

Agudath Israel of America, in partnership with the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG), would like to encourage you to register your Halachic Living Will/Advance Directive for free with the U.S. Living Will Registry<sup>®</sup>. The Registry will maintain a copy of your Halachic Living Will on a secure website that can be accessed instantly by any health care facility. We encourage registration because in many cases, a patient has to be rushed to a hospital and the family cannot locate the Living Will/Advance Care Directive. The Registry solves this problem and therefore ensures that your health care wishes will be respected. (If you were to register on your own, there is a cost for this service. However, if you register through NYLAG, this service is provided at no cost.)

## **Benefits of registration are**:

- 1. The U.S. Living Will Registry<sup>®</sup> provides a wallet-sized card with your special identification number. The information on that card allows for a medical professional to view your Advance Directive at any time of the day or night. This provides peace of mind to yourself and your loved ones: No one will have to search for these vital documents should you become incapacitated since the only information the health care facility needs is readily available in your wallet or purse.
- 2. The U.S. Living Will Registry<sup>®</sup> issues a new card every twelve months. This will allow you to remember to update any new information (change of telephone numbers, addresses, or even change of appointed Health Care Proxy).

To register your Advance Directives, all you need to do is to complete the U.S. Living Will Registry Registration Agreement (attached). Please note that if you do not feel comfortable providing your Social Security Number, you do not have to do so.

Please attach a clear <u>copy</u> of your Halachic Living Will to the U.S. Living Will Registry Registration Agreement, and send both documents to:

New York Legal Assistance Group Total Life Choices Program 450 West 33<sup>rd</sup> Street 11<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10001

Or fax them to: (212) 750-0820.

To obtain additional information about registration, please contact NYLAG Staff Attorney Tina Janssen-Spinosa, Esq., at (212) 371-6873 or <u>tlc@nylag.org</u>

Information about the New York Legal Assistance Group may be found at: <u>www.nytlc.org</u> Information about the U.S. Living Will Registry® may be found at: <u>www.uslivingwillregistry.com</u>

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