

# PROTECTING YOUR ISLAMIC FUNERAL AND BURIAL RIGHTS



MEP  
Muslim Enrichment Project

# CREATE A WILL

Having a will allows you to ensure that your estate is distributed in accordance with the principles of the Shariah. When you draft your will, you should include a directive about how and where you would like your remains to be sent and the manner in which you would like to be buried.

## When writing in your will about your funeral and burial, remember to:

- Name a Personal Representative who understands your religious rights and obligations upon death
- Specify that your wishes are to adhere to the Islamic principles and tenants for funeral and burial
- Be specific about what the Islamic requirements are for funeral and burial and mention them specifically in the will
- Specify where you'd like your body to be sent to be washed and wrapped
- If possible, specify which cemetery you'd like to be buried in

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# HAVE A WRITTEN FUNERAL AND BURIAL DIRECTIVE

In the absence of having a formal will, you can have a written funeral and burial directive that sets forth your wishes after your death. It should be written and signed in front of witnesses and left with someone you trust to carry out your wishes after you pass.

## What to Remember when Drafting Your Directive

- Tell people that you trust that you have a written directive and give someone a copy of it
- Leave a copy of the directive in a place your friends and family will know to look after you pass
- Outline who should be notified after your death, and who you wish to make the appropriate arrangements
- Be specific about what you want with regards to the preparation of your body, your funeral and your burial
- Specify that you want to strictly adhere to Islamic principles and tenants

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# TALK TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS ABOUT YOUR WISHES

The death of a loved one is not only sad, but also stressful. This stress is only compounded by having to make choices regarding funeral and burial arrangements. It can be exceptionally hard for family members who do not share the same faith traditions, especially if your loved ones do not know or understand the requirements of Islamic funerals and burials.

Death can be a difficult subject to bring up, but it is important to be upfront, open and honest about what your expectations are for the preparation of your body, the funeral and your burial. This is especially true if you are the only Muslim in your family.

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# NEED MORE RESOURCES ?



If you need more resources to plan for your funeral and burial services please contact

Muslim Enrichment Project at [www.muslimenrichmentproject.org](http://www.muslimenrichmentproject.org) or via email at [muslimenrichment.help@gmail.com](mailto:muslimenrichment.help@gmail.com)

If you need assistance with drafting a Shariah complaint will or with drafting a written funeral and burial directive please contact:

Council on American Islamic Relations-Michigan  
[www.cairmichigan.org](http://www.cairmichigan.org) or [cairmichigan@gmail.com](mailto:cairmichigan@gmail.com)



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