

Clerk's Alert: July 2010

Will Repository Service

Are you in possession of original wills prepared for your clients? Are you concerned that they might not be readily available to the family when they are needed?

The Clark County Clerk's Office offers a will repository service. RCW 11.12.265 allows the filing of an original will with the court, under seal, before the death of the testator. The fee for this service is \$20.00 per will or codicil as set by RCW 36.18.016(28).

The will may be withdrawn by the testator upon showing of proper identification. Any other person, such as an attorney or Guardian, may withdraw the original will only with a court order after showing of good cause.

Upon request and presentation of a certified copy of the testator's death certificate, the Clerk's Office will unseal the file. If a probate file is opened at that time, the full filing fee must be charged per RCW 36.18.020(2)(f).

Looking for a way to avoid coming to the courthouse to look at a file?
Here's the answer - no lines - no security search - no time limits!

The Clerk's Office offers subscriptions to our LibertyWeb system which allows access to images in public files from 1985 forward on a 24/7 basis. One subscription can be shared by as many as five attorneys or offices, but only one person at a time may access document images. If you are the attorney of record, we can arrange for you to view confidential documents also.

The cost for a subscription is \$1,500 for the first year, pro-rated from January 1st. The cost is \$500 per year for each following year. Contact our office for more details.