

Legal Moments

Name: Gemma Charlton Topic: If someone married dies without a Will, how is their wealth distributed? (January 19)

[phone ringing]

Receptionist: Cohen Highley

Announcer: And now the Cohen Highley Legal Moment on FM96.

Announcer: I'm here with Gemma Charlton from Cohen Highley Lawyers. If someone married dies without a Will, how is their wealth distributed?

Gemma Charlton: In that event, 100% of the person's wealth will be transferred to their surviving spouse.

Announcer: And if the person who has passed has surviving children?

Gemma Charlton: It depends upon the number of children. If there is only one child, the spouse will receive the first \$200,000, then the balance of the remaining wealth is split evenly between the spouse and the child.

Announcer: And if there's more than one child?

Gemma Charlton: The spouse still receives the first \$200,000 and then receives an additional one third of the remaining wealth. Whatever is left over is divided equally between the children.

Announcer: What about the children of the surviving spouse?

Gemma Charlton: Only the biological or officially adopted children of the person who died are entitled to share in the estate. Step-children are not included.

Announcer: Thanks Gemma. This has been the Cohen Highley Legal Moment.

[Music]

Singers: Cohen Highley, we're listening. cohenhighley.com