



**Kaiserslautern Legal Services Center
Legal Assistance Information**



Legal Assistance Services

This information paper provides basic information only, and is not intended to serve as a substitute for a personal consultation with a Legal Assistance Attorney. For an appointment to see an attorney, dial DSN 483-8848 or Civilian 0631-411-8848.

The 21st Theater Sustainment Command Office of the Staff Judge Advocate has legal assistance offices in Kaiserslautern and Stuttgart, Germany, as well as in Mons and Brussels, Belgium, and in Schinnen, The Netherlands; these offices offer a wide variety of free legal services. Licensed American and host nation attorneys advise on most areas of civil law, including consumer law issues, contract disputes, landlord/tenant disputes, contract review, bankruptcy and indebtedness, nonsupport, immigration, motor vehicle laws, merchant scams, taxation, separation/divorce, and notarizations. In addition:

- You may obtain a power of attorney, a document that authorizes your agent (the person you name) to act on your behalf. You may grant a general power of attorney (allows your agent to act on all matters), a special power of attorney (allows your agent to act only on those matters you listed), or a medical care power of attorney (allows your agent to act only to obtain medical treatment for minor family members).
- You may consult with a legal assistance attorney on your estate plan -- the plan that allows you to decide how to transfer your property after your death. Your estate includes everything you own when you die (*e.g.*, your house, car, insurance policies, and personal property). A will is part of your estate plan. If you own some of your property jointly with right of survivorship, that is part of your estate plan. Other estate planning documents include advance medical directives and health care powers of attorney.
- You may draw up a will, the document that determines who will receive your property when you die. A will also allows you to name a guardian for your minor children. If you die intestate (*i.e.*, without a will), your state of domicile will decide how to divide your property based on its intestacy law.

We do not advise clients on private commercial business activities, employment-related matters, or lawsuits or claims against the United States Government. We do not normally make appearances in civilian courts on behalf of a client.

Your attorney must know all the facts, favorable or unfavorable. Do not hesitate to talk freely to him/her. An attorney must keep all information confidential unless you, the client, give the attorney permission to disclose information to a third party. Confidential communications are matters you tell your lawyer when seeking legal advice about your personal situation. The privilege may extend to conversations, letters, photographs, charts, and other documents.