Wi$e Up Teleconference Call
May 31, 2005
Estate Planning
Closing Remarks

G. Patterson Thank you, Jane. Thank you to our presenters for volunteering their time on this very informative call, and thank you to the participants for joining us. While it is important to predict the future, we should not avoid thinking about it. By thinking about the future, you’ll be in a better position to set your financial goals. The burden of having to make so many financial decisions, hopefully without hurting anyone’s feelings, pushes will writing way down on our To Do list. Seventy percent of Americans under 40 who have children don’t have wills. Don’t underestimate the need for a will. Wills aren’t just for rich folks.

If you think about it, we all have something to pass on that could make things better for a relative or friend. A paid off car could be given to a relative who now is catching the bus to work. Savings, even a small amount, could help a sister or brother buy books for college or aid a parent on a fixed income. Stop and think about how many essential documents go along with our lives, such as a will, bank statements, insurance policies, guardianship instructions,
advance medical directives, revocable powers of attorney or mutual fund statements.

We’re all like little corporations now. It’s a pain. Yet if something does happen to you, the last thing your family wants to do is to have to piece together your financial life. Preparing a master list detailing where you keep your financial documents would relieve at least a little stress at an emotionally difficult time. Educate yourself and develop a comprehensive financial plan, including an estate plan. There is a wealth of information and resources available online and at your local library. Remember, it’s never too late to start planning for your financial security.

This concludes our call for today. Please join us for our next Wi$e Up teleconference call titled “Buying and Selling a Home,” June 30th, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Eastern Standard time. To listen to recordings or read transcripts of previous calls, visit the Wi$e Up Web site, www.wiseupwomen.org. Thank you for participating.