633.279 Signed and witnessed.

1. Formal execution. All wills and codicils, except as provided in section 633.283, to be valid, must be in writing, signed by the testator, or by some person in the testator’s presence and by the testator’s express direction writing the testator’s name thereto, and declared by the testator to be the testator’s will, and witnessed, at the testator’s request, by two competent persons who signed as witnesses in the presence of the testator and in the presence of each other; provided, however, that the validity of the execution of any will or instrument which was executed prior to January 1, 1964, shall be determined by the law in effect immediately prior to said date.

2. Self-proved will.
   a. An attested will may be made self-proved at the time of its execution, or at any subsequent date, by the acknowledgment thereof by the testator and the affidavits of the witnesses, each made before a person authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgments under the laws of this state, and evidenced by such person’s certificate, under seal, attached or annexed to the will, in form and content substantially as follows:

   Affidavit
   State of ______________________
   County of ______________________ ss
   We, the undersigned, ______________________, ______________________, and ______________________, the testator and the witnesses, respectively, whose names are signed to the attached or foregoing instrument, being first duly sworn, declare to the undersigned authority that at the date of the instrument, we all knew the identity of each other; the instrument was exhibited to the witnesses by the testator, who declared it to be the testator’s last will and testament and was signed by the testator or by another at the direction of the testator ______________________, in the County of ______________________, State of ______________________, on the date shown in the instrument, and in the presence of each other as subscribing witnesses; that we, as witnesses, declare to the undersigned authority that in our presence the testator executed and acknowledged such will as the testator’s will and that we, in the testator’s presence, at the testator’s request, and in the presence of each other, did subscribe our names thereto as attesting witnesses on the date of such will; and that the witnesses were sixteen years of age or older.

   ______________________
   Testator

   ______________________
   Witness

   ______________________
   Witness

   Subscribed, sworn and acknowledged before me by ______________________, the testator; and subscribed and sworn before me by ______________________, witnesses, this __________ day of _______________ (month), __________ (year)

   ______________________
   Signature of notarial officer

   (Stamp)

   [____________]
   Title of office
b. A self-proved will shall constitute proof of due execution of such instrument as required by section 633.293 and may be admitted to probate without testimony of witnesses.

[C51, §1281; R60, §2313; C73, §2326; C97, §3274; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §11852; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, §633.7; C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §633.279]


Referred to in §622.1