

Wills for Safekeeping

Depositing a Will

A Will may be deposited for safekeeping at the court at the request of the Testator. The Will must be deposited in a sealed envelope with the following information on the outside of the envelope:

- Complete Address
- Full Name
- Social Security Number

Only Wills from Alpena County residents may be filed with the Alpena County Probate Court. A \$25 filing fee is required to deposit a Will for safekeeping.

Once the Alpena County Probate Court receives proof of death for an individual who has a will deposited for safekeeping, it will become public.

Retrieval of a Last Will & Testament

During your lifetime, you may retrieve your original Last Will and Testament and/or Codicil at any time at no charge. However, there is a \$25 filing fee each time your Last will and Testament and/or Codicil is redeposited.

All Wills held for safekeeping are confidential and can only be retrieved by presenting a proper photo identification or released to an authorized individual who has a completed Authorization to [Release Will Held for Safekeeping \(PC 548\)](#). Wills for Safekeeping are not public records.

Wills of Deceased

Delivery of an original Last Will and Testament and/or Codicil is required upon the death of the individual. The custodian or person having possession of the original Last Will and Testament and/or Codicil must deliver it to the Probate Court of the county of residence. (This is listed on the death certificate)