

Population of the Elderly in US and in New York City

- Year 2010: 40 million of US population will be 65 years or older;
- Year 2030: 76 million will be 65 years or older;
- Year 2000: NYC- 11.7 % of total population represents persons 65 years or older;
- Year 2000: NYC –Asian elderly -63,312

Life Planning Documents

- Durable Power of Attorney
- Health Care Proxy
- A Living Will
- Appointment of a Guardian
- Last Will and Testament

Power of Attorney

- Non-Durable General Power of Attorney- Authority for agent to handle transactions involving real estate, banking, business operation, insurance, tax matters, etc.
- Durable Power of Attorney- Survives the principle's incompetence
- Springing Power of Attorney-Takes effect upon an occurrence of an event

Advance planning for Medical Decisions

- Health Care Proxy-Appointment of an agent to carry out wishes of individual
- Living Will-Contains specific instructions regarding medical treatment

Other Advance Directives

- Pre-Designation of a Guardian
- Last Will and Testament

What we learned from the Terri Schiavo Case

- Consequences of failure to have health directive:
 - Fighting by spouse and parents over decision about end of life decision
 - Involvement of courts, political groups, and governor

Guardianships

- Individual becomes incapacitated or incompetent
- Petition to Court for guardianship proceeding
- Guardianship hearing
- Appointment of Guardian of the Person and/or Guardian of the management of property