

Providing Peace of Mind by Solving Problems with Integrity & Compassion



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FAMILY LAW

 $\hbox{Divorce/Paternity} \bullet \hbox{Child Support \& Timesharing} \bullet \hbox{Alimony} \bullet \hbox{Property Distribution} \bullet \hbox{Modifications}$

ESTATE PLANNING

Wills • Trusts • Powers of Attorney • Health Care Surrogates • Living Wills • Probate Estates

REAL ESTATE

Deeds • Closings • Homestead • HOA/Condo Issues

JUPITER LAW CENTER was

founded in 1988 and, over the years, has handled a wide variety of legal matters, including Family Law, Estate Planning, Real Estate, Contracts, Personal Injury, Corporations, Immigration Litigation and Criminal Law. In 2008, the firm relocated from Chasewood Plaza to Jupiter Creek Professional Center (behind Water's Edge Dermatology) and shifted its focus to handling primarily Family Law, Estate Planning and Real Estate matters. One focus that has not changed, however, is the firm's commitment to being accessible and giving solid, practical legal advice with a personal touch.

HIPAA



"According to your HIPAA release form I can't share anything with you."

HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) requires protected healthcare information to be kept confidential, which means that only the patient has access. Signing a Health Care Surrogate grants your Surrogate access to information that would otherwise be private so that he/she may act on your behalf.

WHOM DO YOU TRUST WITH YOUR LIFE?

A *Health Care Surrogate* designation is the legal document appointing a trusted person as your Surrogate to consult with your doctors and make a host of medical decisions for you if you are unable to make them yourself. Your Surrogate should be someone who has similar values and who would make the same decisions you would if you were capable of doing so. He/she will stay calm under pressure and carry out your wishes should you fall ill, have an accident or otherwise become incapacitated. Here are some valuable qualities to look for when choosing the right Surrogate:



Trust. Trust him/her completely. You want to ensure that he/she will make the healthcare decisions you would make, not the decisions he/she or your family members want to make.

Assertiveness. Make sure he/she can stand his/her ground and is comfortable with the idea of disagreeing with your other loved ones and doctors. He/she should be able to advocate on your behalf – even if it means going to Court to fight for you.

Proximity. Although it's not required that your Surrogate live near you, keep in mind that he/she might need to spend days/weeks/months with you. Being able to travel to your bedside is much easier if your Surrogate lives closer to you.

Longevity. Ideally, you want your Surrogate to outlive you. It may be worth considering his/her age and health. Some older couples might be better served designating a child rather than their spouse if the spouse suffers from health issues.

JUPITER LAW CENTER strives to honor the requests of those who can no longer speak for themselves and help their loved ones navigate the legal complexities that may arise during difficult situations. Call us today about making sure you and/or your loved ones have a current, HIPAA - compliant Health Care Surrogate.

Attorney Adam S. Gumson of **JUPITER LAW CENTER** graduated from Duke University and University of Florida College of Law (with Honors). In addition to preparing and reviewing Contracts, he primarily handles matters involving Family Law (including Divorce, Paternity, Alimony, Child Support and Timesharing, Property Distribution and Modifications), Estate Planning (including Wills, Trusts, Durable Powers of Attorney, Health Care Surrogates and Living Wills) and Probate Estates. He is married and resides in Jupiter with his wife and three children.