advice to customers. Consult a tax specialist regarding tax implications f Y U h X l e U b r i d f c X i W U b X g f W U W b U b W U g h i U h c b "

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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