

# WASHTENAW COUNTY PROBATE COURT



Darlene A. O'Brien  
Probate Court Judge

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Linda Edwards-Brown  
Probate Register

Julia Owdziej  
Deputy Register/Referee

## How to File a Small Decedent Estate Petition

When filing a petition in Probate Court you must prepare the following forms and proposed orders, before your petition will be scheduled for a hearing. All forms and State Court Administrative Office approved orders are available at <http://courts.michigan.gov/scao/courtforms/probate/gpindex.htm>. This information is not intended to be a substitute for legal advice. It is designed to help you with simple applications for Petition and Order for Assignment (Decedent Estate under \$20,000). Although an attorney is not required, it is highly recommended that you consult an attorney. Court staff is not allowed to give legal advice. Members of the Washtenaw County Bar Association who specialize in probate matters are available to assist you with preparing the forms and proposed orders at no charge to you, on the first Wednesday of the month from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Registration is required. You may register by contacting the Probate Clerk's office at 734.222.3072.

### **Decedent Estate under \$20,000**

- PC556 – Petition and Order for Assignment
- PC565 – Testimony to Identify Heirs and Devisee Heirs
- Funeral Home Bill – if paid, please indicate who paid it
- Death Certificate

There is a \$25 filing fee and a \$14.00 certification fee that must be paid at the time the petition is filed.

Other helpful information:

[http://washtenawtrialcourt.org/probate/estates/small\\_estate](http://washtenawtrialcourt.org/probate/estates/small_estate)