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In the wake of the entertainer Prince's death, it has been called “the worst estate planning sin a wealthy artist could commit: leaving no will at all.”

Rather than providing a clear plan for dividing his assets among loved ones, Prince may have created a situation where there could be *decades* of legal fights within his family. And, without a will, Prince's legacy misses out on a huge concern he'd confronted during his career – to be an example, illustrated in a will, of freeing artists from restrictive recording contracts.

Why? The reason may never be clear.

“Consciously or otherwise, some people simply do not deal well with addressing after-death legacy,” says attorney Hillel Presser of the Presser Law Firm, P.A., which specializes in comprehensive asset protection, which includes wills.

“I have no idea whether Prince had some other principle at work, but the lack of a will clearly lays the burden on the living, who are left with an abundance of guesswork.”

Presser's recommendations for those who don't want to follow in Prince's footsteps include:

- **If you don't have a will, get to work on one.** Eighty percent of American adults have something in common with Prince – they have no will. That's a mistake; even more so if you have a family. Your heirs could end up feuding over your possessions, maybe even taking each other to court. If you have children who are minors, what would become of them if you and your spouse both died? In a will,

you could give clear instructions on who you would want to appoint as their

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help you achieve your estate planning goals, ensuring none of your goals are overlooked.

“Find attorneys you can trust,” Presser says. “If you have legal claims against you after death, then an asset-protection attorney should work with your estate-planning attorney so that your heirs get as much of your estate as legally possible – creditor-free.”

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*Hillel L. Presser's firm, [The Presser Law Firm, P.A.](#), represents individuals and businesses in establishing comprehensive asset protection plans. He is a former adjunct faculty member for law at Lynn University and offers complimentary copies of his book “Financial Self-Defense” through [www.assetprotectionattorneys.com](http://www.assetprotectionattorneys.com).*

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