7-25-2013

Newsroom: Argento on Digital Wills

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Argento on Digital Wills

Professor Zoe Argento speaks with WPRI about the "digital dilemma" created when a loved one dies, but leaves no access to his or her email and social media accounts.

From WPRI, Channel 12 Providence: "Families left with digital dilemma after death: Digital wills designate access to social media" by Jennifer Quinn, reporting by Susan Hogan

Families left with digital dilemma after death

NORTH ATTLEBORO, Mass., July 25, 2013 (WPRI) -- Talking with your loved ones about death is an uncomfortable subject, but unfortunately if you're not prepared for it, your family could be left with digital drama. [...]  

Property lawyers say online social providers are reluctant to give access to surviving family members. A Facebook spokesperson tells Eyewitness News that when an account is memorialized "it restricts the profile and associated content to Facebook friends that the deceased had while alive".  

"From a business point of view, they may be concerned that not all users would want these intimate details of their lives to be exposed after death", said Professor Zoe Argento of Roger Williams University Law School. [...]  