

COMMENCEMENT of **INFORMAL PROBATE**

ENCLOSED ARE THE BASIC FORMS FOR COMMENCEMENT PROBATING AN INFORMAL ESTATE. YOU MAY NOT NEED EVERY FORM ENCLOSED OR YOU MAY NEED ADDITIONAL FORMS DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVED IN THE ESTATE.

FEES:

- THE INITIAL FILING FEE OF **\$175.00** IS DUE AT THE TIME OF FILING BASED UPON THE [PROBATE COURT FEE SCHEDULE](#).
- AN **INVENTORY FEE**, BASED ON THE ASSETS OF THE STATE, MUST BE PAID TO THE COURT PRIOR TO DISTRIBUTION AND CLOSING OF THE ESTATE.
- CERTIFIED LETTERS OF AUTHORITY ARE **\$12.00** EACH ACCORDING TO THE [PROBATE COURT FEE SCHEDULE](#).
- THERE MAY ALSO BE ESTATE OR OTHER TAXES DUE TO THE STATE OF MICHIGAN OR TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, WHICH ARE NOT HANDLED THROUGH THIS OFFICE.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COURT IS NOT ALLOWED TO GIVE LEGAL ADVICE OR HELP YOU FILL OUT THESE FORMS. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONSULT AN ATTORNEY.

STANDARD FORMS FOR COMMENCEMENT OF INFORMAL PROBATE:

- [Application for Informal Probate and/or Appointment of Personal Representative \(Testate/Intestate\) PC 558](#)
- [Testimony to Identify Heirs PC 565](#)
- [Supplemental Testimony to Identify Nonheir Devisees, Testate Estate PC 566](#)
- [Notice of Intent to Request Informal Appointment of Personal Representative PC 557](#)
- [Proof of Service PC 564](#)
- [Renunciation of Right to Appointment, Nomination of Personal Representative and Waiver of Notice PC 567](#)
- [Acceptance of Appointment PC 571](#)
- [Register's Statement PC 568](#)
- [Letters of Authority for Personal Representative PC 572](#)
- [Notice of Appointment and Duties of Personal Representative PC 573](#)
- [Inventory PC 577](#)

EPIC FORMS

These forms and additional SCAO approved forms are available and can be viewed, printed, and completed at <http://courts.michigan.gov>.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED AT FILING:

- The original Last Will and Testament and any Codicils (if applicable)
- Death Certificate

Informal Probate

Revised 03/2016

WHO ARE HEIRS?

For individuals who passed on or after 4/1/2000 According to EPIC:

1. Spouse and children and issue (descendants) of predeceased children are heirs.
2. If NO children – spouse and parent(s) are heirs.
3. If NO children or parents – spouse is sole heir.
4. If NO spouse – children, including issue (descendants) of predeceased children by right of representation are heirs.
5. If NO spouse and children – parent(s) are heirs.
6. If NO spouse, children or parents – brother and sister and issue (descendants) of predeceased brothers and sisters by right of representation are heirs.
7. If none of the above- grandparents (maternal and paternal) and/or issue (descendants) of predeceased grandparents by representation are heirs.

WHO ARE DEVISEES?

Devisees are persons designated to receive property in a will.

INVENTORY FEES

Inventory fees are determined by the total value of the estate. Inventory fees must be paid in full to the Mecosta County Probate Court prior distribution and closing of the estate.