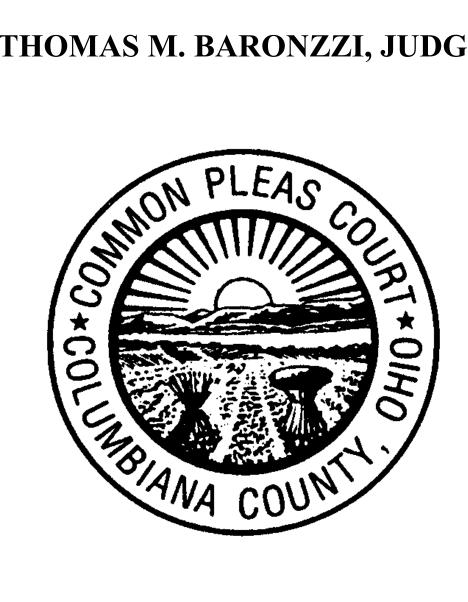
# COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO **COURT OF COMMON PLEAS** PROBATE DIVISION

THOMAS M. BARONZZI, JUDGE



**RULES OF COURT EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2020** 

# COURT OF COMMON PLEAS COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO PROBATE/JUVENILE DIVISION PROBATE COURT RULES

IN RE:	)	
COUNTY LOCAL PROBATE RULES	)	CASE NO. 2020 MM 00001
OF THE PROBATE COURT OF	)	
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO	)	JUDGMENT ENTRY

The following rules have been promulgated by the Columbiana County Court of Common Pleas, Probate Division, pursuant to Article IV, Section 5(B), of the Ohio Constitution and Rule 5 of the Ohio Supreme Court Rules of Superintendence for Courts of Common Pleas. They are adopted to provide for the efficient and expeditious management of business before this Court.

These rules become effective January 1, 2020, hereby amending the prior Columbiana County Probate Court local rules, and are subject to review and amendment, as necessary.

These rules are intended to provide for the management of proceedings and other functions of the Court and to supplement and complement the Ohio Rules of Probate Procedure, the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure, the Rule of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio and controlling statutes.

These rules shall be applied, construed, and enforced so as to avoid inconsistency with other rules and statutes. They shall be interpreted so as to promote just and expeditious determinations.

The judge or magistrate presiding over a hearing may permit exception from a rule upon specific request and for good cause shown.

THOMAS M. BARONZZI

JUDGE

		TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE NO.
RULE	1.1	COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER RULES	5
RULE	2.1	COURT APPOINTMENTS	5-6
RULE	3.1	RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS	6
RULE	4.1	CONDITIONS FOR BROADCASTING OR PHOTOGRAPHING COURT PROCEEDINGS	6-7
RULE	5.1	STANDARD PROBATE FORMS	7
RULE	6.1	HOURS OF THE COURT	7
RULE	7.1	EXAMINATION OF PROBATE RECORDS	7-8
RULE	8.1	FILINGS AND JUDGMENT ENTRIES	8-9
RULE	9.1	FACSIMILE FILING	9
RULE	10.1	ELECTRONIC FILING OF DOCUMENTS	9
RULE	11.1	ENTER APPEARANCE AS ATTORNEY OF RECORD	9
RULE	12.1	REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES	9
RULE	13.1	DEPOSIT FOR COURT COSTS	9-11
RULE	14.1	WILLS	11
RULE	15.1	APPRAISERS	11-12
RULE	16.1	INVENTORY	12
RULE	17.1	CHANGE OF NAME	13
RULE	18.1	CLAIMS AGAINST ESTATES	13
RULE	19.1	APPLICATION TO SELL PERSONALTY	14
RULE	20.1	ACCOUNTS	14
RULE	21.1	LAND SALES	15
RULE	22.1	GUARDIANSHIPS	15-17
2:3/2/2	2020		

RULE	22.13	EMERGENCY GUARDIANSHIPS	17-18
RULE	23.1	GUARDIANSHIP COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE	18-19
RULE	24.1	ESTATES OF MINORS OF NOT MORE THAN TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS	20
RULE	25.1	SETTLEMENT OF INJURY CLAIMS OF MINORS	20-21
RULE	26.1	SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS OF OR AGAINST ADULT WARDS	21
RULE	27.1	COUNSEL FEES	21-24
RULE	28.1	EXECUTOR'S AND ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMISSIONS	24-25
RULE	29.1	COMMISSIONERS	25
RULE	30.1	GUARDIAN'S COMPENSATION	25-26
RULE	31.1	TRUSTEE'S COMPENSATION	26-27
RULE	32.1	MOTIONS AND HEARINGS	27
RULE	33.1	NOTICES	27
RULE	34.1	TAX PROCEEDINGS	28
RULE	35.1	RELEASE FROM ADMINISTRATION	28-29
RULE	36.1	ADOPTIONS	29-31
RULE	37.1	GUARDIAN AD LITEM	31-32
RULE	38.1	REGISTRATION OF PARALEGALS	32-33
RULE	39.1	ESTATES WITH LITIGATION	33-34
RULE	40.1	PRO HAC VICE	34-35
RULE	41.1	COMPLIANCE	36
RULE	42.1	SUPERVISION OF ESTATES, TRUSTS, AND GUARDIANSHIPS	36-39
RULE	43.1	CASE MANAGEMENT OF ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS	39-41
3:3/2/2	2020		

RULE 43.3		MEDIATION	41-47
RULE 44.1		JURY MANAGEMENT PLAN	47-54
RULE 45.1		INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT FOR MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT	54-55
APPENDIX A	A	PROCEDURE FOR ASSESSMENT OF NEED FOR EMERGENCY GUARDIANSHIP, INITIATION OF EMERGENCY GUARDIANSHIP	56-58
APPENDIX	В	EMERGENCY GUARDIANSHIP APPLICATION	59-64
APPENDIX (	С	NOTICE OF LITIGATION	65
APPENDIX 1	D	APPLICATION AND ENTRY FOR COUNSEL FEES FOR FULL ADMINISTRATION	66-68
APPENDIX 1	E	APPLICATION AND ENTRY FOR COUNSEL FEES FOR RELEASE FROM ADMINISTRATION	69-70
APPENDIX :	F	APPLICATION AND ENTRY FOR COUNSEL FEES-GUARDIANSHIP	71-72
APPENDIX (	G	APPLICATION TO ENTER INTO CONTINGENT FEE CONTRACT AND ENTRY	73-74
APPENDIX	Н	APPLICATION AND ENTRY FOR COUNSEL FEES-TRUST	75-76
APPENDIX	I	APPLICATION AND ENTRY FOR EXECUTORS/ ADMINISTRATORS COMMISSIONS	77-78
APPENDIX	J	APPLICATION AND ENTRY FOR GUARDIAN'S FEES	79-80
APPENDIX 1	K	APPLICATION AND ENTRY FOR TRUSTEE'S FEES	81-82
APPENDIX :	L	APPLICATION TO DISPENSE WITH PUBLICATION OF NOTICE-RELEASE	83
APPENDIX I	М	PARALEGAL REGISTRATION - EMPLOYEE	84
APPENDIX 1	N	PARALEGAL REGISTRATION - INDEPENDENT	85
APPENDIX (		CASE HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS OR MENTAL DEFICIENCY	86-89
APPENDIX :	P	SPECIAL PICK UP INFORMATION	90

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#### COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER RULES

RULE 1.1

The following Rules are intended to supplement the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure, the Superintendence Rules of the Supreme Court of Ohio and any controlling statutes.

Unless otherwise stated, all filings shall comply in form and content with the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Rules of the Court of Common Pleas of Columbiana County, Ohio which are also applicable to this Court. To the extent that rules may be in conflict, the Local Probate Rule shall prevail.

#### COURT APPOINTMENTS

RULE 2.1

Persons appointed by the Court to serve as appraisers, fiduciaries, attorneys, public guardians, special master commissioners or magistrates, investigators, guardians ad litem, arbitrators, mediators, public guardians, and trustees for suit, may be selected from lists maintained by the Court.

Appointments will be made from the lists taking into consideration the qualifications, skill, expertise, and caseload of the appointee in addition to the type, complexity, and requirements of the case.

Court appointees will be paid a reasonable fee with consideration given to the factors contained in DR-2-106 of the Code of Professional Responsibility, the Ohio Revised Code and the Local Rules of Court relating to fees.

The Court may require background checks within its discretion or to comply with other rules or statutes, bonding, liability

insurance coverage, or service contracts of any appointee as a condition of his or her appointment.

The Court may order the parties to submit an advance deposit of costs to compensate professional or other appointees.

RULE 2.2

Upon application and for good cause shown, the Court may appoint a special master commissioner for the limited purpose of making funeral arrangements for unclaimed bodies and to investigate and determine whether a decedent owned any assets and to determine if any next of kin survive the decedent.

## RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

RULE 3.1

The Court will make a digital recording of formal court proceedings that shall serve as the record of the Court. Parties or other interested persons who desire to have a transcript of the proceedings shall request the transcript in writing from the court reporter and are required to make a deposit in an amount as determined by the court. The requesting party shall pay the full cost of the transcription upon completion.

# CONDITIONS FOR BROADCASTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING COURT PROCEEDINGS

RULE 4.1

No radio or television transmission, voice or video recording device, other than a device used by the judge or a court reporter making a recording in a proceeding, or the making or taking of pictures shall be permitted without the prior express consent of the Court and pursuant to Sup.R.12.

RULE 4.2

All persons appearing in the court facilities shall turn off all cell phones prior to entering. The use of cell phones, for any purpose, by non-court personnel is prohibited without prior authorization of the court. Any violation of this rule will result in the phone being confiscated by

6:3/2/2020

court security. A confiscated phone may be picked up at the court security desk at the close of the business day. No photographs shall be taken at any time without prior authorization of the court.

#### STANDARD PROBATE FORMS

RULE 5.1

Filings before the Court shall be in conformity with Standard Probate Forms prescribed by the Rules of Superintendence of the Courts of Ohio, if a standard form has been prescribed. If a standard form has not been prescribed, the form used shall be in conformity with the Ohio Civil Rules or other form prescribed by these Rules of Court.

## HOURS OF THE COURT

RULE 6.1

The Court and its offices will be open for the transaction of business from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily, except Saturday, Sunday, and legal holidays, unless otherwise determined by the Court. Applications for marriage licenses will not be accepted after 3:30 p.m.

## EXAMINATION OF PROBATE RECORDS

RULE 7.1

Court records shall not be removed from the Court, unless authorized by judgment entry.

RULE 7.2

Copies of open records may be obtained at the cost per page set by the Court.

RULE 7.3

Records of the court that, pursuant to ORC 149.43 (effective 3/20/15), as excluded from the definition of "Public Records" or otherwise are exempted from public access as "confidential" by separate rule or statutes may not be examined or copied.

Any person found to be accessing confidential records, removing original court records from the court, or intentionally or negligently causing damages to court records, will be subject to direct

contempt of court findings and sanctions and will be denied further access to court records.

RULE 7.4

For purposes of maintaining the efficient operation of the Court and protecting court records, the use of copying equipment brought into the Court for purposes of duplicating court documents may be reasonably limited by the Court.

## FILINGS AND JUDGMENT ENTRIES

RULE 8.1

An applicant shall include the applicant's residence and mailing addresses and telephone number on papers, pleadings, and other documents, as required by the Court.

DURING THE PENDENCY OF ANY CASE AND UNTIL ALL COURT COSTS ARE PAID IN FULL, EACH PARTY SHALL KEEP THE COURT ADVISED IN WRITING OF THEIR CURRENT RESIDENCE AND MAILING ADDRESS AND ANY TELEPHONE NUMBER.

RULE 8.2

Ohio Supreme Court Registration Numbers assigned to attorneys representing all parties to proceedings and the attorney's email address, shall be included on papers, pleadings, and other documents, as required by the Court. All filings must be signed by the individual attorney as the attorney of record for a party and not as a legal entity. A person who is not the attorney of record shall not sign on behalf of the attorney of record.

RULE 8.3

Papers, pleadings, and other documents that are incomplete, or not of sufficient quality to be imaged may be refused for filing, or, if filed, may be stricken from the files. In the event of a dispute regarding filings made via U.S. mail or other postal carrier, the Court may require filing in person to a deputy clerk. All briefs and memoranda of law shall comply with the Supreme Court Rules for Reporting of Opinions unless otherwise ordered by the Court. Copies of all opinions previously referred to as "unpublished" that are not

posted on the Ohio Supreme Court website under rule 3 of the Supreme Court Rules for Reporting of Opinions shall be attached as appendices unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

RULE 8.4 Upon the filing of any legal action that affects an estate, a trust, or a guardianship, the fiduciary shall file a notice of litigation with the Court. The notice may conform to the form attached as Appendix A.

#### FACSIMILE FILING

RULE 9.1 The Columbiana County Probate Court does not accept filings via facsimile.

# ELECTRONIC FILING OF DOCUMENTS

RULE 10.1 The Columbiana County Probate Court does not accept filings via electronic mail.

# ENTER APPEARANCE AS ATTORNEY OF RECORD

RULE 11.1 Parties receiving a notice of hearing shall provide a copy of the notice to their attorney so that he or she can enter an appearance and receive notification of future hearings.

## REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

RULE 12.1 Any request for reimbursement of costs or other expenses shall be supported by receipts, vouchers or other proof unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

# DEPOSIT FOR COURT COSTS

RULE 13.1 The amounts set forth by the Court shall be deposited with the Court upon the filing of the respective actions and proceedings. Schedule of the current court costs will be available at the Probate Court or may be available on the Columbiana County Law Library website at www.columbianacountylawlibrary.com

RULE 13.2

The Court may order the parties to submit an advance deposit of costs for professional or other fees.

Upon the filing of a demand for a jury trial, the party making the demand shall file an advance deposit for costs for juror fees in the amount of \$500.00 or such other amount as the Court may determine. The Court may order additional deposit of costs for multiple plaintiffs or defendants. Failure to make timely deposit of juror fees shall serve as a waiver of jury demand.

RULE 13.3

Papers, pleadings, and other documents may be refused for filing, or, if filed, may be stricken for failure to make deposits, or to pay court costs, except for good cause shown.

RULE 13.4

No appointment shall be made if there is a failure of the fiduciary or the fiduciary's attorney to pay court costs. Failure of the fiduciary or the fiduciary's attorney to make additional deposits, or to pay court costs, shall be cause for removal.

**RULE 13.5** 

For the purpose of procuring and maintaining computerized legal research services, an additional fee shall be assessed and collected as costs in each estate, guardianship, trust, minor settlement, civil action, correction of birth record, registration of birth, change of name, or adoption in such amount as the court shall periodically determine by separate order.

RULE 13.6

A member of the United States Armed Services who died while serving in a combat zone or as a result of wounds, disease, or injury incurred while serving in a combat zone shall be exempt the following fees as prescribed in R.C. 2101.16:

- 1. Any fee for or associated with the filing of the decedent's will for probate;
- 2. Any fee for any services rendered by the probate court associated

- with the administration of decedent's estate;
- 3. Any fee for relieving decedent's estate from administration under R.C. 2113.03;
- 4. Any fee for granting an order for summary release from administration under R.C. 2113.031.

#### RULE 13.7

The Clerk of the Probate Court may charge a reasonable fee in each action or proceeding filed, including full administrations of estates, trusts, guardianships, conservatorships, civil actions, wrongful death actions, change of name, and adoption proceedings, for the purpose of the resolution of disputes within the jurisdiction of the Probate Court.

RULE 13.8

The Clerk of the Probate Court may charge a fee in such amount as is charged by the Department of Vital Statistics in the State of birth for each certified copy of a birth record ordered in an adoption or correction of birth record for the issuance of a replacement or corrected birth certificate pursuant to R.C. 3109.14, 3705.24(A) and (B), and 3705.242.

## WILLS

RULE 14.1

If a will confers a power to nominate an executor as described in R.C. 2107.65, the application to probate the will shall include a concise statement setting forth the item number of the will that confers the power, and the name(s) of the holder(s) of the power.

#### **APPRAISERS**

RULE 15.1

An appraiser must be experienced in appraising property in Columbiana County, Ohio, and shall not be a member of the family, business associate, or client of the fiduciary, the fiduciary's attorney, or other person interested in the estate. Appraiser must be previously approved by the

11:3/2/2020

Court. Upon request, court staff will verify whether an appraiser has been preapproved. If the appraiser is not on the court's list, a letter outlining the appraiser's qualifications signed by the appraiser is required.

Rule 15.2 Upon application and good cause shown, the Court may authorize the fiduciary by order to use the County Auditor's tax value for real property in an estate in lieu of an appraisal.

#### INVENTORY

- RULE 16.1 Except for good cause shown, the costs of citations shall be deducted from the fiduciary's compensation.
- RULE 16.2 Except for good cause shown, estate assets shall not be sold, transferred, or distributed until the inventory or inventory and appraisement has been filed and approved by judgment entry.
- RULE 16.3

  All applications for authority to administer estate, application for appointment for guardian, or trustee shall be accompanied by a bond, except for qualifying applicants for whom bond is waived by will, in the amount required by law unless the applicant files a motion and the Court approves waiver of the above bond pending the filing of the inventory.

If said motion is granted, bond shall be filed at the time of the filing of the inventory. A motion to continue the waiver of bond may be filed if: a) the assets of the trust, estate or guardianship have been placed in a restricted account with the Court's approval, with no withdrawals unless authorized by the Court; b) for other good cause demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Court.

Inventory containing assets that have been appraised shall be filed with an original signature of the appraiser.

#### CHANGE OF NAME

RULE 17.1

The Court, in its discretion, may deny an application for change of name to the following individuals:

- 1) An individual who is in arrears for any child support payment, or
- 2) A Sexual Predator/Offender as defined in the Ohio Revised Code.

#### CLAIMS AGAINST ESTATES

RULE 18.1

The amount set forth by the Court shall be deposited with the Court upon the filing of a claim pursuant to R.C. 2117.06. A copy of the schedule of court costs will be available at the Probate Court or may be available on the Columbiana County Law Library website at www.columbianacountylawlibrary.com

RULE 18.2

All fiduciaries shall apply to the Court for authority to compromise or settle any claim on behalf of the estate, including but not limited to personal injury claims of the decedent.

RULE 18.3

Any electronic transfer of settlement funds shall by preceded by a written consent of the fiduciary filed with the Court. Payment of any settlement funds pursuant to electronic transfer is at the risk of the insurance company until funds are distributed pursuant to judgment entry.

RULE 18.4

Application for reimbursement of fiduciary must include an itemization of reimbursed expenses supported by vouchers. Applications for reimbursement of \$500.00 or more will be set for hearing unless the court receives an affidavit from attorney for the estate confirming the estate is solvent and all heirs of the estate have executed a written waiver of hearing.

#### APPLICATION TO SELL PERSONALTY

RULE 19.1 The affidavit and report required by R.C. 2109.45 and 2113.42 shall include a statement that the property was not purchased by the fiduciary, by a member of the fiduciary's family, or by an agent of the fiduciary.

#### ACCOUNTS

- RULE 20.1 Except for good cause shown, the costs of citations shall be deducted from the fiduciary's compensation.
- RULE 20.2 If a fiduciary is delinquent in filing an account, and no extension of time for filing has been granted, the Court may refuse to appoint the fiduciary to another office of trust.
- RULE 20.3 Final Account: Every fiduciary shall render a final account for each estate within six (6) months of the date of appointment of the fiduciary pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2109.301(B)(1) unless extended by the Court.

Periodic Account: Every fiduciary shall render an account for each trust or guardianship every two years on the anniversary of the appointment of the fiduciary, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

- RULE 20.4 A Trustee shall provide a copy of his or her account to all parties interested in the Trustee's account.
- RULE 20.5 A Trustee shall file a current list of the names and addresses of all persons interested in the trust and the interest of each party in the trust with the Trustee's account.

#### LAND SALES

- RULE 21.1 The affidavits required by Sup. R. 65
  (A) shall include a statement that the property was not purchased by the complainant, by a member of the complainant's family, or by an agent of the complainant.
- RULE 21.2 In all actions to sell real estate, the application to the Court to allow a real estate commission, required by R.C. 2127.28, shall state the specific amount of the commission requested.
- RULE 21.3

  Upon the filing of a complaint to sell real property (O.R.C. 2127), pursuant to Sup.R. 65 a preliminary title search report shall be filed which sets forth the complete legal description of the property, a copy of the last recorded instrument of conveyance and a complete statement of all liens and exceptions of record.

#### **GUARDIANSHIPS**

- RULE 22.1 Except for good cause shown, an application for the appointment of a guardian shall contain the name of one proposed ward and shall be heard separately from any other application.
- RULE 22.2 Except for good cause shown, the hearing on the application for the appointment of a guardian shall be attended by the applicant and the proposed ward.
- RULE 22.3

  Each guardian shall file an annual report (which includes guardian's annual care plan for the Ward and certificate of completion of annual educational requirements) with the Court containing the information required by the Court. No guardian shall change the residential placement of a ward without prior application to and approval of the Court. The application shall state the reason for relocating the ward and any recommendation for relocation made by health providers. In

the event the ward is relocated outside the State of Ohio, guardian shall file for transfer of jurisdiction to the appropriate venue within sixty (60) days of the Court's approval of relocation.

RULE 22.4

All guardians appointed by this court as guardians of the person of a ward shall have face to face contact with the ward not less than every thirty (30) days from the date of appointment to verify ward is receiving appropriate care and protection.

RULE 22.5

An application for the appointment of a guardian of a minor shall not be filed if the only reason for the guardianship is to establish a residency for school purposes. Custody for school purposes is a matter to be heard and determined in the Juvenile Court of the Court of Common Pleas. No guardian of the person of a minor may create a power of attorney pursuant to R.C. 3109.52 transferring the guardian's rights and responsibilities without specific authority of the Court.

**RULE 22.6** 

In addition to these rules, all guardians who are seeking appointment or receive appointment by this court shall comply with Rule 66 of the Supreme Court Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio. Applicants and guardian's may file to be excused from one or more of the requirements of Supreme Court Rule 66 by separate written motion supported by a statement claiming good cause for the waiver. The court in its discretion upon review of the request for waiver may waive one or more of the Supreme Court Rule 66 requirements.

RULE 22.7

Guardianship assets shall not be expended until a written application has been heard by the Court and allowed by judgment entry.

RULE 22.8

Before a guardian is appointed, the Court may require a criminal background check of the applicant(s)which shall be

16:3/2/2020

performed by the Columbiana County
Department of Job & Family Services. Upon
order of the Court, each applicant shall
sign a Consent to Criminal Background Check
and appear at the Columbiana County
Department of Job & Family Services for the
background check within five days of filing
of the consent. In addition, the Consent
shall authorize the court investigator
appointed by the Probate Court to perform a
criminal background check of local law
enforcement agencies.

RULE 22.9

Medical and psychological reports are confidential and there shall be no access to these reports without prior order of the court. Expert Evaluation reports shall be filed every two years on or before the anniversary date of the appointment of guardian.

RULE 22.10

All guardians of the estate of a ward are required to retain and maintain an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Ohio, to assist and advise them regarding their duties.

RULE 22.11

All guardians of the estate are required to deposit the ward's funds in a guardianship account in banking facilities that provide check imaging or canceled checks. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the guardianship account shall be maintained in an institution within the boundaries of Columbiana County, Ohio. All assets shall remain in the State of Ohio unless otherwise authorized by judgment entry.

RULE 22.12

Guardians of the estate are not permitted to use ATM machines or debit cards for quardianship accounts.

# EMERGENCY GUARDIANSHIPS

RULE 22.13

The Court has developed forms and procedures for initiation of emergency guardianships pursuant to ORC 2111.02 and Rule 66.03(A) of the Rules of

17:3/2/2020

Superintendence of the Courts of Ohio. The Outline of Procedures and Application for Emergency Guardianship are attached as Appendix A & B.

Orders of Emergency Guardianship are extraordinary orders of relief which may only be granted in emergency situations.

Emergency Guardianships may only be granted upon Applications demonstrating to the Court's satisfaction, that an imminent threat of serious harm to the ward's person or estate exists if emergency orders are not granted.

Emergency Guardianship orders generally terminate after 72 hours by operation of law. Upon review hearing and a finding of good cause demonstrated by the Emergency Guardian, the Emergency Guardianship orders may be continued for up to thirty days from the date of the review hearing. In the event general orders of continued guardianship are necessary, then a separate Application For Guardianship (Standard Probate Forms 17.0), should be filed without delay so that service of the Application, and an investigation may be completed and hearing scheduled on the Application prior to the expiration of the Emergency Orders.

Caution: The Court upon expiration of an initial Emergency Guardianship, will only consider a second emergency filing upon the Applicant's demonstrations that general orders of guardianship have been applied for but could not be obtained prior to expiration of the initial emergency orders.

## GUARDIANSHIP COMMENTS AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

RULE 23.1

Any person who has personal knowledge or information which reasonably creates concern for the safety, security or welfare of a ward's person or estate, or the performance of a guardian with respect to his or her guardianship responsibilities,

may submit Comments or Complaints to the Probate Court.

All Comments and Complaints shall be submitted in writing and mailed or hand delivered to the Probate Court at 105 S. Market Street, Lisbon, Ohio 44432.

The Court will designate one or more deputy clerks to receive, review and stamp all Comments or Complaints noting the date received.

Upon receipt of a Comment or Complaint, the deputy court clerk shall note receipt in the guardianship file and mail a copy to the Guardian(s).

The Comment or Complaint shall be brought to the Probate Judge or Magistrate for review within four (4) days of receipt and also mailed or delivered to the guardian.

Upon review the Judge or Magistrate will make a determination as to whether a formal response, hearing or further investigation is warranted.

In the event a hearing is deemed appropriate, the court will provide notice of hearing by entry of the Court, to the Guardian, the Ward, the Complainant or Commenter, and next of kin of the Ward who are entitled to notice of the guardianship proceedings.

Upon disposition of the Complaint or Comment a copy of the Complaint or Comment, with a written record of the Court's disposition shall be maintained in the Court's guardianship file. Notice of Disposition will be mailed to the guardian and complainant upon completion of investigation.

# ESTATES OF MINORS OF NOT MORE THAN TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS

RULE 24.1

Upon the opening of a court-ordered account under \$25,000 ("restricted account"), the account shall be titled in the sole name of the minor. All interest and principal shall be impounded. Deposited funds shall not be released until the minor reaches age 18 or upon further order of the Court. The verification of receipt and deposit from the bank filed with the Court shall contain the information required by the Court.

RULE 24.2 Certificates of deposit may be renewed without court order, even if there is a change of interest rate or term. Funds may be moved from savings account to certificate of deposit (or vice versa) without a court order and shall remain a restricted account. A transfer to any other bank product shall require a court order.

RULE 24.3 Funds may be released to the account owner (the former minor) by the bank at the age of 18 without a court order.

## SETTLEMENT OF INJURY CLAIMS OF MINORS

- RULE 25.1 An application shall be accompanied by a current statement of the examining physician as provided in Sup.R.68(B). The presence of the injured minor shall be required at the hearing as provided in Sup.R.68(C) except for good cause shown.
- RULE 25.2

  Upon the opening of a court-ordered account ("restricted account"), the account shall be titled in the sole name of the minor. All interest and principal shall be impounded. Deposited funds shall not be released until the minor reaches age 18 or upon further order of the Court. The verification of receipt and deposit from the bank filed with the Court shall be made on Standard Probate Form 22.3 and shall contain the information required by the Court.

- RULE 25.3 Certificates of deposit may be renewed without court order, even if there is a change of interest rate or term. Funds may be moved from savings account to certificate of deposit (or vice versa) without a court order and shall remain a restricted account. A transfer to any other bank product shall require a court order.
- RULE 25.4 Funds may be released to the account owner (the former minor) by the bank at the age of 18 without a court order.

#### SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS OF OR AGAINST ADULT WARDS

- RULE 26.1 A guardian shall not settle the claim of an adult ward without application to and approval by the Court of the settlement.
- RULE 26.2 Funds deposited into restricted accounts shall not be released until a written application has been heard by the Court and allowed by judgment entry. All interest and principal shall be impounded.
- RULE 26.3 Certificates of deposit may be renewed without court order, even if there is a change of interest rate or term. Funds may be moved from savings account to certificate of deposit (or vice versa) without a court order and shall remain a restricted account. A transfer to any other bank product shall require a court order.
- RULE 26.4 The verification of receipt and deposit from the bank filed with the Court shall be on Standard Probate Form 22.3 and shall contain the information required by the Court.

# **COUNSEL FEES**

RULE 27.1 The allowance of counsel fees as part of the expense for administering a decedent's estate, a trust, or a guardianship shall be based upon the actual services performed by the attorney, and the reasonable value of the services.

- (A) Attorney fees paid pursuant to a fully executed Certificate of Termination as provided for in Revised Code 2109.30 do not require Court approval.
- (B) Where the attorney on application to the Court prior to or during estate administration requests a fixed fee, the Court, if it deems it appropriate, will then fix a reasonable fee for legal services beneficial to the administration of the estate. Pursuant to Superintendence Rule 71(D), "The Court may set a hearing on any application for allowance of attorney fees regardless of the fact that the required consents of the beneficiaries have been given."
- (C) Counsel fees for the administration of a decedent's estate and in connection with Trusts and Guardianships shall be reasonable and beneficial to the matter. The application for fees shall be in writing setting forth details supporting the calculations on which requested fees are based. See Appendix D, E, F and H.
- Counsel fees for the administration of (D) estates, trusts, and quardianships, as set forth in the Appendix, may serve as a guide in determining fees to be charged for legal services of an ordinary nature rendered for a fiduciary in any such matter. In the case of legal services rendered of an extraordinary nature, counsel are directed to apply to the Court for the allowance of extraordinary fees. Counsel should include with said application for extraordinary fees time records and a detailed statement of services performed. The accompanying consent or approval of the fiduciary is also helpful.
- (E) Such guides, however, are not to be considered nor represented to clients as schedules of minimum or maximum fees to be charged. The primary responsibility concerning the establishment of fees in a particular

- matter rests between counsel and the fiduciary and/or beneficiaries involved. The Court's role is limited to passing on the reasonableness of the compensation.
- Where the attorney, law partner or firm (F) associate is appointed as fiduciary, quardian, or trustee, the total administration fees for any period may not exceed the total of either the counsel or fiduciary fees, as selected by counsel, plus one-half of the other fee. Pursuant to Superintendence Rule 71(B), "Attorney fees for the administration of estate shall not be paid until the final account is prepared for filing unless otherwise approved by the Court upon application and for good cause shown." This Court hereby requires that Final Account be filed not later than sixty (60) days following Court approval of attorney fees.
- (G) If disparity or injustice result due to application of any percentages set forth in the Appendix, such disparity or injustice may be reviewed on the Court's own motion; upon the filing of exceptions to any account; or upon timely motion filed by any interested party.
- (H) Counsel are advised to maintain accurate records of work completed and time spent on all matters.
- (I) Counsel fees in quardianships and trusts may be based upon lump sum approved by Court, hourly rate reviewed and approved, or counsel may use as quidelines for the computation of fees in quardianships and trusts the quidelines provided for quardian's compensation and individual trustee's compensation set forth in Local Rules 73.1 and 74.1, respectively. Minimal fees of \$200.00 for securing the appointment of a guardian and \$100.00 for preparing a two-year accounting report in the case of non-indigent quardianships are considered reasonable

- in MOST CASES. Please consult Appendix D and F for sample entries and computations to be submitted when requesting approval of counsel fees in quardianships and trusts.
- (J) Counsel fees shall not be paid by the fiduciary until a written application has been approved by judgment entry.
- (K) Interested parties may waive notice of hearing and sign written consents to applications for approval of counsel fees.
- (L) Prior to a fiduciary entering into a contingent fee contract with an attorney for any legal services, an application for authority to enter into the contract shall be filed with and approved by the Court. The application may conform to the form attached as Appendix G. Otherwise, counsel fees may be determined on a quantum meruit basis.
- (M) At the time of entering into a contingent fee agreement, if there is a fee splitting agreement, the fee split and the identity of all lawyers participating must be disclosed in writing. Counsel shall file with the Court a copy of any fee splitting agreement.

## EXECUTOR'S AND ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMISSIONS

- RULE 28.1
- (A) An application for allowance of executor's or administrator's commissions for ordinary services rendered in the complete administration of a decedent's estate may conform to the computation form attached as Appendix I.
- (B) The Court may set a hearing on an application for allowance of executor's or administrator's commissions, and if a hearing is scheduled, notice shall be given to all parties affected by the payment of commissions, unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

- (C) Interested parties may waive notice of hearing and sign written consents to applications for approval of executor's or administrator's commissions.
- RULE 28.2 The itemized statement for extraordinary services required by Sup. R. 72 (A) shall itemize the services performed, the date services were performed, the time spent in rendering the services, and the rate charged per hour.
- RULE 28.3 Executor's and administrator's commissions of an ordinary or extraordinary nature shall not be paid from the decedent's estate until a written application has been approved by judgment entry.

#### **COMMISSIONERS**

RULE 29.1 All rules governing Executors and Administrators except those regarding fiduciary commissions shall govern commissioners unless otherwise provided by law or order of the Court.

## GUARDIAN'S COMPENSATION

- RULE 30.1 Unless otherwise provided by law, or ordered by the Court, a guardian may charge an annual fee for ordinary services in accordance with the schedule of compensation set forth on Appendix J.
- RULE 30.2 (A) An application for allowance of guardian's compensation for ordinary services rendered in the administration of each separate guardianship estate may conform to the computation form attached as Appendix J.
  - (B) An application for allowance of guardian's compensation shall be submitted to the Court for approval with the guardian's account.

(C) Interested parties may waive notice of hearing and sign written consents to applications for approval of guardian's compensation.

RULE 30.3 Where there is a claim for extraordinary services or fees of a guardian of a person, the application shall set forth an itemized statement of the services performed, the date services were performed, the time spent in rendering the services,

and the rate charged per hour.

RULE 30.4 Guardian's compensation of an ordinary or extraordinary nature shall not be paid from the ward's estate until the application has been approved by judgment entry.

#### TRUSTEE'S COMPENSATION

#### RULE 31.1 (A) CORPORATE TRUSTEES

- (1) Except where the instrument creating the trust makes provisions for compensation, a corporation functioning as testamentary trustee may charge fees on the same basis as it charges for living trusts.
- (2) Fee schedules are to be furnished to the Court on the 1<sup>st</sup> business day of January of each year and whenever a change in fees is made within any calendar year.
- (3) A separate schedule containing computation figures providing a basis for the corporate trustee's compensation shall be set forth in the trustee's account as a condition for its approval.
- (4) The corporate trustee may charge its applicable "sweep fee" for the management of money market funds within testamentary trust accounts.
- (5) Corporate Trustees may, at their option, elect to use the Individual Trustee's compensation schedule set forth below.

#### (B) INDIVIDUAL TRUSTEES

- (1) Except where the instrument
   creating the trust makes
   provisions for compensation, an
   individual functioning as
   testamentary trustee may charge as
   follows (See Appendix K):
  - (a) Principal Fee. A fee of \$2.00 per 1M of the principal's market value held by the trustee.
  - (b) Income Fee. A fee of six and one-half percent (6.5%) of the total income for the accounting period.
  - (c) Principal Distribution Fee.
    A fee of one percent (1%) of
    the principal distributed
    during the accounting period.
- RULE 31.2 Trustee's compensation of an ordinary or extraordinary nature shall not be paid from the trust estate until the application has been approved by judgment entry.

## MOTIONS AND HEARINGS

- RULE 32.1 (A) All motions and responses shall be submitted in writing, accompanied by a memorandum on the related law, AND SHALL INCLUDE A PROPOSED JUDGMENT ENTRY.
  - (B) The Court may rule on all motions based on the pleadings, without a hearing, unless a hearing is scheduled by the Court or granted by the Court upon the request of a party.

#### NOTICES

RULE 33.1 All notices to persons of interest in a case shall be pursuant to Rule 73 of the Rules of Civil Procedure or applicable statute.

#### TAX PROCEEDINGS

(FOR DECEDENTS DYING ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2013)

- RULE 34.1 (A) All estate tax filings in the Court shall conform to the requirements of Chapter 5731 of the Revised Code.
  - (B) The Ohio estate tax return should be filed with the Court no sooner than three (3) months from the date of the appointment of the fiduciary.
  - (C) Each attorney, or other person filing an estate tax return, shall also prepare and deliver to the Court the Ohio Estate and additional tax return filing notice (Estate Tax Form 5) together with Certificate of Estate Tax Payment and Real Property Disclosure (Estate Tax Form 22).

# RELEASE FROM ADMINISTRATION

RULE 35.1

(A) Pursuant to R.C. 2113.03(B), upon filing of an Application To Relieve Estate From Administration, counsel shall effect service upon spouse, heirs and next of kin by certified mail, return receipt requested unless waivers from the spouse, heirs and next of kin are filed with the application. Pursuant to Civil Rule 73, counsel shall file an affidavit of proof of service upon all parties served by certified mail, with return receipt cards attached to the affidavit. If service fails due to notice being refused or unclaimed, the envelope that was refused or unclaimed shall be attached to the affidavit and then service shall be effected by certificate of mailing upon that person and service by certificate of mailing shall be indicated in the affidavit. In the event certified mail service or waiver is not obtained, then notice by publication as provided in R.C. 2113.03 shall be required unless found

unnecessary by judgment entry (See Appendix L). The Court will request deposit of costs with the Application in such amount as is necessary to effect service as required by statute.

- (B) An appraiser's report as provided in R.C. 2113.03 shall be required unless found unnecessary by judgment entry.
- (C) Upon filing of an Application For Summary Release From Administration pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2113.031, all persons listed on the receipt for payment of funeral expenses must join in the application or file their written consent to transfer of estate assets to one or more of the persons who paid the funeral bill.
- (D) The Court may require verification of payment of claims in the order of priority outlined in R.C. 2117.25.

#### ADOPTIONS

## RULE 36.1

- (A) To maintain the confidentiality of adoption records, each adoption petition shall contain the name of one person proposed for adoption.
- (B) The adoption petition shall allege the grounds upon which the Court may find that the consent of a person required to consent to the adoption is not necessary. The adoption petition shall also allege the circumstances under which the person proposed for adoption was placed with the petitioner.
- (C) Each person consenting to an adoption shall sign a separate consent to adopt form which shall be filed with the Court. Except for good cause shown, a consent shall not be signed more than 90 days before filing the petition for adoption.

- (D) A petitioner's account form shall be filed in each adoption proceeding. For good cause shown, the Court may waive some account filings in the adoption proceeding. No fee or retainer shall be taken without prior approval of the Court.
- (E) All persons entitled to notice of an Adoption hearing shall be served with notice in accordance with the Rules of Civil Procedure even though those persons have signed and filed a written consent to adopt form.
- (F) Except for good cause shown, service by publication in accordance with the Rules of Civil Procedure shall be made on any person entitled to notice whose address is unknown. An affidavit stating the efforts that were made to determine an address for the person and a request for service by publication are required, together with an additional deposit of \$400.00 toward costs of publication.
- (G) The petitioner or the petitioner's attorney shall provide the Court with written instruction for service or an affidavit that service was properly made when any question arises regarding service.
- (H) A petition for adoption of a child born to an unwed mother, must include copies of proof of legal or administrative determinations of parentage. If no determination of parentage has been pursued, then, a certified copy of search results of the Ohio Putative Father Registry from the Department of Job and Family Services shall be filed with the Petition.
- (I) If there is a pending proceeding in a juvenile court for determination of parentage regarding the child to be

adopted as named in the Petition, then the probate court will not proceed on a petition for adoption until the matter is concluded in that juvenile court.

(J) Upon the filing of a petition, the petitioner shall disclose to the Court in writing whether the petitioner owes any back due child support and whether any back due child support is owed by the birth parents for the proposed adoptee.

#### GUARDIAN AD LITEM

#### RULE 37.1

- (A) A guardian ad litem may be an attorney who is not associated with an attorney of record for the proceeding in which the guardian ad litem has been appointed.
- (B) A guardian ad litem may be appointed upon the motion of either party or on the Court's own motion.
- (C) The Court may order a guardian ad litem appointed at any time that it deems necessary and essential to protect the interest of a minor child, to represent an incompetent person or incapacitated adult.
- (D) The guardian ad litem shall be selected and appointed solely by the Court in accordance with the qualifications and guidelines established by this Court.
- (E) Unless otherwise provided, it is the responsibility of each party involved to timely contact the guardian ad litem and to provide the guardian ad litem with information relating to the case.
- (F) Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, upon application and entry, guardian ad litem fees shall be based on a reasonable hourly rate for time expended. Fees may be charged as a

- court cost. The Court may require an advance deposit for costs.
- (G) All applications for the allowance of guardian ad litem fees shall set forth an itemized statement of the services performed, the date services were performed, the time spent in rendering the services, and the rate charged per hour.
- (H) Unless otherwise directed by the Court, the guardian ad litem shall prepare a guardian ad litem report and deliver the report to the Court with notice to the parties. The guardian ad litem report shall be confidential. There shall be no access without prior application to and approval by the Court.

#### REGISTRATION OF PARALEGALS

#### RULE 38.1

- (A) Paralegals that perform services in matters before this Court must be registered with the Court. The Court recognizes two categories of paralegals: "employee paralegals" who are employed exclusively by one law firm and only perform services for that firm as an employee, and "independent paralegals" who operate as independent contract paralegals offering services to more than one firm.
- (B) Registration shall be on the form attached as Appendix M for employee paralegals or Appendix N for independent paralegals.
- (C) Employee paralegals need only register one time unless they no longer work for the single firm they are registered with as an employee. The registration form must identify the firm and shall be signed by an attorney of the firm stating that the paralegal services will be supervised by the attorney of that law firm. The attorney and

paralegal shall sign the registration form attesting that the paralegal is qualified through education, training, or work experience to assist an attorney in matters before this Court and this work will be supervised by an attorney who will be held responsible for the work. The law firm shall notify the Court when the paralegal registered with the Court leaves the exclusive employment of the law firm.

- Independent paralegals shall be (D) registered for each case in which the independent paralegal is performing services, identifying the case name, case number and supervising attorney. The supervising attorney and the independent paralegal shall sign the registration attesting that the paralegal is qualified through education, training, or work experience to assist the supervising attorney in matters that will be filed in this Court, and will be supervised by an attorney who will be held responsible for the work.
- (E) Fee statements filed with the Court shall itemize paralegal work separately from services performed by an attorney.
- (F) A paralegal shall not sign any document for the fiduciary, applicant, or supervising attorney.
- (G) Failure to comply with this rule may result in the disallowance of fees and such other action as the Court may deem appropriate.

#### ESTATES WITH LITIGATION

RULE 39.1 (A) In estates involving litigation, a final and distributive account shall be filed as soon as all assets have been administered and shall indicate that the estate must remain open for litigation purposes.

- (B) Upon the filing of a final and distributive account which indicates that an estate must remain open for litigation purposes only, no subsequent accounts shall be required. Yearly status reports shall be filed by litigation counsel.
- (C) In estates opened for litigation purposes only, where there are no assets to administer, a motion to waive the inventory and accountings pending receipt of funds into the estate may be filed. Yearly status reports shall be filed by litigation counsel and served on all beneficiaries or next of kin.
- (D) In an estate where litigation is anticipated or pending, litigation counsel shall file a notice of appearance and file an annual status report of the litigation. When any litigation has commenced, a notice of litigation form shall be filed (See Appendix C).
- RULE 39.2 (A) In actions for the transfer of structured settlement payments under R.C. 2323.58 et seq. a copy of the annuity and related assignments shall be filed with the application for transfer.
  - (B) The Court shall grant a transfer of structured settlement payment applications only upon the showing of a compelling reason or circumstance which was not anticipated when the settlement was initially negotiated and agreed upon.

#### PRO HAC VICE

RULE 40.1 An attorney, not licensed to practice law in the State of Ohio, but who is duly licensed to practice law in any other state, District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or territories of the United

States may, in the discretion of the Probate Judge, be permitted to represent a party or parties in any matter pending or to be filed in this county after completion of all of the following conditions.

- A) The applicant attorney shall be sponsored in writing by an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Ohio. A motion shall be filed by the Ohio licensed attorney at least seven days prior to the proceeding certifying such applicants' compliance with this rule and the Rules for Government to the Bar;
- B) The applicant attorney shall certify in writing that he or she is on active status and in good standing to practice law and is not under any disability.

  Applicant shall further certify in writing that he or she has familiarized himself or herself with local court rules and will familiarize himself or herself with the appropriate Civil Rules, Rules of Evidence, and the Code of Professional Responsibility;
- C) The sponsoring attorney shall submit with the motion and certification, an entry authorizing approval of the motion;
- D) The sponsoring attorney, or any other attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Ohio, shall be co-counsel with the attorney admitted pro hac vice.

The continuance of any scheduled trial or hearing date shall not be permitted solely because of the unavailability or inconvenience of the out of state counsel.

#### COMPLIANCE

RULE 41.1

The Court may, in its discretion, appoint an attorney and other person(s), answerable to the Court, who shall investigate the circumstances surrounding any failure or apparent failure of a fiduciary or the fiduciary's attorney to comply with the laws, the Rules of Superintendence, or these rules. The appointee(s) shall file a written report with the Court. The compensation for the appointee(s) performing these services shall be fixed by the Court, according to the circumstances of each case, and shall be taxed as costs or charged to the fiduciary.

#### SUPERVISION OF ESTATES, TRUSTS, AND GUARDIANSHIPS

- RULE 42.1 Certificate of service of notice of probate of will:
  - (A) Fiduciaries appointed to administer estates of decedents who have died testate on or after January 1, 2002 are required to file certificate of service of notice of probate of will with waivers or certified cards attached, within sixty days of their appointment or be subject to removal proceedings.
    - (1) If the certificate is not filed within sixty days, a citation is sent to the fiduciary setting a status conference and indicating that removal may occur if the certificate is not filed prior to the date scheduled for status conference.
    - (2) If the certificate is filed, the Court records the filing and advances the system to the next statutory filing requirement.

- (3) If the fiduciary fails to file the certificate within the required time period, the fiduciary may be removed and a successor fiduciary appointed.
- (4) Extensions of time for filing the certificate may be granted for good cause shown by judgment entry.
- RULE 42.2 Notice to File Inventory in Estates, Trusts or Guardianships
  - (A) Notice must be timely sent to the fiduciary to file the inventory.
    - (1) If the inventory is not filed within sixty days, a citation is sent to the fiduciary setting a status conference and indicating that removal may occur if an inventory is not filed prior to the date scheduled for status conference.
    - (2) If the inventory is filed, the Court records the filing and advances the system to the next statutory filing requirement.
    - (3) If the fiduciary fails to file the inventory timely, the fiduciary may be removed and a successor appointed.
    - (4) Extensions of time for filing inventories may be granted for good cause shown by judgment entry.
    - (5) The late filing of any notice, inventory or account does not delay subsequent filing deadlines.

#### RULE 42.3 Surviving Spouse's Right of Election

"After the initial appointment of an administrator or executor of the estate, the probate court shall issue a citation to the surviving spouse, if any is living at the time of the issuance of the citation, to elect whether to exercise the surviving spouse's rights under Chapter 2106 of the Revised Code, including, after the probate of the will, the right to elect to take under the will or under section 2105.06 of the Revised Code." R.C. 2106.01

#### RULE 42.4 Accounting by the Fiduciary

- (A) If an account is not filed within six months of the appointment of fiduciary, a citation is sent to the fiduciary scheduling a status conference and indicating that removal may occur if an account is not filed prior to the date of the scheduled status conference.
- (B) If the account is not filed, the fiduciary may be removed and a successor fiduciary appointed.
- (C) When a final account is filed and approved, the estate, trust, or guardianship is removed from the system, and the case documents may be microfilmed or digitally stored and disposed.
- (D) Extensions of time for filing accounts may be granted for good cause shown by judgment entry.
- RULE 42.5 The Court may require verification of births, deaths or marriages to be filed into the court record.
- RULE 42.6

  All fiduciaries shall deposit assets in a fiduciary account in banking facilities that provide check imaging or canceled checks. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the Fiduciary account shall be maintained in an institution within the

boundaries of Columbiana County, Ohio. All assets shall remain in the state of Ohio unless otherwise authorized by judgment entry.

RULE 42.7 Fiduciaries are not permitted to use ATM machines or debit cards for estate accounts.

#### CASE MANAGEMENT OF ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS

- RULE 43.1

  Adversary proceedings, as used in this rule, shall include the following actions:
  Will Contest; Declaratory Judgment;
  Determination of Heirs; Construction of
  Will; Complaint for Accounting; Antenuptial
  Agreement; Concealment of Assets; Land
  Sales; Complaint to Purchase; Complaint for
  Judgment Entry Declaring Will Valid;
  Presumption of Death; Appropriations; and
  Objections to Inventories and Accounts.
  - (A) A pre-trial conference should be set thirty days after the answer date. Counsel shall be present and prepared to report on the following:
    - Whether all necessary parties have been joined and served with process;
    - Whether answers, counterclaims and/or crossclaims have been filed;
    - 3. Issue(s) to be litigated;
    - 4. Whether trial is to bench or jury;
    - 5. Anticipated length of trial;
    - 6. Whether settlement negotiations have taken place;
    - 7. Status of discovery
    - 8. Whether trial subpoenas are expected;

Counsel shall bring their trial schedules and/or calendars and be prepared to schedule the following:

- 1. Trial date;
- 2. Discovery cut-off;

- 3. Identification of expert witnesses and production of report;
- 4. Deadline for filing of pretrial motions and replies;
- 5. Deadline for witness lists to be exchanged and filed with the Court;
- 6. Deadline for exhibits to be exchanged and filed with the Court;
- 7. Deadline for filing objections to exhibits;
- 8. Deadline for filing of stipulations.
- (B) Notice of the pre-trial conference shall be given to all attorneys of record by mail at least fourteen days prior to pre-trial.
- (C) All requests for continuances of the pre-trial conference shall be by motion. The motion shall indicate whether counsel agrees or opposes the continuance. Counsel shall notify their respective clients and witnesses to any change in the date and time of any trial or pretrial.
- (D) Failure to appear for the pretrial conference or failure to comply with this local rule in any manner, may result in the imposition of sanctions including, but not limited to, monetary sanctions.
- (E) At the conclusion of the pre-trial conference, the Court shall prepare a pre-trial order setting forth:
  - (1) Discovery deadline date;
  - (2) Exchange of witness list
     deadline date;
  - (3) Pleading and briefing schedules;
  - (4) A trial date.
- (F) If a party is represented by multiple counsel, a designation of lead and/or trial counsel shall be filed in the record.

RULE 43.2 Counsel shall provide the Court with copies of all exhibits offered to be admitted to the record.

#### **MEDIATION**

RULE 43.3 A. Uniform Mediation Act and Definitions

The R.C. 2710 "Uniform Medication Act" (UMA), including all definitions found in R.C. 2710.01, are incorporated by reference and adopted by this court through this local rule. Frequently used definitions include:

- (1) "Mediation" means any process in which a neutral third party helps the parties communicate and negotiate with each other to help them reach a voluntary agreement regarding their dispute.
- (2) "Mediator" means an individual who conducts a mediation.
- (3) "Mediation Communication" means a statement, whether oral, in a record, verbal or non verbal, that occurs during a mediation or is made for purposes of considering, conducting, participating in, initiating, continuing, or reconvening a mediation or retaining a mediator.
- (4) "Nonparty participant" means a person other than a party or mediator that participated in a mediation.
- B. Cases eligible for Mediation

The court has discretion to encourage parties to use mediation in any civil action filed in this court and within the jurisdiction of this court. A case may be submitted to mediation as provided in this rule. The court may issue an order on its own motion, upon the motion of counsel, upon

the request of a party, or upon referral by the mediator.

#### C. Confidentiality

Except as provided in sections 121.22 and 149.43 of the Revised Code, mediation communications are confidential to the extent agreed by the parties or provided by other sections of the Revised Code or rules adopted under any section of the Revised Code. Parties desiring confidentiality of mediation communications shall advise the mediator as soon as practical and all mediation participants shall execute any confidentiality agreement prior to the start of mediation.

By participating in mediation, a nonparty participant, as defined by R.C. 2710.01(D) submits to the Court's jurisdiction to the extent necessary for enforcement of this rule. Any nonparty participant shall have the rights and duties under this rule as are attributed to parties, except that no evidence privilege shall be expanded.

D. Counsel shall be present at mediation unless waived by the party

Parties who are not represented by counsel shall attend mediation only if they have waived the right to counsel in open court. Parties represented by counsel may attend mediation without counsel only where the right to have counsel present at the mediation has been specifically waived. Parties waiving counsel at mediation must fill out and sign a "Waiver of Counsel at Mediation" form prior to participation in mediation. Waivers may be rescinded at any time.

#### E. Referrals to Mediation

The Judge or Magistrate may refer or order a case to mediation at any point in a case. Any party may request to participate in mediation by filing a motion or joint motion

with the court, or by making an oral request for a referral to mediation on the record.

F. Notification of Mediation

The mediator shall file a notice to the court that a mediation is occurring in the case, including the time and place for mediation, and this notice shall be distributed to all parties and custodians.

G. Mediator Training and Education

A mediator shall meet the qualifications of and comply with all training requirements of Sup. R. 16.23 and adopted pursuant to Sup. R.16.22 governing mediators and mediation.

H. Mediator Selection and Assignment

The following methods may be used to determine the mediator for the case:

- (1) The court may assign a court mediator to mediate.
- (2) The court may randomly assign a mediator to the case from the court's roster of approved mediators, if any.
- (3) Specific appointments may be made by the court taking into consideration the qualifications, skills, expertise, and caseload of the mediator in addition to the type, complexity and requirements of the case.
- (4) Parties may select a mediator from the court roster, if any.
- (5) Parties may request leave to select a mediator without guidance from the court. The court shall not be responsible for the quality of a mediator selected by the parties without guidance from the court and who does not meet the

qualifications, education and training requirements set forth in section (G) above.

#### I. Procedures

In accordance with all applicable provisions of this rule, if a case is deemed appropriate by the court for mediation, mediation may be scheduled.

A mediator may meet with the parties individually prior to bringing the parties together for any reason including, but not limited to, further screening. A mediator may schedule multiple mediation sessions, if necessary and mutually acceptable for the resolution of the issues in part or in their entirety.

A party opposed to either the referral or the appointed mediator must file a written objection with the court within seven days of receiving notice of the referral or provider and explain the reasons for any opposition.

#### J. Party/Nonparty Participation

Parties to informal cases such as pre-filing or diversion may voluntarily attend mediation sessions.

Parties who are ordered into mediation in formal cases shall attend scheduled mediation sessions. The court may order parties to return to mediation at any time in formal cases.

If counsel of any party to the mediation becomes aware of the identity of a person or entity whose consent is required to resolve the dispute, but as not yet been joined as a party in the pleadings, they shall promptly inform the mediator as well as the assigned judge or magistrate.

By participating in mediation a nonparty participant, as defined by R.C. 2710.01(D),

agrees to be bound by this rule and submits to the court's jurisdiction to the extent necessary for enforcement of this rule. Any nonparty participant shall have the rights and duties under this rule attributed to parties except as provided by R.C. 2710.03(B)(3) and 2710.04(A)(2).

#### K. Termination

If the mediator determines that further mediation efforts would be of no benefit to the parties, he or she shall inform all interested parties and the court that the mediation is terminated using the procedure required by this court.

#### L. Stay of Proceedings

Upon referral of a case to mediation, the court may elect to stay all filing deadlines for up to 60 days. The clerk of courts shall not accept for filing any documents while a case is in mediation unless expressly permitted by these rules or the court order.

Only the following document may be filed while a mediation stay is in effect:

- (1) Motion to lift the mediation stay;
- (2) Response to a motion to lift mediation stay;
- (3) Motion or Stipulation to Dismiss the case;
- (4) Notice related to counsel

#### M. Continuances

It is the policy of this court to determine matters in a timely way. Continuances of scheduled mediations shall be granted only for good cause shown after a mutually acceptable future date has been determined. The mediation may be continued by the mediator or the judge or magistrate who

referred the case. Except as authorized by the court, the existence of pending motions shall not be good cause for a continuance and no continuance will be granted unless the mediation can be scheduled prior to the final pretrial. If a continuance of a scheduled mediation is requested and the proposed new date is within 60 days of the initial referral to mediation, the request shall be made to the mediator. If the requested date is more then 60 days after the referral to mediation, then the request must be made to the judge or magistrate assigned to the case.

#### N. Fees and Costs

The court may impose upon the parties fees and costs for mediation. If there is a fee for mediation, unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the mediation fees shall be shared equally, unless otherwise ordered by the Court. The court may waive fees and costs for an indigent party. Mediation shall not be ordered where a party is indigent unless the mediation is available at no costs to the party.

#### O. Attendance; Sanctions

If any individual ordered by the court to attend mediation fails to attend mediation without good cause, the court may impose sanctions which may include, but at not limited to, the award of attorney's fees and other costs, contempt or other appropriate sanctions at the discretion of the assigned judge or magistrate.

#### P. Evaluation, Comments, and Complaints

It is the policy of the court to use mediation to benefit the parties, to assist in reaching a resolution, and to provide a process that is timely and flexible that maintains the trust and confidence of the people. Any mediation participant may submit written comments, complaints or

feedback regarding the performance of mediators receiving referrals from the court

#### JURY MANAGEMENT PLAN

#### RULE 44.1 OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE

The opportunity for jury service should not be denied or limited on the basis of race, national origin, gender, age, religious belief, income, occupation, disability, or any other factor that discriminates against a cognizable group in this jurisdiction.

#### RULE 44.2 JURY SOURCE LIST

- A. The jury source list shall be obtained from the Board of Elections' list of registered voters.
- B. The Columbiana County jury commissioners appointed by the Columbiana County Court of Common Pleas shall select the electors in accordance with the rules of practice of that court. The jury source list shall be representative and inclusive of the adult population of Columbiana County. The court reserves the right to review the jury source list to assure that it is inclusive and representative, and if necessary, to require appropriate corrective action.

#### RULE 44.3 RANDOM SELECTION PROCEDURES

Random selection procedures shall be used throughout the jury selection process. The methodology employed shall provide each and every available person with an equal probability of selection. The selection process is to be administered by the jury commissioner as set forth in the Rules of Practice of the Columbiana County Court of Common Pleas.

RULE 44.4 ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICE

47:3/2/2020

- A. All persons are eligible for jury service except those who:
  - 1. Are less than 18 years of age.
  - 2. Are not citizens of the United States.
  - 3. Are not residents of Columbiana County.
  - 4. Are not able to communicate in the English language.
  - 5. Have been convicted of a felony and not had their civil right restored.
- B. The Columbiana County jury commissioner or deputy jury commissioner is responsible for notification of prospective jurors as set forth in Rules of Practice of the Columbiana County Court of Common Pleas General Division.

#### RULE 44.5 TERM OF AND AVAILABILITY OF JURY SERVICE

- A. The time that persons are called upon to perform jury service and to be available should be the shortest period consistent with the needs of justice.
- B. Jurors for probate court cases are to report to the Juvenile Court facility located at 260 W. Lincoln Way, Lisbon, Ohio.
- C. The probate judge's staff or the juvenile court administrator shall communicate with the jury commissioner to determine the availability of jurors as is needed on a case by case basis.

#### RULE 44.6 EXEMPTION, EXCUSE AND DEFERRAL

- A. There shall be no automatic excuses or exemptions with the exception of statutory exemptions set forth in the Ohio Revised Code.
- B. Persons who no longer reside in Columbiana County and persons convicted

of a felony whose rights have not been restored are disqualified from jury service.

- C. The term of juror service is to be determined by the Columbiana County jury commissioner.
- D. The term of service shall be at a minimum sufficient to complete the trial in probate court in which the juror is impaneled.
- E. The probate court judge presiding over the trial has the discretion to grant excuses or postponements for good cause shown. Requests for excuses or deferrals should be written or otherwise made of record.

#### RULE 44.7 VOIR DIRE

- A. Voir Dire examination should be limited to matters relevant to determining whether to remove a juror for just cause and to determine the juror's fairness and impartiality.
- B. To reduce the time required for voir dire, basic background information shall be available to counsel in writing for each party on the day in which jury selection is to begin.
- C. The trial judge shall conduct a preliminary voir dire examination.
  Counsel shall then be permitted to question panel members for a reasonable period of time.
- D. The judge should ensure that the privacy of prospective jurors is reasonably protected, and the questioning is consistent with purpose of voir dire process.
- E. In all cases the voir dire process shall be held on the record.

#### RULE 44.8 REMOVAL OF THE JURY PANEL FOR CAUSE

If the judge determines during the voir dire process that any individual is unable or unwilling to hear the particular case at issue fairly and impartially, that individual shall be removed from the panel. Such a determination may be made on motion of counsel or by the judge.

#### RULE 44.9 PEREMPTORY CHALLENGES

Rules determining procedure for peremptory challenges shall be in accordance with the Ohio Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedure adopted by the Supreme Court of Ohio and applicable statutory authority.

#### RULE 44.10 ADMINISTRATION OF THE JURY SYSTEM

- A. The responsibility for administration of the jury system is vested in the court and the jury commissioner.
- B. All procedures concerning jury selection and service shall be governed by applicable Ohio rules as promulgated by the various courts.
- C. Management of the jury system is to be by the trial judge, the judge's staff and the juvenile court administrator.

#### RULE 44.11 NOTIFICATION AND SUMMONING PROCEDURES

Procedures governing notification and summoning of jurors are set forth in the Rules of Practice of the Columbiana County Court of Common Pleas General Division and are administered by the jury commissioner.

#### RULE 44.12 MONITORING THE JURY SYSTEM

The jury commissioner shall collect and analyze information regarding the performance of the jury system as is set forth in the Rules of Practice of the Columbiana County Court of Common Pleas General Division.

#### RULE 44.13 JUROR USE

- A. Courts should employ the services of prospective jurors so as to achieve optimum use with a minimum inconvenience to jurors.
- B. The jury commissioner is responsible for management and assignment of jurors and the effective use of jurors.

#### RULE 44.14 JURY FACILITIES

- A. The court shall provide an adequate and suitable environment for jurors.
- B. Jury deliberation room should include space, furnishings and facilities conducive to reaching a fair verdict. The safety and security of the deliberation room shall be ensured by the court.
- C. To the extent feasible, juror facilities are to be arranged to minimize contact between jurors, parties, counsel, and the public.

#### RULE 44.15 JUROR COMPENSATION

- A. Persons called for jury service shall receive compensation as established by the Columbiana County commissioners pursuant to R.C. 2313.34.
- B. Such fees shall be paid promptly.
- C. Employers shall be prohibited from discharging, laying-off, denying advancement opportunities to, or otherwise penalizing employees who miss work because of jury service.

#### RULE 44.16 JUROR ORIENTATION AND INSTRUCTION

- A. The jury commissioner's office shall conduct a juror orientation program that is:
  - Designed to increase prospective jurors' understanding of the judicial system and prepare them to serve competently as jurors, and
  - Presented in a uniform and efficient manner using a combination of written, oral, and audiovisual materials.
- B. The court shall provide some form of orientation or instructions to persons called for service upon first appearance in the court and upon reporting the courtroom for voir dire.
- C. The trial judge should:
  - 1. Give preliminary instructions to all prospective jurors.
  - 2. Give instructions directly following empanelment of the jury to explain the jury's role, the trial procedure including note taking and questions by jurors, the nature of evidence and its evaluation, the issues to be addressed, and the basic relevant legal principles.
  - 3. Prior to the commencement of deliberation, instruct the jury on the law, on the appropriate procedures to be followed during deliberations, and on the appropriate method for reporting the results of its deliberations. These instructions should be made available to the jurors during deliberations.
  - 4. Prepare and deliver instructions that are readily understood by

- individuals unfamiliar with the legal system.
- 5. Use written instructions when feasible.
- 6. Assure that all communications between the judge and members of the jury panel from the time of reporting to the courtroom for voir dire to the panel's dismissal shall be in writing or on record in open court. Counsel for each party shall be informed of such communication and be given the opportunity to be heard.
- 7. Before dismissing a jury at the conclusion of a case, the trial judge should:
  - a. Release the jurors from their duty of confidentiality:
  - b. Explain the rights regarding inquiries from counsel or the press:
  - c. Either advise them that they are discharged from service or specify where they must report; and,
  - d. Express appreciation to the jurors for their service, but not comment on the result of the deliberation, or express approval or disapproval of the result of the deliberation.

#### RULE 44.17 JURY SIZE AND UNANIMITY OF VERDICT

Jury size and unanimity in civil and criminal cases shall conform to existing Ohio law.

#### RULE 44.18 JURY DELIBERATION

A. Jury deliberations should take place under conditions and pursuant to procedures that are designed to ensure impartiality and enhance rational decision-making.

- B. The judge should instruct the jury concerning appropriate procedures during deliberations.
- C. A jury should not be required to deliberate after a reasonable hour unless the trial judge determines that evening or weekend deliberations would not impose an undue hardship upon the jurors and are required.
- D. Training should be provided to personnel who escort and assist jurors during deliberations.

#### RULE 44.19 SEQUESTRATION OF JURORS

- A. A jury should not be sequestered unless for good cause, including but not limited to insulating its members from improper information or influences.
- B. The trial judge shall have the discretion to sequester a jury on the motion of counsel or on the judge's initiative.
- C. The judge's courtroom staff and the juvenile court administrator shall have the responsibility to provide for the safety and comfort of the jurors.
- D. The court administrator is responsible for developing procedures to implement and achieve the purposes of sequestration.
- E. Training shall be provided to court personnel who escort and assist sequestered jurors.

#### INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT FOR MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

Rule 45.1

(A) Upon the filing of any Affidavit of Mental Illness requesting involuntary commitment, the Affiant shall file with the Court a 4-page Case History of Mental Illness or Mental Deficiency (See Appendix O), and a prescreening

report performed by a licensed psychiatrist, licensed physician, or Ticensed clinical psychologist.

(B) In the event the assistance of the Columbiana County Sheriff, or local police, is necessary to transport a patient, the Affiant shall provide the Court with a completed Special Pickup Information Form. (See Appendix P)

IT IS SO ORDERED.

THOMAS M. BARONZZI

Probate Judge

# PROCEDURE FOR ASSESSMENT OF NEED FOR GUARDIANSHIP AND INITIATION OF EMERGENCY GUARDIANSHIP

These procedures are intended to be followed in the Columbiana County

Probate Court for obtaining the following orders:

- 1. Professional Assessment of Incapacitated Persons, or
- 2. Release of medical records and other information of incapacitated persons who are unable or unwilling to voluntarily execute a release of information, or
- 3. Establishment of Emergency Guardianships.
- I. An Application for Assessment of Need of Guardianship/For
  Emergency Guardianship (standard local court form) may be filed by
  any interested person or agency who believes that a person in
  Columbiana County is:
  - 1. an incapacitated person, and
  - 2. a resident of the county, and
  - 3. whose person or estate is imminently and seriously threatened by reason of the incapacity, and
  - 4, there are no alternatives such as durable powers of attorney, available to alleviate the threat of harm available.
- II. A fully completed and Notarized Affidavit of Information For Guardianship Assessment (standard local court form) and a Report of Expert Evaluation (if available) (standard probate form) must also be filed with the Application.

56:3/2/2020

III. The court will review the Application, Affidavit and Report of Expert Evaluation, and upon determining that there is probable cause to believe a guardianship is necessary, will issue exparte' orders for guardianship, expert evaluation or release of medical or other information.

If the court grants emergency orders, then the court will set a review hearing within 72 hours.

If an evaluation does not support probable cause for emergency orders, then the court will give notice to the Applicant that a standard Application For Appointment of Guardian (Standard Probate Form 17.0), needs to be filed.

- IV. Upon the granting of an exparte' emergency order, the order will expire after 72 hours pursuant to ORC 2111.02. The emergency guardian shall immediately personally serve the ward with a copy of the temporary order after it is granted and return a written verification of service for filing with the Court. (use standard verification of service Form 17.4).
- V. After review hearing, if good cause is shown for continuation of the emergency order, then the order shall be continued for up to an additional 30 days.

If the emergency orders are continued, then an investigation of guardianship will be ordered and the proposed guardian will be directed to file an Application For Appointment of Guardian (Standard Probate Form 57:3/2/2020

17.0). Applications for Appointment of Guardian of the Estate shall be filed by an attorney representing the applicant.

The court will schedule a hearing on the Application of Guardianship on or before the expiration of the 30 day extension order. The court will send notice to all parties of interest adequately disclosed in the Affidavit for Assessment. \*It shall be the responsibility of the Applicant or the Applicant's attorney to determine and serve any additional persons of interest who are entitled to notice of hearing, and to provide the court with proof of service on or before the full guardianship hearing.

The court appointed investigator will serve the ward with notice of hearing and return to the court proof of service with the investigative report.

VI. The court will hold a formal evidentiary hearing on the Application for Appointment of Guardian and make appropriate orders.

**EMERGENCY GUARDIANSHIP INSTRUCTIONS - APPENDIX A** 

#### COURT OF COMMON PLEAS PROBATE COURT COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO

In the matter of:	) Case No GDINC
	) ) JUDGE: THOMAS M. BARONZZI
An Alleged Incompetent Person/Minor	<ul> <li>Application For Assessment</li> <li>of Need for Guardianship/</li> <li>For Emergency Guardianship</li> </ul>
Now comes	and pursuant to
ORC 2111.041 and ORC 2111.02, petitio	ons this court for orders of assessment of the
need for Guardianship and/or to grant a	n emergency order of guardianship of
$\Box$ the person, $\Box$ the estate, $\Box$ the pers	son and estate of:
Name:	
Residence Address: (or legal settlement)	(must include County)
And further upon assessment and hearing to appoint:	ng, finding probable cause for guardianship
Name:	
Residence Address:  (a resident o	f Columbiana County, Ohio)
as emergency guardian of	
The Applicant attaches hereto an	Affidavit of Information for Guardianship
Assessment and incorporates herein by r	reference the averments and requested
orders of the Affidavit as if fully rewritte	en.
	Respectfully Submitted,
	Applicant

# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS PROBATE COURT COLUMBIANA COUNTY STATE OF OHIO JUDGE THOMAS M. BARONZZI

### AFFIDVIT OF INFORMATION FOR GUARDIANSHIP ASSESSMENT

Now comes	Affiant, and being first
duly sworn depos	es and states of his or her own personal knowledge and
belief, the followi	ng:
1. Affiant	believes there is a probable cause to believe that:
Name:	
	(residence address)
Date	of birth
Phon	e
is an incapa Person" or	acitated person, (hereinafter referred to as "Incapacitated "IP")
2. The IP:	☐ is a resident of Columbiana County, Ohio.
	☐ is found incapacitated in Columbiana County. explain:
	☐ is not a resident of Columbiana County.  County and state of residence is:

3.	The nature and	extent of the person's incapacity is as follows:
4.	I am aware of t the assistance of	he following facts that indicate that the IP requires of a guardian:
5.	impairment of	□ is/ □ is not, in imminent danger of serious his or her physical health or safety unless on is taken. (check one)
6.		☐ is/☐ is not, in imminent danger of serious sunless immediate action is taken. (check one)
7.	The IP is:	<ul> <li>□ living in a private residence</li> <li>□ a client at a nursing facility</li> <li>□ a patient in a hospital or mental health facility</li> <li>□ has no known permanent residence</li> </ul>
8.	The IP is:	<ul> <li>□ my friend</li> <li>□ my client or patient name of agency or office:</li> <li>□ my relative. Relationship:</li> </ul>

□ is supported by medical and/or men evaluation records and/or determinal mental retardation or developmental from diagnosis within the past 90 days Name of doctor(s) or qualified mental practitioner(s) or BDD evaluator(s), and date of evaluation or diagnosis:	ation of I disability ays. tal health address
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
(attach supplemental page if nee	eded)
☐ Is accessible by reason of voluntary release of information provided by taken *Attach Report of Expert Evaluation	the IP>
☐ Is not accessible due to the IP's inabunwillingness to voluntarily execute release of necessary records, and recorder for release of necessary record information from the above listed II	e a written quires court ds and
☐ requires court order for current eval  ○Medical/physical incapacity  ○mental or emotional incapacity  ○determination of mental retard	y
10. The IP has previously executed:	
□ written durable POA for medical de	ecisions
☐ written durable POA for business/o decisions	ther
☐ no powers of attorney known to the (submit any POA with this Affice	

9. Medical or other evidence of the IP's incapacity:

11. The Affiant upon exercise of reasonable diligence has determined that the IP has the following living relatives:

(include: spouse, children, parents, siblings, and other relatives and also any other persons who have expressed an interest in assisting the IP, or have been recently assisting the IP)

x/w	Name	Relationship	Address	Phone

An "X" in the far left column next to the name of any listed person indicates his/her willingness to serve as guardian (those person's SSN and dob are listed below his or her name.) A "W" next to any person indicates he or she has indicated a waiver of interest to serve as guardian.

# I swear or affirm that the information provided in this Affidavit is true and complete to the best of my personal knowledge and belief. Date:\_\_\_\_\_ Affiant Notary State of Ohio Columbiana County \_\_\_\_\_ personally appeared before me at on the \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_, and acknowledged by swearing or affirming that he or she is at least 18 years of age, under no legal disability, that the information of his/her affidavit is true and complete and made of his/her personal knowledge and belief. Notary Public

12. The IP owns the following assets:

EMERGENCY GUARDIANSHIP APPLICATION - APPENDIX B

## IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS DIVISION OF PROBATE COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF	)	CASE NO.	_
	)	NOTICE OF LITIGATION	
The undersigned represents to the O	Court that this	s matter is involved in litigation, being:	
Case No.			
The estate is Plaintiff	•		
Estate litigation counsel: Name		Ohio Supreme Court No.	
First Name			
Telephone Number			
The undersigned further represents litigation, including Civ.R.41 dismissals, and		t will be notified within 30 days of the conclusi of Litigation Report will be filed yearly.	on of the
Attorney Signature		Fiduciary Signature	
Attorney typed name and Ohio Registrat	tion Number	Fiduciary Typed Name	
Address		Address	
City, State, Zip Code		City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone Number		Telephone Number	

NOTICE OF LITIGATION – APPENDIX C

ESTATE OF	_
CASE NO	
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO PAY COUNSEL FEES FOR AN ES	TATE
, Attorney at Law, states that it was	
necessary for the fiduciary to employ counsel to properly administer the within esta	ate.
The fee agreement between the fiduciary and counsel was based on one of the following	wing
indicated methods:	
Court fee guideline (calculation attached); Hourly rate (attached brief summary of hours & rate)	
Other (explain):	
The undersigned states that the reasonable value of professional legal service	
this matter as \$ and, with the consent of the fiduciary, requests approval	of the
Court directing payment in full from estate assets simultaneously with the filing of	the
final account.	
APPROVED:	
Fiduciary signature Attorney signature	

COUNSEL FEES – ESTATE - APPENDIX D

ESTATE O	F		
CASE NO.			
	ESTATE COUN	SEL FEE GU	UDELINE
	Court hereby adopts as a guide following definition of "Gros	•	e following percentage calculations
(2) Ohio Est Account or to a named survivorship Where the F Court a brie Return.)	tate Tax Determination; (e) Fe Accounts. (Note: Gross Estatementiciary, but shall include a accounts or property in deceded and Estate Tax Return is usef statement indicating the total	ederal Estate Te shall not in not less than of dent's name presed as a criter l assets appear	clude insurance proceeds payable
	ss Estate" which was determin		
(1)	Inventory		Value
(2)	Ohio Estate Tax Determina	ation	Value
(3)	Federal Estate Tax Determ	ination	Value
(4)	Account or Accounts		Value
6%	of the first \$50,000.00		\$
4%	of the next \$50,000.00		\$
3%	of the next \$300,000.00		\$
2%	of the balance		\$
	Total fee requested		\$
Fiduciary's		Attorney's	s signature
Fiduciary's	typed name	Attorney's	s typed name

ESTATE OF	
CASE NO.	_
JUDG	MENT ENTRY
COUNSEL F	EES FOR AN ESTATE
The Court finds that proper adm	inistration of said estate required the Fiduciary or
Commissioner to employ	, as Estate
Counsel, and that the dollar amount of l	egal services provided \$,
constitutes reasonable attorney fees, sub	oject to exceptions.
WHEREFORE, the Fiduciary is	hereby authorized to make such payment out of
this Estate's assets. The actual filing of	the Final Accounting shall occur not later than
sixty (60) days from the filing of this Or	rder.
Date:	THOMAS M. BARONZZI PROBATE JUDGE
APPROVED:	
Fiduciary's signature	
Attorney's signature	

ESTATE OF	
CASE NO	
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY	TO PAY ATTORNEY FEES
(RELEASE FROM ADMI	INISTRATION)
, Com	missioner, states that it was necessary for
the Commissioner to employ counsel in this Release F	From Administration. The Release From
Administration has been completed subject to the filing	ng of the Report of Distribution and the legal
services provided were beneficial to the Estate. In the	e determination of the Attorney's fee, the
following percentages were applied to the "Gross Esta	ate" which was determined to be:
GROSS ESTATE:	
6% ON THE FIRST \$3,000.00	
5% ON SECOND \$3,000.00	
4% ON THIRD \$3,000.00	
3% ON FOURTH \$3,000.00	
2% ON ALL ABOVE \$12,000.00	
TOTAL	
The said attorney and Commissioner believe t	that the reasonable value of the attorney's
fees for services in this Release From Administration	is \$
WHEREFORE, it is prayed that the Court allo	ow the sum of \$
As the reasonable value of said attorn	ey's fees for services and that the
Commissioner be authorized to make said payment ou	at of the assets of the Estate.
Attorney's signature	Commissioner's signature

COUNSEL FEES – RELEASE FROM ADMINISTRATION - APPENDIX E

ESTATE OF	
CASE NO.	
COUNSEL FEES FOR A RI	ELEASE OF ADMINISTRATION
The Court finds that proper admin	istration of said estate required the
Commissioner to employ	, as Estate
Counsel, and that the dollar amount of leg	al services provided \$,
constitutes reasonable attorney fees, subje	ct to exceptions.
WHEREFORE, the Commissioner	is hereby authorized to make such payment
out of this Estate's assets. The actual filin	ng of the Report of Distribution shall occur not
later than sixty (60) days from the filing o	f this Order.
Date:	
	THOMAS M. BARONZZI PROBATE JUDGE
APPROVED:	
Commissioner's signature	
_	
Attorney's signature	

GUARDIANSHIP OF		
CASE NO		
APPLICATION FOR	AUTHORITY TO PAY	
COUNSEL FEES	- GUARDIANSHIP	
Now comes	Guardian, who states t	hat it was necessary
for the guardian to employ counsel to properly a	administer the guardianship	The fees requested
for the period ofto		are calculated
as follows:		
<u>c</u>	ORDINARY FEES	
I. Total Income During Period (\$	) X 6% \$	
II. Principal Fee of \$4 per thousand (.004) first \$200,000 of market value		
\$1.50 per thousand (.0015) of market va \$200,000.00		
TOTAL ORDINARY FEES	\$	
EXT	RAORDINARY FEES	
III. Extraordinary Fees (Itemize and atta	ach time records) \$	
TOTAL I, II, AND III	\$	
TOTAL FEE REQUESTED	\$	
Attorney's signature	Guardian's signature	e

COUNSEL FEES-GUARDIANSHIP-.APPENDIX F

GUARDIANSHIP OF	
CASE NO	
JUDGMENT ENTR	RY - COUNSEL FEES
The Court finds that proper admini	stration of the guardianship required the
Guardian to employ	, as Guardianship Counsel, and that
the dollar amount of legal services provide	ed \$ constitutes reasonable
attorney fees.	
WHEREFORE, the Guardian is he	reby authorized to make such payment out of
the Guardianship assets.	
Date:	
	THOMAS M. BARONZZI PROBATE JUDGE
APPROVED:	
Guardian's signature	
Guardian's signature	
Attorney's signature	

#### IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS DIVISION OF PROBATE COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF	) CASE NO	
	,	
APPLICATION TO ENTE	R INTO CONTINGENT FEE CON	TRACT
The undersigned applies to th	e Court for authority to enter into the	contingent fee
contract attached as Exhibit A with:		
Attorney:		
Address:		
Telephone:		
The undersigned represents the	nat legal services are necessary as a re	esult of the
following described matter:		
The undersign further represe	ents that no fees will be paid until revi	ewed by the
Court and allowed by judgment entry	<i>7</i> .	
Dut	G' CE' lee '	Title
Date	Signature of Fiduciary	1 1116
	Type or Print Name	

APPLICATION TO ENTER INTO CONTINGENT FEE CONTRACT – APPENDIX  $\boldsymbol{G}$ 

#### IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS DIVISION OF PROBATE COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF	)	CASE NO
	)	
	)	
ENTRY APP	ROVING AP	PLICATION TO ENTER
<u>INTO C</u>	ONTINGEN	<u> FEE CONTRACT</u>
Upon application of the	Fiduciary and	for good cause shown, the Fiduciary is
hereby authorized to enter into	contingent fee	contract as submitted to the Court on
		. No fees shall be paid until reviewed by
the Court and allowed by further	er Judgment Er	ntry.
Date:		
		ΓHOMAS M. BARONZZI
	F	PROBATE JUDGE

IN THE N	MATTER OF				
CASE NO	)				
APP	LICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO	PAY	COUNSEL	FEES -	TRUST
No	ow comes	Tru	stee, who stat	tes that it w	as necessary
for the Tru	stee to employ counsel to properly admir	ister th	e trust. The	fees reques	ted for the
period of _	to			are calcu	ılated as
follows:					
	ORD	INAR	Y FEES		
I.	Principal Fee = \$2.00 per \$1,000 of principal's market value = \$2.00 X \$			\$	
II.	Income fee = 6.5% of total income duri Accounting period = 6.5% X \$	ng		\$	
III.	Principal distribution fee – 1% of principal distributed = 1% X \$	-		\$	
TOTAL FI	EES COMPUTED FROM ABOVE			\$	
TOTAL FI	EES REQUESTED			\$	
Attorney's	signature	$\overline{\overline{T}}$	rustee's signa	ature	

**COUNSEL FEES – TRUST - APPENDIX H** 

IN THE MATTER OF	
CASE NO.	
JUDGMENT ENTRY	Y - COUNSEL FEES - TRUST
The Court finds that proper a	dministration of the trust required the Trustee to
employ	, as Trust Counsel, and that the dollar amount of
legal services provided \$	constitutes reasonable attorney fees.
WHEREFORE, the Trustee is	s hereby authorized to make such payment out of the
Trust assets.	
Date:	THOMAS M. BARONZZI
	PROBATE JUDGE
ADDROVED	
APPROVED:	
	<u></u>
Trustee's signature	
Attorney's signature	

ESTA	TE OF				
CASE	E NO				
		CATION FOR AUR'S/ADMINISTRA			
	Now comes		the Fiduciary in t	he abov	e-captioned
estate,	, and requests authority	to pay Executor's/	Administrator's c	ommiss	ion pursuant to
Ohio l	Revised Code Section	2113.35, calculated	as follows:		
I. \$100,0 \$400,0	Personal Estate 0 to \$100,000 001 to \$400,000 Total	(a) 3%			¢
	l otal				-\$
II.	Real Estate (Not sold Value from Ohio Est	,		@ 1%	\$
III.	Non-Probate Assets ( Survivorship) Value from Ohio Est	, -		<u>@</u> 1%	\$
IV.	Summary A. Total Commissio B. Less Commissio C. Balance of Comm	ns previously appro	ved by the Court		\$ \$ \$
В. С.	Commissions will no account. Commissions will be provides otherwise. Commissions may be extraordinary attorne	shared equally between the shared equally between the shared when citated the shared been grows.	ween co-fiduciarions have been is anted.	es, unles	ss the will
	Commissions shall n	ot be paid until allo	wed by judgment	entry.	
Date:_		_	Fiduciary's s	ignature	<b>;</b>

EXECUTOR'S/ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMISSION - APPENDIX I

ESTATE OF	
CASE NO	
JUDGM	ENT ENTRY
EXECUTOR'S/ADMINI	ISTRATOR'S COMMISSION
Upon application of the Fiduciary a	and for good cause shown, the Fiduciary is
authorized to pay Executor's/Administrato	or's fees in the sum of \$
Date:	THOMAS M. BARONZZI
	PROBATE JUDGE
APPROVED:	
Fiduciary's signature	
Attorney's signature	

GUAR	DIANSHIP OF									
CASE	NO									
	APPLICATION	'OR	AUTI	ORITY	TO	PAY	GU	JARDIAI	N FEES	
	Now comes			(	Guardia	ın, and	requ	ests author	rity to pay Gu	ıardian's
fees calc	culated for the period of									
follows:										
				ORI	INAR	Y FEE	ES			
I.	Total Income During Peri	od (\$_						\$		
II.	Principal Fee of \$4 per th first \$200,000 of market		1 (.004)	) of the				\$		
	\$1.50 per thousand (.0013) \$200,000.00	) of m	arket v	value over	•			\$		
TOTAL	ORDINARY FEES							\$		
				EXTRA	ORDII	NARY :	FEE	<u>s</u>		
III.	Extraordinary Fees (Item:	ze and	attach	time rec	ords)			\$		
ТОТАІ	I, II, AND III							\$		
TOTAL	1, 11, 71110 111									
TOTAL	FEE REQUESTED							\$		
Attorne	y's signature				Ō	Guardi	an's	signature	e	
LIMITA'	TIONS ON COMPENSATIO  1. Investment of function originally received 2. Final distribution of successor guardian 3. Compensation wil 4. Compensation wil 5. Compensation man fees have been gra 6. Compensation sha 7.	s and r or inco f unex not be be sha be rec	reinvestrome or opended allowed equilibrium allowed with the control of the contr	ments of a expenditur balances t d when the tally between then citation	ssets shees. o a war ere is a een co-g ons have	all not be d at the delinque guardian e been is	closi ency is.	nsidered mong of a guanting in filing an	oney or propert rdianship or to account.	a

 ${\bf GUARDIAN'S\ COMPENSATION\ -\ APPENDIX\ J}$ 

GUARDIANSHIP OF	
CASE NO	
JUDGMEN	F ENTRY - GUARDIAN'S FEES
The Court approves and	orders paid reasonable compensation to the Guardian in
the sum of \$	and orders the same paid from the assets of
the Guardianship.	
Date:	
	THOMAS M. BARONZZI PROBATE JUDGE
APPROVED:	
Guardian's signature	
Attorney's signature	

IN THE	MATTER OF	
CASE N	O	
	APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY	TO PAY TRUSTEE'S FEES
N	low comes	Trustee, and requests authority to pay
	fees calculated for the period of	
	as follows:	
I.	Principal Fee = \$2.00 per \$1,000 of principal's market value = \$2.00 X \$	\$
II.	Income fee = 6.5% of total income dur Accounting period = 6.5% X \$	ring \$
III.	Principal distribution fee – 1% of principal distributed = 1% X \$	
TOTAL I	FEES COMPUTED FROM ABOVE	\$
TOTAL I	FEES REQUESTED	\$
1.	originally received, or income, or expendi	ssets shall not be considered money or property tures.
2.	trustee.	to a beneficiary at the closing of a trust, or to a successor
3. 4. 5.	Compensation will be shared equally between Compensation may be reduced when citated fees have been granted.	veen co-trustees.  ions have been issued and when extraordinary attorney
6.	· · ·	
Attorney'	s signature	Trustee's signature

TRUSTEE'S FEES - APPENDIX K

IN THE MATTER OF	
CASE NO	
JUDGMENT ENTRY	- TRUSTEE'S FEES
The Court approves and orders paid	l reasonable compensation to the Trustee in
the sum of \$	and orders the same paid from the assets of
the Trust.	
Date:	THOMAS M. BARONZZI
	PROBATE JUDGE
APPROVED:	
Trustee's signature	
Attorney's signature	

# IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS PROBATE DIVISION COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO THOMAS M. BARONZZI, JUDGE

ESTATE OF	, DECEASED
CASE NO.	
APPLICATION TO DISPE	NSE WITH PUBLICATION OF NOTICE
dispense with publication of Estate From Administration.	makes application to the Court to f notice of the Application To Relieve Applicant states that all debts of ill be paid, and creditors of the ed.
Attorney for Applicant	Applicant
Typed or printed name	Typed or printed name
Address	Address
City, State, Zip Code	City, State, Zip Code
Telephone number	Telephone number
Registration number	
JUD	OGMENT ENTRY
	s in the above application, the Court finds that on To Relieve The Estate From Administration is the.
So ordered.	
	THOMAS M. BARONZZI PROBATE JUDGE

APPLICATION TO DISPENSE WITH PUBLICATION OF NOTICE - APPENDIX L  $83\!:\!3/2/2020$ 

## PROBATE COURT OF COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO THOMAS M. BARONZZI, JUDGE

IN RE: Paralegal Registration	on of
CASE NO.	
(FOR USE BY A PARALEGAL EMPLO	TRATION: EMPLOYEE DYED EXCLUSIVELY BY ONE LAW FIRM) RULE 75.6]
The Law Firm of Registers the Firm, who	a paralegal employed by
Will be assisting on matters fi	led in this Court.
The Law Firm and the paralegal	certify that:
	ied through education, training, e to assist the Firm in legal
<del>-</del>	irm will supervise and be vices of the paralegal.
3. Paralegal services and in fee statements filed	fees shall be itemized separately with the Court, and;
<del>-</del>	the Court when the registered clusive employment of the Firm.
Signature of attorney	Signature of Paralegal
Typed or printed name	Typed or printed name
Address of Attorney	Employment address of paralegal
Telephone number	Telephone number
Attorney registration number	Paralegal registration number

PARALEGAL REGISTRATION: EMPLOYEE - APPENDIX M

84:3/2/2020

## PROBATE COURT OF COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO THOMAS M. BARONZZI, JUDGE

IN RE:	Paralegal Re	gistration	n 
CASE N	Ю		
			ATION: INDEPENDENT DEPENDENT PARALEGAL) RULE 75.6]
The und	dersigned attorn	ey of reco a paraleg	rd registersal who will be assisting in the
matter Case No	of	in	this Court.
The att	torney and the p	aralegal c	ertify that:
5.		experience	ed through education, training, to assist the attorney in legal
6.	The attorney w services of th	_	ise and be responsible for all l, and;
7.	_		ees shall be itemized separately nd accountings filed with the
Signati	are of attorney		Signature of Paralegal
Typed o	or printed name		Typed or printed name
Address	s of Attorney		Employment address of paralegal
Telepho	one number		Telephone number
Attorne	ey registration	number	Paralegal registration number

PARALEGAL REGISTRATION: INDEPENDENT - N

## CASE HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS OR MENTAL DEFICIENCY (This information MUST accompany Affidavit of Mental Illness)

This form to be completed by the person making application for admission or by any other interested competent person.

1.	Full name of pat	ull name of patientSSN:					
2.	Age Born:	Month	Day	Year _	Place		
3.	Race Sex _	Single	-Married-Wio	lowed-Divo	rced-Separated_	Religion	
4.	Patient now resi	des at					
		(Str	reet)		(City)	(County)	(State)
5.	Previous place of	of abode					
	Length of reside	(	treet) ous place of	abode	(City)	(County)	(State)
6.	If not known to	be a legal re	esident of Ohi	o, give place	e of legal settlem	ent	
7.	Occupation			When and w	here last employ	ed	
8.	Education: Non	e	Common Scl	100l	High School	College	
9.	If patent is of fo	reign birth,	give date and	port of entr	y into United Sta	tes	
10	. If of foreign bi	rth, is patier	nt naturalized	?	When	?	
11	. Who will supp	ly cothing?_					
12	. Who is respons	sible for cos	t of hospitaliz	zation?			
13	. Name and addi	ress in full o	of person to w	hom corresp	oondence is to be	directed	
					Relat	ionship	
14	. Guardian: Nam	ne		Add	ress		
15	. Name and addi	ress of famil	ly physician_				
16	6. Is patient an honorably discharged soldier, sailor, marine, army or navy nurse (male or female) or is Patient a widow, widower, or other legal dependent of a deceased soldier, sailor, marine or nurse of any War in which the United States has engaged?						

17. If so, state date of induction into active service of such ex-service man or woman; and date military or naval rank, and organization at time of his or her discharge; and if a dependent, state the name of the deceased ex-service man or woman upon whom such dependency is claimed;

#### **FAMILY HISTORY**

1.	Father's name	Birthplace	Naturalized?	
2.	Birth date	Legal residence		
3.	Present address:			
4.	Present state of health _			
5.	If deceased, give age an	nd cause of death		
6.	Occupation of father	Education_		
7.	Mother's maiden name	Birthplace	Naturalized?	
8.	Birth date	Legal residence		
9.	Present address			
10.	. Present state of health	·		
11.	. If deceased, give age	and cause of death		
12.	. Occupation of mother	Education		
13.	. Were father and moth	er related by blood? If so, in what de	egree?	
14.	. Wife's maiden name	Birth place	Naturalized?	
15.	. Present address			
		ildren		
17.	7. Which of patient's parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, uncles or aunts, if any (give name), ever had the following habits or diseases: mental illness, nervousness, nervous breakdown, hysteria, epilepsy, spasm, convulsions, fainting spells, sunstroke, paralysis, mental retardation, tuberculoses, syphilis, cancer, drug addiction, alcoholic addiction or any other diseases?			
18.		ative who is or who has been confined in a correctional, county home, children's hom		
19.	. Other pertinent facts i	n family history		

#### HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS DEFICIENCY

20.	How long have you known this person?
21.	Have you known this person intimately?
22.	When was the first sign of mental illness observed by you?
23.	What was the first sign of mental illness observed by you? (Explain fully)
24.	Was the present attack gradual or sudden in its onset?
	State what leads you to believe this person is mentally ill
	Has person shown any antisocial behavior?
27.	Was this person previously stable and well-adjusted?
28.	Number of previous attacks of mental disorder
	Has this person been a patient in any hospital, private or public, for the mentally ill or any other institution? Where and how long?
30.	Has this person suffered serious physical injury? (particularly to head)
31.	If so, give particulars
32.	Has this person suffered any serious illness?State when and of what nature, and name and address of physician or hospital
	Has this person ever had any surgical operations?State when and of what nature, name and address of physician or hospital
34.	Has this person suffered any great mental shock or strain?
35.	Has this person required feeding, seclusion or restraint? If so, explain fully

36. —				If so, explain fully
37.	(Answer Yes or No)	Is person paralytic? Destructive? Suicidal?	Bedridden?_ Excited	Untidy?
38.				
39.				
40.	Has person ever suff	ered from syphilis?		
41.	Is person epileptic?_	Was person men	tally ill in childho	od?
The	e above information fu	urnished by		
Ado	dress			who is a
(Re	elationship to patient)	of the patie	nt. This information	on is believed to be true to the
bes	t of his or her knowled	dge.		
			(Signature)	)

#### CASE HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS OR MENTAL DEFICIENCY - O

## PROBATE COURT OF COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO THOMAS M. BARONZZI, JUDGE

IN THE MATTER OF CASE NO					
SPECIA	L PICKUP INFORMA	TION			
Age:	Race:				
Height:	Eyes (color):				
Weight:	Hair (c				
S.S.N.:	D.O.B.				
Location of Patient:					
Transport to:					
	Yes, explain below	No	Unknown		
Weapons available?					
Likely to resist?					
Handicapped?					
Past history of mental illness?					
Past criminal record?					
Possible dangerous situation?					
Contagious disease?					
Health Officer/Pre-screener:	Tel	ephone No.:			
Other:					
Date	PICK UP INFORMAT	Signature	2		

90:3/2/2020