Comparison of Indiana Living Will, Out of Hospital DNR, and POST

	Living will	OHDNR	POST
When it is used to guide care	In the event the person develops an "incurable injury, disease, or illness determined to be a terminal condition" and is unable to express directions for his or her care.	When a person outside an acute care hospital or health facility experiences cardiac or pulmonary failure.	POST guides treatment from the moment it is signed by a physician
Requirements for executing	18 years of age and of sound mind.	18 or older, is of sound mind, and has been certified by his or her physician as having a terminal condition or a condition in which survival of cardiac/pulmonary failure is unlikely.	Person has an advanced chronic progressive disease, frailty, terminal condition, or condition in which survival of cardiac/pulmonary failure is unlikely.
Required in order to be valid	Form meets statutory requirements, signed by declarant and two witnesses.	Form meets statutory requirements, signed by declarant and two witnesses, and signed by physician.	Form meets statutory requirements and BOTH the patient's/representative's signature in section E and the physician's signature in section F are mandatory.
Whether EMS can honor	Essentially no.	Yes, EMS can and should honor the OHDNR.	All healthcare providers, including EMS, can and should honor the POST.
How it can be revoked	The declarant may revoke the will orally, in writing, or by destruction of the document.	The declarant may revoke the OHDNR at any time in writing, verbally, or by destroying the document.	The declarant may revoke the POST at any time in writing, verbally, or by destroying the POST form.
Whether representative can revoke	No.	ONLY IF the declarant is incompetent to make healthcare decisions.	ONLY IF the declarant is incompetent to make healthcare decisions.
Statutory protection for healthcare workers	The statute provides immunity to health care providers who withhold care pursuant to the wishes of the patient as expressed in these documents.	The statute provides liability protection as long as a health care provider acts in good faith and in accordance with "reasonable medical standards."	Protects healthcare providers when they act in good faith to honor the POST orders; Allows a healthcare provider to choose not to honor the POST orders if the provider believes: the form is invalid; the form has been revoked; the declarant or his/her representative have requested alternative treatment; the POST orders would be medically inappropriate for the patient; or the POST orders conflict with the care provider's religious or moral beliefs.