

**QUESTION 11 THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION SHOULD GO IN BLUEBOOK IV
OR IN SOFTEST ANSWER SCREEN 11**

Mary was the sole owner of a home in Sock City, Michigan. In 2014, when she was 65-years old and in strong mental and physical health, Mary handwrote the following on a sheet of paper:

My home is all I have and when I die I want my only sister Amanda to have it. Dated: July 10, 2014.

Mary signed the document in her own handwriting following the date. No one else signed.

Mary had no other assets on July 10, 2014, and acquired nothing more until November 2015, when she received 3 million dollars from the State of Michigan as a lump-sum payment for a winning lottery ticket that she had purchased. Mary made no changes to the July 10, 2014 document.

In January 2016, Mary passed away having spent none of the lottery winnings. At the time of her death, Mary was survived only by her sister and by 3 adult daughters; 1 of whom was her natural born child, 1 of whom was her adopted child, and 1 of whom was her stepchild. Mary's adopted child, however, passed away 3 days after Mary died.

Applying principles of Michigan law, fully discuss the following:

- (1) Did Mary have a valid will and, if so, what if any property is disposed of by the will?**
- (2) How would Mary's estate be distributed (to whom and to what extent)?**