



Types of Legal Documents

	Term	Translation	Definition	Example Sentence
1	Affidavit		A legal document containing a written promise that something is true	<i>Next, you'll most likely need an affidavit from the registration office that says the certificate is missing.</i>
2	Article		Part of a legal document or agreement that deals with a particular point	<i>The first few articles in the contract mention the details of the employee's duties.</i>
3	Contract		A written legal agreement between two people or businesses that says what each must do for the other or give to the other	<i>The fisheries have signed a contract with a major seafood restaurant chain to provide them with fish.</i>
4	Criminal Record		An official list of crimes that someone has committed	<i>Before being hired in any job, a person must obtain an affidavit from the police department stating that he/she has not committed any crimes nor has a criminal record.</i>
5	Deed		An official document that gives details of a legal agreement, especially about who owns a building or piece of land	<i>The deed for this house is 40 years old since it used to be owned by my grandfather.</i>
6	Exclusion Order		An official order by a court that tells someone not to go to a particular place	<i>They were served with exclusion orders banning them from entering the country.</i>
7	Living Will		A legal document in which you state the decisions about your medical treatment you want others to make if you become too ill to make those decisions yourself	<i>It is strange how someone could issue an end of life directive or a living will.</i>
8	Patent		An official document that gives someone who has invented something the legal right to make or sell that invention for a particular period of time, and prevents anyone else from doing so	<i>He took out a patent on the idea and started exploring uses for his invention.</i>



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9	Petition		A document on which people sign to ask for a certain action	<i>More than 50,000 people signed an online petition protesting the program.</i>
10	Preamble		The introductory part of a legal document	<i>Including the preamble at the beginning, the conclusion, and all 27 articles, the law is 20 pages long.</i>
11	Restraining Order		A legal document from a judge that stops someone from doing something	<i>The actress issued a restraining order against an obsessed fan who keeps following her.</i>
12	Rider		An addition to an official document or new law	<i>A rider is an attachment to a legal document which adds to or amends it.</i>
13	Service Contract		A contract with a company to keep equipment working correctly at an agreed price during a fixed period of time	<i>King Saud University has a standing service contract with our company to provide maintenance work.</i>
14	Subpoena		An official legal document that says you must come to a court of law to give information (i.e., to testify)	<i>He used a subpoena to put people on the witness stand day after day.</i>
15	Summons		An official document that orders someone to appear in a court of law	<i>No one was arrested, but several people received summons to appear before grand juries.</i>
16	Waiver		An official statement or document that says a right, claim, or law can be officially ignored or given up	<i>If you shouldn't get a vaccine for health reasons, be sure to carry a doctor's signed waiver.</i>
17	Will/Testament		A legal document that explains what you want to happen to your money and possessions after death. More formally called a "last will and testament"	<i>A will/testament is a legal document that dictates what happens to a person's possessions and assets once he/she passes away.</i>

Sources:

Hatim, B. (1997). *English-Arabic/Arabic-English translation: A practical guide*. London: Saqi Books.

Macmillan Dictionary (2014). Legal documents and parts of legal documents: Synonyms or related words. Retrieved July 8, 2015, from <http://www.macmillandictionary.com/thesaurus-category/british/Legal-documents-and-parts-of-legal-documents>