# **ND STATE COURTS** Informal Administration of an Estate **Informal Probate**

Office of State Court Administrator

## Informal Administration of an Estate

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#### Introduction

North Dakota has adopted the Uniform Probate Code, which allows a person to informally probate a Will and have a personal representative appointed without the necessity of a court appearance or a court hearing, as long as the proper forms are filed and the correct procedures followed.

The purpose of this packet is to help North Dakota citizens understand the procedures that must be followed and forms that must be filed with regard to the informal probate of a Will and/or the appointment of a personal representative of an estate of a deceased citizen. Since each estate has different needs, it is important to know the proper methods of managing a particular estate. The information in this packet should assist in selecting and filing the correct forms with the court in order to informally administer an estate and to have, if needed, a personal representative appointed. The necessary probate forms may be purchased from the district court or obtained online at ndcourts.gov Checklist of Forms. The North Dakota tax forms are available from the State Tax Commissioner, State Capitol, Bismarck. The federal income and estate tax forms are available from your local IRS office and on the internet.

This packet has limitations. It cannot address every legal question that could arise in a particular estate, nor does it cover all the responsibilities and liabilities of the personal representative and/or the heirs, such as the filing of income tax returns. Matters not properly handled could create problems and expense for the estate and the heirs if they must be dealt with after the estate is initially closed.

Therefore, since each estate, no matter how small, can raise many serious legal questions, you are advised that you are proceeding at your own risk. The law forbids the district court judge or court personnel to give legal advice on how to administer an estate. In legal matters, you should exercise caution and good judgment in proceeding without the advice of an attorney.

References to N.D.C.C. or in [] mean the North Dakota Century Code. The Century Code is available at most public and university libraries and at the district court's office in each county.

## **Handling the Small Estate in North Dakota in Informal Proceedings**

#### **First Step - Listing of Property**

Most of the work required to be done in an estate is the legal and orderly transfer of the decedent's property to the persons entitled to receive it. The first step to be taken in any estate is to prepare a list (See Fig. A) of all the property owned by the decedent (the person who has died). The value of each item is the fair market value as of the date of the decedent's death.

#### Figure A:

INMENTORY	PROBATE PROPERTY	B PROBATE PROPERTY	C NON- PROBATE PROPERTY
DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	Owned Solety by Decedent	Owned by decident and other(s) as terrants in common	Owned Solely by decedent or by decedent and other(s) as joint tenants
REAL PROPERTY (such as house, lake cabin, farmland, oil or mineral rights, life estate)	<b>a</b>	Ŧ	Ŧ
PERSONAL PROPERTY A. Money, notes & cash (such as old is & bank accounts)	<b>ক</b>	ফ	ফ
B. Stodes and bonds	क	ক	<b>ক</b>
C. Insurance	<b>a</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
Miscellaneous     (such as vehicles,     personal belongings,     tools, farm equipment)	<b>a</b>	क	<b>a</b>
SURTOTALS	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	5
Total value of property in Co Total value of property in Co Total value of property in Co	Numn B		\$ \$
TOTAL VALUE OF ESTAT	EASSETS		<b>5</b>
*Non-probate means such p a designated beneficiary and Joint tenancy.			

The list should identify the amount of any encumbrance (debt or lien) that exists on any item of property. [N.D.C.C. 30.1-18-06.] All reasonable steps must be taken for the management and protection of the property. [N.D.C.C. 30.1-18-09.]

#### **Safe Deposit Box**

- A. If a decedent rented a safe deposit box jointly with another person or persons, no court order or affidavit is needed for the other person to access the box.
- B. If safe deposit box was rented in decedent's name alone, prepare Affidavit for Access to Safe Deposit Box and present signed Affidavit to bank.
- C. On first visit to bank, remove decedent's will. Will is to be filed with the court if the estate needs to be probated.

#### **Estate Tax**

Consult an accountant for the most current information on estate tax.

#### **Income Tax**

Estate income tax returns may be required if the estate had gross income of \$600 or more for the tax year. Forms and instructions are available from the Internal Revenue Service and State Tax Commissioner.

#### **Non-Probate Property**

- A. Real property owned by decedent and others as joint tenants is transferred by filing a certified death certificate and property description with the county recorder.
- B. Other non-probate property interests are transferred or terminated by presenting a death certificate to the holder.

#### **Opening and Probating the Estate**

A. Probate Estate \$50,000 or less.

If the total value of the probate property (Fig. A, Columns A and B) less the encumbrances on those items of property is \$50,000 or under and no real property is involved [N.D.C.C. 30.1-23-01]:

- 1. After 30 days have elapsed since decedent's death, prepare Affidavit for Collection of Personal Property (Form 1).
- 2. Present Affidavit to holder of the personal property for transfer to successor (person entitled to receive it).
- B. Probate Estate Greater Than \$50,000 or Real Property.

If total value of probate property (Fig. A, Columns A and B) less the encumbrances on those items of property is over \$50,000, appoint personal representative to administer the estate and distribute decedent's property to the person or persons entitled to receive it, as follows:

1. If decedent left a Will.

Anytime after five days of decedent's death, file with district court:

- a. Application for Informal Probate of Will and Appointment of a Personal Representative (Form 2).
- b. Letters Testamentary (Form 4).
- c. Statement of Informal Probate of Will and Appointment of a Personal Representative (Form 3).
- d. Original Will of decedent.
- e. Filing fee of \$80.
- 2. If decedent did not leave a Will, after five days of decedent's death, file with district court:
  - a. Application for Informal Appointment of Personal Representative in Intestacy (Form 17).
  - b. Letters of Administration (Form 19).
  - c. Statement of Informal Appointment of Personal Representative (Form 18).
  - d. Filing fee of \$80.

- C. Priority for appointment as personal representative [N.D.C.C. 30.1-13-03].
  - 1. Person or persons nominated in decedent's Will.
  - 2. Alternate person or persons nominated in decedent's Will.
  - 3. The surviving spouse of the decedent who is entitled to receive property of the decedent under the decedent's Will.
  - 4. Other persons entitled to receive property of decedent through the decedent's Will.
  - 5. The surviving spouse of the decedent.
  - 6. Other heirs of the decedent.
  - 7. A trust company.
  - 8. Forty-five days after decedent's death, any creditor.

If the person seeking appointment does not have highest priority, secure a signed Waiver of Appointment (Form 9) from all persons who have a higher or equal right to the appointment. File waivers with the district court along with other appointment documents.

#### **Duties of Personal Representative**

No bond is required of a personal representative who is administering an estate under the guidelines of this brochure. However, the personal representative is acting as a trustee of the estate property. If the exercise of power concerning the estate is improper, the personal representative is liable to interested persons for loss or damage resulting from the improper conduct.

The duties of a personal representative appear in Chapter 30.1-18 of the North Dakota Century Code. A personal representative must keep accurate records of all receipts and disbursements (<u>Form 14</u>). The personal representative should keep estate property separate from his or her own property until the assets are distributed. Although the assistance of an attorney is not required for informal proceedings, the personal representative should consult with an attorney if uncertain how to proceed.

- A. Times within which certain steps must be taken.
  - 1. Within 30 days after appointment, prepare Notice and Information to Heirs and Devisees (Form 5). Send copy to each heir and devisee [N.D.C.C. 30.1-18-05, see also 30.1-14-06].
  - 2. Within six months after appointment or nine months after the death of the decedent, whichever is later, prepare inventory (Form 10). File the original inventory with district court [N.D.C.C. 30.1-18-06]. If the inventory is not filed with the court, mail a copy of the inventory to each of the heirs in an intestate estate or to each of the devisees if a will has been probated, and to any other interested persons who request a copy.
  - 3. After appointment, send Affidavit Forwarding Application to Human Services ( $\frac{\text{Form 7}}{\text{J}}$ ), copy of application for appointment (Form  $\frac{2}{\text{J}}$  or  $\frac{17}{\text{J}}$ ), and a list of surviving joint tenants to the Department of Human Services, State Capitol, Bismarck, ND 58505 [N.D.C.C. 50-06.3-07].
  - 4. Within three months after mailing Notice to Creditors (Form 6) to creditors who are known to the Personal Representative and after first publication of Notice to Creditors, or within three years after decedent's death if notice to creditors has not been published and mailed, creditors must file any claims against the estate [N.D.C.C. 30.1-19-01; N.D.C.C. 30.1-19-03].
  - 5. Within 60 days after the time for original presentation of a claim has expired, if the claim is to be disallowed, it must be disallowed in writing or will be deemed to be approved and must then be paid [N.D.C.C. 30.1-19-06].
  - 6. Within nine months after decedent's death, if filing requirement exists (1) U.S. Estate Tax Return and supporting documents must be filed and tax paid.
  - 7. Within 15 months after decedent's death, if U.S. Estate Tax Return was filed, the N.D. Estate Tax Return and supporting documents must be filed and tax paid [N.D.C.C. 57-37.1-07].
  - 8. Within three years after decedent's death, creditors may file claims in estates in which Notice to Creditors was not published [N.D.C.C. 30.1-19-03].

- B. Times after which certain steps may be taken.
  - 1. Any time after appointment of personal representative, Notice to Creditors (Form 6) may be published, but this is not required [N.D.C.C. 30.1-19-01].
  - 2. If Notice to Creditors is published, three months after first publication, personal representative shall proceed to pay claims allowed in the following order of priority [N.D.C.C. 30.1-19-05]:
    - a. Costs and expenses of administration.
    - b. Reasonable funeral expenses.
    - c. Debts and taxes with preference under federal law.
    - d. Reasonable and necessary medical and hospital expenses of the last illness of the decedent, including compensation of persons attending the decedent.
    - e. Unpaid child support obligations.
    - f. Debts and taxes with preferences under other laws of this state.
    - g. All other claims.
  - 3. After assets have been gathered and all claims paid, the personal representative may distribute remaining assets to the heirs. Personal property is distributed by Personal Representative's Assignment (Form 13). Real property is distributed to heirs or devisees by Personal Representative's Deed of Distribution (Form 11). Real property that is sold by a Personal Representative is transferred by a Personal Representative's Deed (Form 12). Deeds must be recorded along with a certified copy of personal representative's Letters Testamentary (Form 4) or Letters of Administration (Form 19), certified on or after the date of the deed.
- C. Times after which certain steps cannot be taken.
  - 1. Three months after first publication of Notice to Creditors, time for filing claims expires. No claims may be filed by creditors after this date [N.D.C.C. 30.1-19-03].
  - 2. Three years after decedent's death generally no informal proceedings for appointment of personal representative may be commenced [N.D.C.C. 30.1-14-01].
  - 3. Three years after decedent's death time for filing claims expires in estates in which Notice to Creditors was not published. No claims may be filed by creditors after this date [N.D.C.C. 30.1-19-03].

#### Distribution of the Estate

Distribution is made as follows:

A. If a Will.

If decedent left a Will, according to the decedent's Will, except:

- 1. A devisee may renounce in writing devisee's interest under the Will [N.D.C.C. 30.1-10.1].
- 2. A surviving spouse may elect in writing, within the later of nine months after decedent's death or six months after probate of the Will, to take one-half of the augmented estate regardless of what is specified in the Will. Notice to interested persons and a court hearing are required on the written petition filed with the court and personal representative [N.D.C.C. 30.1-05-01 and 30.1-05-05].
- B. If no Will.

If the decedent left no Will, according to N.D. laws of intestate succession, as follows [N.D.C.C. 30.1-04]:

- 1. If decedent left a surviving spouse, the share of the intestate estate which a surviving spouse receives is [N.D.C.C. 30.1-04-02]:
  - a. If there are no surviving descendants (such as children or grandchildren) or parent of the deceased or if all of the surviving descendants of the deceased are also descendants of the surviving spouse and there is no other descendant of the surviving spouse who survives the decedent (for example, children from a prior marriage of the surviving spouse), the surviving spouse receives the entire intestate estate.
  - b. If there are no surviving descendants, but the decedent is survived by a parent or parents, the surviving spouse receives the first \$200,000 of the estate assets, plus three-fourths of the balance of the intestate estate.
  - c. If there are surviving descendants of the decedent, all of whom are also descendants of the surviving spouse, and surviving spouse also had descendants who are not descendants of the decedent (i.e., surviving spouse has descendants from a prior marriage), the surviving spouse receives the first \$150,000 of the estate assets, plus one-half of the balance of the intestate estate.
  - d. If there are surviving descendants, one or more of whom are not descendants of the surviving spouse, the surviving spouse receives the first \$100,000 of the estate assets plus one-half of the balance of the intestate estate.

- 2. If part of the intestate estate does not pass to the surviving spouse as listed above, or if there is no surviving spouse, the intestate estate passes as follows:
  - a. To the descendants of the decedent, who will take by representation.
  - b. If there are no surviving descendants, to the decedent's parent or parents equally if both survive, or to the surviving parent.
  - c. If there are no surviving descendants or parent, to the descendants of the decedent's parents or either of them by representation (i.e., decedent's brothers and sisters, then nieces and nephews).
  - d. If there are no surviving descendants, parent, or descendants of a parent, but the decedent is survived by one or more grandparents or descendants of grandparents, <u>half</u> of the estate passes to the decedent's paternal grandparents equally if both survive, or to the surviving paternal grandparent, or to the descendants of the decedent's paternal grandparents or either of them if both are deceased, by representation; and the <u>other half</u> passes to the decedent's maternal relatives in the same manner; but if there is no surviving grandparent or descendants of a grandparent on either the paternal or maternal side, the entire estate passes to the decedent's relatives on the other side in the same manner as the half (i.e., grandparents and then uncles and aunts, and then cousins).
- 3. An heir may renounce an interest and the surviving spouse make the election as in the estate where there is a Will.

#### **Closing the Estate**

- A. After the claims have been paid and assets of the estate distributed, the estate is closed as follows:
  - 1. For small estates<sup>(2)</sup> in which Notice to Creditors has not been published, file Sworn Statement of Personal Representative Closing a Small Estate (<u>Form 16</u>). It may be filed with district court anytime after assets have been distributed [N.D.C.C. 30.1-23-03 and 30.1-23-04].
  - 2. For any size estates in which Notice to Creditors has been published, file Personal Representative's Verified Statement to Close Estate (<u>Form 15</u>). It may be filed with district court anytime after assets have been distributed, but not before three months after the first publication of Notice to Creditors [N.D.C.C. 30.1-21-03].
- B. If no proceedings involving the Personal Representative are pending in the court one year after either closing statement is filed, the appointment of the personal representative terminates.

### **Appendix A:**

## **Time Schedule for Informal Probate Proceedings**

#### Times after which certain steps may be taken:

Five days after decedent's death - informal proceedings may be commenced.

Thirty days after decedent's death - Affidavit for Collection of Personal Property may be prepared and presented.

Anytime after appointment of personal representative - personal representative may publish Notice to Creditors.

Three months after first publication of Notice to Creditors - personal representative shall proceed to pay claims allowed in order of priority.

Three months after first publication of Notice to Creditors - Closing Statement may be prepared and filed by the personal representative at this time if assets are distributed.

Anytime after assets of the estate have been distributed - Closing Statement may be prepared and filed by the personal representative in estates in which Notice to Creditors has not been published.

#### Times within which certain steps *must* be taken:

Within thirty days after appointment of personal representative - Notice of Appointment of personal representative must be sent to heirs and devisees.

After appointment of Personal Representative - send copy of Application for Appointment of Personal Representative and list of names of devisees, surviving joint tenants, and heirs to the Department of Human Services.

Within sixty days after the time for original presentation of claim has expired, if claim is to be disallowed, claim must be disallowed in writing or it will be deemed to be approved and must then be paid.

Within three months after first publication of Notice to Creditors - creditors must file any claims against the estate within this time period.

Within six months after appointment of Personal Representative or nine months after the death of the decedent, whichever is later - inventory must be prepared and copies distributed to heirs/devisees or original filed with district court.

Within nine months after decedent's death - if required, United States Estate Tax Return must be prepared and filed and tax paid.

Within fifteen months after decedent's death - if required, North Dakota Estate Tax Return must be prepared and filed and tax paid.

Within three years after decedent's death - creditors may file claims in estates in which Notice to Creditors has not been published.

#### Times after which certain steps cannot be taken:

Three months after first publication of Notice to Creditors - time for filing claims expires. No claims may be filed by creditors after this date.

Nine months after decedent's death or six months after probate of decedent's will, whichever occurs last - surviving spouse may no longer petition to take his or her elective share in the augmented estate after these time limits.

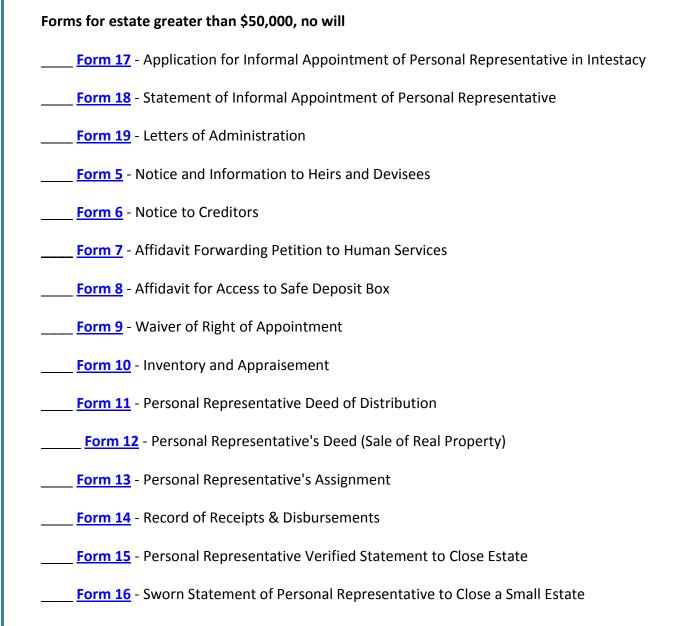
Three years after decedent's death - generally no informal proceedings for appointment of personal representative may be commenced.

Three years after decedent's death - time for filing claims expires in estates in which Notice to Creditors was not published. No claims may be filed by creditors after this date.

# Appendix B Checklist of Forms

You may use this sheet to list or check off the most common forms you may need to file in order to administer an estate. These forms can be purchased from any district court or obtained online below. Tax forms may be obtained free from the State Tax Commissioner and Internal Revenue Service.

Figure A - Inventory of Decedent's Property
Forms for estate less than \$50,000, no real property
Form 1 - Affidavit for Collection of Personal Property
Forms for estate greater than \$50,000, with a will
Form 2 - Application Informal Probate/Appointment of Personal Representative
Form 3 - Statement of Informal Probate and Appointment of Personal Representative
Form 4 - Letters Testamentary
Form 5 - Notice and Information to Heirs & Devisees
Form 6 - Notice to Creditors
Form 7 - Affidavit Forwarding Applica- tion to Human Services
Form 8 - Affidavit for Access to Safe Deposit Box
Form 9 - Waiver of Right of Appointment
Form 10 - Inventory and Appraisement
Form 11 - Personal Representative Deed of Distribution
Form 13 - Personal Representative Assignment
Form 14 - Record of Receipts & Disbursements
Form 15 - Personal Representative Verified Statement to Close Estate
Form 16 - Sworn Statement of Personal Representative to Close a Small Estate



# Appendix C Glossary of Terms

**Augmented Estate** - The value of the estate reduced by funeral and administration expenses, homestead, and family allowances and exemptions, and enforceable claims to which is added the value of certain specified property transfers and property owned by the decedent's surviving spouse at the decedent's death - see North Dakota Century Code §30.1-05-02(2). The surviving spouse may elect to take one-half of it in lieu of a share in the will or an intestate share.

**Bond** - A written agreement with an insurance company or other surety that, in the event that the personal representative causes a certain loss to the estate, the insurance company or surety will make up that loss.

**Decedent** - A deceased person; the person who died.

**Devisee** - A person who takes the decedent's property through a provision in the Will.

**Encumbrance** - A claim or liability on property whose value is lessened because of that claim or liability; includes easements, mortgages, liens, etc.

**Estate** - All the property that the decedent owned or had an interest in on the date of death.

**Heir** - A person entitled to take the decedent's property according to the laws of intestate succession.

**Informal Proceedings** - Appointment of personal representative and administration of an estate with limited supervision by the court or notice to interested persons. However, an interested person can apply to the district court for formal proceedings or supervision by the court, in which case the court will determine how to proceed.

**Interested Persons** - Includes heirs, devisees, children, spouse, creditors, beneficiaries, and any others having a property right in or claim against the estate of a decedent which may be affected by the particular proceeding.

Intestate - A decedent who left no Will.

**Intestate Succession** - The laws that stipulate who is to take the decedent's property if the decedent dies without a Will or if the decedent's Will does not dispose of all the property.

**Issue** - A person's lineal descendants of all generations; includes a person's children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, etc.

**Joint Tenants** - Persons who own property with the equal right to share the property during their lives; on one person's death, the property passes to and is then owned by the survivor or survivors.

**Lien** - A claim against property to secure a debt.

**Non-probate Property** - That portion of the decedent's estate that passes automatically, such as to the surviving joint tenant(s) or to a designated beneficiary.

**Personal Property** - All property other than real property; includes money, stock, automobiles, household furnishings, etc.

**Personal Representative** - Person or persons appointed by the court to settle and distribute the estate of a decedent.

**Probate Property** - That portion of the decedent's estate which passes by decedent's Will or by the laws of intestate succession.

**Property** - Includes both real and personal property or any interest therein, and means anything that may be the subject of ownership.

**Real Property** - Land and things attached to the land such as buildings.

**Security Interest** - A claim against property that is held to make sure money is paid or that something is done; includes mortgages, liens, etc.

**Successors** - Persons, other than creditors, who are entitled to property of a decedent under the decedent's Will or under the laws of intestate succession.

**Venue** - The proper district court for the filing of the informal proceeding forms and for dealing with any problems that may be raised during the course of administration of the estate.

#### **Endnotes:**

- 1. Tax Laws are subject to change. Check with state and federal tax offices for current exemptions.
- 2. See N.D.C.C. 30.1-23-03 for the definition of "small estates".

	INVENTORY	A PROBATE PROPERTY	B PROBATE PROPERTY	C NON- PROBATE* PROPERTY
	CRIPTION OF PERTY	Owned Solely by Decedent	Owned by decedent and other(s) as tenants in common	Owned Solely by decedent or by decedent and other(s) as joint tenants
(suc farm	L PROPERTY h as house, lake cabin, land, oil or mineral s, life estate)	\$	\$	\$
PER A.	SONAL PROPERTY Money, notes & cash (such as c.d.'s & bank accounts)	\$	\$	\$
В.	Stocks and bonds	\$	\$	\$
C.	Insurance	\$	\$	\$
D.	Miscellaneous (such as vehicles, personal belongings, tools, farm equipment)	\$	\$	\$
SI	JBTOTALS	\$	\$	\$
To	otal value of property in Cotal value of property in Cotal value of property in Cotal value of property in C	olumn B		\$ \$ \$
TC	OTAL VALUE OF ESTAT	TE ASSETS		\$

<sup>\*</sup>Non-probate means such property as life estates, trusts, insurance proceeds payable to a designated beneficiary and gifts in contemplation of death, as well as property held in joint tenancy.

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 1 Page 1	10/01/03
AFFIDAVIT FOR COLLECTION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY O	OF THE DECEDENT. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-23-01).
Name, Address, and Telephone No. of Attorney	Space below for use of District Court only
	Probate No
Attorney for:	
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	, Deceased.
AFFIDAVIT FOR COLLECTION OF THE D	
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA } } County of } SS.	
	, being duly sworn, states the following:
I am the successor of  who died on	
who died on,	, because:
2. The value of the entire estate of the decedent, wherever lo	ocated, less liens and encumbrances, does not exceed \$50,000.
3. Thirty (30) days have elapsed since the death of the deced	dent.
4. No application or petition for the appointment of a perso granted in any jurisdiction.	onal representative of the decedent's estate is pending or has been

As successor of the decedent, I am entitled to the payment of any sums of money due and owing the decedent and to the delivery of all tangible personal property belonging to the decedent and to the delivery of all instruments

evidencing a debt, obligation, stock or chose in action belonging to the decedent.

As successor of the decedent, I am entitled to payment or delivery of\*

5. (a)

(b)

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 1 Page 2		10/01/03
belonging to the decedent and presently held by:		
belonging to the decedent and presently held by:		
		Affiant
		Attiunt
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	day of	
		Notary Public
My Commission expires:		County, North Dakota
(SEAL)		
*Specify debt, personal property, instrument, obliging	gation, stock or chose in action.	

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 2 Page 1	10/01/03
APPLICATION FOR INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINT	MENT OF A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-14-01).
Name, Address, and Telephone No. of Attorney	Space below for use of District Court only
	Probate No
Attorney for:	
, <u> </u>	
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	, Deceased.
	NFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL
AND APPOINTMENT OF	A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
I, as the applicant, provide the following information:	
A. (1) I am(state i	nterest of annlicant)
(2) Decedent died on	nterest of applicant) at the age of years
At the time of death, the decedent was domicil	ed inCounty,
	(State), and is survived by the following persons who are the surviving
spouse, children, heirs or devisees of the deced	
spouse, emidien, hens of devisees of the deece	iciit.
Name Age R	elationship Address
(3) Venue for this case is in this County because _	
(4) No personal representative has been appointed	whose letters have not been terminated, except
, whose address	is
	nty,(State).
Cour	, (Suite).

ΝD	PROE	BATE CODE FORM 2 Page 2	10/0	1/03
	(5)	I have not received any demand for notice and am una proceeding concerning the decedent that may have been	aware of a demand for notice of any probate or appoint filed in this state or elsewhere, except as follows:	
	(6)	The time limit for informal probate and appointment has	s not expired.	·
В.	(1)	The original or an authenticated copy of decedent's last was application.	vill, if not already in the possession of the court, is filed wi	th this
	(2)	) That I, to the best of my knowledge, believe the will to h	have been validly executed.	
	(3)	After the exercise of reasonable diligence, I am unaware of is the decedent's last will.	of any instrument revoking the will; and I believe the instru	umen
С.	(1)	The original of decedent's will was executed on	(Month/Day/Y	ear).
	(2)	The name, address, and priority for appointment of the p	person whose appointment is sought are as follows:	
dec		equest the above described will be admitted to informal pent's estate.	probate, and that I be appointed personal representative	of the
dec		•	probate, and that I be appointed personal representative  Applic	
ST.	eder ATE	ent's estate.  E OF NORTH DAKOTA }		cant
ST.	eder ATE unty	ent's estate.  E OF NORTH DAKOTA }  y of }	Applic	cant
ST.	ATE	ent's estate.  E OF NORTH DAKOTA }	Application Add Add Add Add Add Add Add Add Add Ad	cant Iress
ST.	ATE unty	ent's estate.  E OF NORTH DAKOTA }  y of }  ss.	Application Add Add Add Add Add Add Add Add Add Ad	cant Iress

My commission expires:\_

\_County, North Dakota

Notary Public

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 3 Page 1	10/01/03
STATEMENT OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT	OF A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-14-03, 30.1-14-08)
Name, Address, and Telephone No. of Attorney	Space below for use of District Court only
	Probate No
Attorney for:	
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	, Deceased.
appointment of a personal representative having come by	for informal probate of the last will of, deceased, and the pefore the Court this day of
	, and it appearing that:
The decedent died on  have elapsed since the decedent's death; and	, 20, and at least one hundred twenty (120) hours
(a) The application is complete;	
(b) The application contains the applicant's oath or affi	rmation that the statements contained therein are true to the best of the
applicant's knowledge and belief; and that all of th made;	e statements required by law to be made in the application have been
(c) The applicant appears to be an interested person as	s defined by the laws of this state;
(d) On the basis of the statements in the application, v	
(e) The will to which this appointment relates appears decedent and is in the court's possession;	to be the original, duly executed and apparently unrevoked, will of the
(f) Any notice required by the laws of this state has bee	n given and the application is not within Section N.D.C.C. 30.1-14-04.
<ul><li>(g) From the statements in the application it appears the by priority;</li></ul>	nat the person whose appointment is sought is entitled to appointment
(h) The time limit for the original probate of this will	has not expired.

2.	A personal representative has not been appointed in another county in this state and neith	ner the will subject of this application
	nor any other will of the decedent has been the subject of a previous probate order.	
	NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED as follows:	
1.	. The application for informal probate is granted and the will of	dated
	,, is admitted to informal probate.	
2.	2. The application for informal appointment of a personal representative is granted and _	
	is appointed as personal representative of the estate	of
	, deceased, without bond (or upon giving bond in the	e amount of \$).
3.	. Letters Testamentary shall be issued to	upon
	qualification and acceptance.	
Da	Dated this day of	,
		Judge/Clerk

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 4		10/01/03
LETTERS TESTAMENTARY. (Informal Prol	pate.) (N.D.C.C. 30.1-14-01).	
Name, Address, and Telephone No. o	of Attorney	Space below for use of District Court only
		Probate No
		1 Tobate No.
Attorney for:		
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF _		COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of		, Deceased.
	LETTERS TES	
The will of	(Informal	,
		is appointed personal representative of the estate.
		, Judge/Clerk of the District Court, County of
		with the seal of the Court affixed the day
of	, 20	
		Judge/ Clerk
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA	} } ss.	
County of	}	
		accept the duties of personal representative of the estate of
		eceased, and will perform, according to law, the duties of personal
representative of the estate of		, deceased.
	STATE OF NORTH DAKC	OTA }
	County of	} ss.
	County of	} }
	, the undersigned,	of
l t	the District Court of	of County certify that the foregoing is a full, roriginal Letters on file with the Court and that on the date of this
	certificate they were in full	force and effect.
	·	
Court Star	Dated	
		, of Court

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 5			10/01/03
NOTICE AND INFORMATION TO HEIRS AND DEVISEES. (N.D.C.	C. 30.1-18-05).		
Name, Address, and Telephone No. of Attorney	Space b	elow for use of District Court only  Probate No	
Attorney for:			
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF		COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DA	KOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of		, De	eceased.
NOTICE AND INFORM	ATION TO HEII	RS AND DEVISEES	
To the heirs and devisees of the above named esta	ate:		
1. The decedent,		, died on or about the	da
of			
3.	, whose addre	ess is	
was appointed personal representative of the			
, and filed a bond in the amount 4. Papers and information relating to the estate a			
North Dakota, at			
days have passed since the date of appointme	ent of the personal repre	sentative.	
5. This estate is being administered by the Personal by the Court. All recipients of this Notice are administration of this estate from the Personal	further informed that e		-
6. All recipients are further notified that any of distribution of assets and expenses of adminis	them may petition the c	ourt in any matter relating to this est	ate, includin
Dated this			
		Personal Re	presentative
			Address

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 6		10/01/03
NOTICE TO CREDITORS. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-	-19-01).	
Name, Address, and Telephone No.	of Attorney	Space below for use of District Court only  Probate No
		1 lobate ino.
Attorneyfo	or:	
N THE DISTRICT COURT OF	7	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
n the Matter of the Estate of		, Deceased.
persons having claims against th	ne deceased are required t	o present their claims within three months after the date of the fir
persons having claims against the publication or mailing of this no	ne deceased are required to tice or the claims will be, persona	o present their claims within three months after the date of the first forever barred. Claims must either be presented to
persons having claims against th publication or mailing of this no	ne deceased are required to tice or the claims will be, persona	o present their claims within three months after the date of the first forever barred. Claims must either be presented to
persons having claims against th	ne deceased are required to tice or the claims will be, persona	o present their claims within three months after the date of the fin forever barred. Claims must either be presented to
persons having claims against th publication or mailing of this no	ne deceased are required to tice or the claims will be, persona	o present their claims within three months after the date of the first forever barred. Claims must either be presented to
persons having claims against th publication or mailing of this no	ne deceased are required to tice or the claims will be, persona	
persons having claims against th publication or mailing of this no	ne deceased are required to tice or the claims will be, personate day of	o present their claims within three months after the date of the fire forever barred. Claims must either be presented to

#### IN DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF	, DECEASED.

# AFFIDAVIT FORWARDING COPY OF APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA } ss.	
County of } ss.	
	, being first duly sworn on oath
deposes and says that I am the of	
and	
That I did forward copies of the application commencing proba	te proceedings, together with a list of the names of the legatees
devisees, surviving joint tenants, and heirs at law to the estate to the	e North Dakota Department of Human Services, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505, pursuant to Sections 50-06.3-07 a	and 50-24.1-07, N.D.C.C
Dated	
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	day of
	Notary Public
	, County, North Dakota
(Seal)	My commission expires:

	STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA } County of } ss.	
	N THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF	, DECEASED.
	AFFIDAVIT FOR ACCESS TO S.	
То	Γο:	(bank or trust company)
1.	l, lessee of safety dep	posit box number died on
2.	2. The box may contain (check all that apply)  the will of the lessee;  the deed to a burial lot or a document containing buria  property belonging to the estate of the lessee.	l instructions for the lessee; or
3.	3. I am an interested person and wish to open the box: (1) To conduct a will search; (2) To obtain a document required to facilitate the lessee's wis (3) To make an inventory of the box.	shes regarding body, funeral, or burial arrangements; or
4.	4. There has been no application for, or appointment of, a personal re	epresentative or administrator of the decedent's estate.
5.	5. No contents of the box, other than a will and a document required to burial arrangements, will be removed.	o facilitate the lessee's wishes regarding body, funeral, or
Da	Dated this day of	
		A CC
C		Affiant
Su	Subscribed and sworn to before me this day	
	-	Notary Public
	_	, County, North Dakota
(S	Seal)	My commission expires:

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 9			10/01/03
WAIVER OF RIGHT TO APPOINT	MENT. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-13-03).		
Name, Address, and Telephon	e No. of Attorney	Space below for use of District Cou	rt only
		Probate No.	_
Attorney	for:		
IN THE DISTRICT COUR	T OF	COUNTY, STATE OF N	ORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	of		, Deceased.
		, am the equal priority to be appointed personal re	presentative of the estate
	v right to such appointment and re	equest appointment by the Court of	
of the decedent. I waive m		equest appointment by the Court of, to act as persona	
of the decedent. I waive m		equest appointment by the Court of, to act as persona	
of the decedent. I waive my bond.		, to act as persona	
bond.  This waiver is filed with	h the Court pursuant to N.D.C.C.	, to act as persona	al representative, without
bond.  This waiver is filed with	h the Court pursuant to N.D.C.C.	, to act as persona 30.1-13-03.	al representative, without
bond.  This waiver is filed with	h the Court pursuant to N.D.C.C.	, to act as persona 30.1-13-03.	al representative, without
bond.  This waiver is filed with	h the Court pursuant to N.D.C.C.		al representative, withou

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	, Deceased.
INVENTORY AND A	PPRAISEMENT
, the Personal Re that the following inventory contains a true statement of all th, so far as is known to the Personal	
Further, the values set forth for each item are the fai decedent's death, and the inventory sets forth the type and to any item.	r market values of the property as of the date of the
REAL PROPERTY OWNED SOLELY BY DECEDENT: (provide legal description)	
REAL PROPERTY OWNED JOINTLY BY DECEDENT: (provide legal description)	\$
TOTAL VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY	\$ \$

PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED SOLELY BY DECEDENT		
PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED JOINTLY BY DECEDENT	\$	
	\$	
TOTAL VALUE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY		\$
GROSS ESTATE  Real Property  Personal Property	\$ \$	\$
LIENS, MORTGAGES, ENCUMBRANCES		
TOTAL VALUE OF NET ESTATE IN NORTH DAKOTA	\$	\$

Dated this	day of			, 20		
TATE OF COUNTY OF		) )	SS.			
		$\mathcal{C}$				
Il the estate of Decedothe Decedent and of	med Decedent; that the ent that has come to my all just claims of the Decal property of Decedent	knowl	ng Inventory ledge or posse	ession and particula	contains a true state	emen
Il the estate of Decedothe Decedent and of	ent that has come to my all just claims of the Dec	knowl	ing Inventory ledge or posse gainst me; and	and Appraisement of ession and particula	contains a true state	emen
Il the estate of Deced the Decedent and of n the real and person	ent that has come to my all just claims of the Dec	knowledent a	ng Inventory ledge or posse gainst me; and Personal F	and Appraisement of ession and particuland of all liens, mortga	contains a true state arly of all money be ages, or other encum	emen

My Commission Expires:\_\_\_\_\_

Page 1 of NDPC FORM 11

DEED OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-18-03).

# PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S DEED OF DISTRIBUTION

THIS INDENTURE, made this	,,,,
personal representative of the estate of	
deceased, hereinafter referred to as Grantor, and	
hereinafter referred to as Grantee, WITNESS	ЕТН:
WHEREAS, Grantor is the duly appointed and a	cting personal representative of the estate of
	, deceased, and
	entitled to distribution of certain real property hereinafte
described from the estate of the decedent.	
	y, transfer and distribute all of the right, title and interest of the decedent and
the estate to Grantee in the following proport	ions:
in and to the following described real property situ	ated in
County, North Dakota:	ated in
County, North Burkou.	
together with the appurtenances thereto:	
WITNESS, the hand of the Grantor:	
	Personal Representative of the Estate
	of, Deceased

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 11 Page 2		10/01/03
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S DEED OF DISTRIBUTION. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-18-03).		
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA } County of } ss.		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this, by		day of,personal representative of the estat
of	, deceased.	
		Notary Public
(Seal)		, County, North Dakota
	My commission	on expires:

ND PROBATE	CODE FORM	12	Page 1

1	1	/0	2	In	2

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	, Deceased.
	SENTATIVE'S DEED al Property)
THIS INDENTURE, made this day of	, 20, by and between
	, personal representative of the estate of
	, deceased (Grantor), and
	, Grantee(s), whose post
	·
WITNESSETH:	reand representative of the estate of
, deceased, and	rsonal representative of the estate of
WHEREAS, Grantee(s) desires to purchase decedent's in	
*	um of
	right, title, and interest of the decedent and the estate in and to the
	y of, State of
;	
WITNESS, the hand of the Grantor:	
	Personal Representative of the Estate of
	, Deceased.

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 12 Page 2			11/03/03
STATE OF	)		
COUNTY OF	) SS.		
The foregoing instrument was acknowledge	ed before me this _	day of	, 20, by
	, pers	sonal representative of the estate of	
, decea	sed.		
		Notary Public	
		County	·
		My Commission Expires:	

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 13 Page 1	10/01/03
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S ASSIGNMENT. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-18-03).	
Name, Address, and Telephone No. of Attorney	Space below for use of District Court only
	Probate No
Attorney for:	
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	, Deceased.
THIS INDENTURE, made this	TATIVE'S ASSIGNMENTday of
	Estate of
	r more, and
hereinafter referred to as Assignee, whether one or more, W	ITNESSETH:
WHEREAS, Assignor is the duly appointed and acting I	personal representative of the Estate of
	, deceased, and
•	ain personal property hereinafter described from the Estate of the
decedent, NOW, THEREFORE, Assignor does assign, transfer, re	lease and distribute to Assignee the following:

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 13 Page 2	10/01/03
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S ASSIGNMENT. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-18-03).	
WITNESS, the hand of the Assignor:	
	Personal Representative of the
	Estate of Deceased
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA } County of } ss.	
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _	
personal representative of the estate of	
or mo como or	
	Notary Public
	, County, North Dakota
(Seal)	My commission expires:

RECEIPTS/DISBURSEMENTS			
DATE	PAID BY/TO	FOR	AMOUNT
		Beginning Balance	\$
		Ending Balance	\$
L	1		•

Page 1 of NDPC FORM 15

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 15 Page 2		10/01/03
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA } County of } ss.		
		, being first duly sworn,
says thathe is the personal representative of the above estate ar	d thathe has read the fo	oregoing statements and knows the
contents thereof, and verily believes the statements made therein t		
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	day of	20
		Notary Public
		County, North Dakota

(Seal)

My Commission expires:

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 16	10/01/03
SWORN STATEMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE CLO	OSING A SMALL ESTATE. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-23-04).
Name, Address, and Telephone No. of Attorney	Space below for use of District Court only
	Probate No
	1100dic 110.
Attorney for:	
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	, Deceased.
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA } County of } ss.	NG A SMALL ESTATE
	, being duly sworn, states the following under oath:
1. I am the duly appointed, qualified and acting p, in t	personal representative of the above estate, appointed on the above Court.
,	he entire estate, less liens and encumbrances, did not exceed the homestead e, costs and expenses of administration, reasonable funeral expenses, and the penses of the last illness of the decedent.
3. I have fully administered the estate by disburs	sing and distributing it to the persons entitled thereto.
	Il distributees of the estate and to all creditors or other claimants of whom I am red and have furnished a full account in writing of personal representative's ests are affected.
5. No order of the Court prohibits closing of the representative.	he estate and the estate is not being administered by a supervised personal
This statement is filed for the purpose of closin pursuant to N.D.C.C. 30.1-23-04.	ng the above estate and terminating my appointment as personal representative
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	day of
	Notary Public
	County, North Dakota
(Seal)	My commission expires:

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 17 Page 1	10/01/03
APPLICATION FOR INFORMAL APPOINTMENT OF A PERSONAL REPRES	SENTATIVE IN INTESTACY. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-14-01).
Name, Address, and Telephone No. of Attorney	Space below for use of District Court only
	Probate No
	1 Tobate No
Attorney for:	
DUTHE DISTRICT COURT OF	COLINTY STATE OF NORTH DAVOTA
	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	, Deceased.
I, as the applicant, provide the following information:	ENTATIVE IN INTESTACY
A. (1) I am(state interest	st of applicant)
	,, at the age of years. At
	County,
spouse, children, heirs or devisees of decedent.	(state), and is survived by the following persons who are the surviving
Name Age	Relationship Address
(3) Venue for this case is in this County because	
(4) No personal representative has been appointed who	se letters have not been terminated, except
	, was
County,	(state).

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

My Commission expires:

Page 2 of NDPC FORM 17

\_\_\_\_\_, County, North Dakota

Notary Public

10/01/03
TATIVE - INTESTACY. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-14-08)
Space below for use of District Court only
Probate No
COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
, Deceased.
for informal appointmen day of
SENTATIVE - INTESTACY
, and at least one hundred twenty (120
ffirmation that the statements contained therein are true to the best all of the statements required by law to be made in the application as defined by the laws of this state; venue is proper; been given; ppears that the person whose appointment is sought has priority
is informally appointed personal representative of the
deceased, without bond (or upon giving bond in the

Judge/Clerk

ND PROBATE CODE FORM 19	10/01/03
LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION. (N.D.C.C. 30.1-14-07).	
Name, Address, and Telephone No. of Attorney	Space below for use of District Court only
	D. L. A. M.
	Probate No
Attorney for:	
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF	COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
In the Matter of the Estate of	, Deceased.
	is appointed personal representative of the estate of, deceased.
	, deceased.
	, Judge/Clerk of the above entitled Court, with the day of
	Judge/Clerk
, deceased, an	ve of the estate of  nd will perform, according to law, the duties of the personal representative.
Date	<u> </u>
County of	ORTH DAKOTA } } ss. CERTIFICATE }
certificate they	rsigned, or or or or or or county, certify that the foregoing is a full ct copy of the original Letters on File with the Court and that on the Date of this y were in full force and effect.
Court Seal Dated	··
	of Court