Lehigh County Clerk of Judicial Records

Andrea E. Naugle

Lehigh County Courthouse 455 W. Hamilton Street Room 122 Allentown, PA 18101-1614 <u>Register of Wills Division</u> (610) 782-3170

Diana L. Dergham

Chief Deputy

<u>VIRTUAL PROBATE PROCEEDINGS</u> <u>Effective 3/30/2020 (Updated 1/21)</u> The following documents shall be emailed prior to scheduling a virtual probate proceeding:

- 1. Email all of the below documents in one email. Probates will not be scheduled until all documents are provided.
 - a. Decedent's Will- Submit only if you have the original will in your possession.
 - b. Completed probate petition (Value of Estate and number of Short Certificates needed)
 - c. Death Certificate
 - d. Photo ID (name on photo ID or Will should match name on Petition) of those taking oaths and those renouncing.
 - e. Any documents necessary to proceed to open the estate (i.e./ Renunciations/ Original copies of Death Certificates/ Affidavits)
- 2. Attorney and client must be present at the same time but can be at separate locations. No video conferencing for pro se estates.
- 3. The Clerk must be able to see personal representative and any witnesses sign the petition and oaths. (Do not sign the Petition until you are directed to do so)
- 4. The attorney is responsible for scheduling the video conference with the Register of Wills office by calling 610-782-3170 once the proposed documents have been approved.. Appointments will be accepted between the hours of 8:30 A.M.-11:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. 3:00 P.M. Video conferencing will take place via Zoom. Video Conference procedure will be explained at the time attorney schedules the appointment.
- 5. Documents shall be emailed to: willsprobate@lehighcounty.org
- 6. All Original documents and payment shall be mailed or dropped off to the Register of Wills AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE APPOINTMENT. IT IS NECESSARY TO MAIL/DELIVER ALL ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS IN ONE ENVELOPE. Please **do not** mail partial probate documents to the Register of Wills.
- 7. After receipt of payment and a full review of the physical documents, Grant of Letters, Short Certificates and associated documents will be issued.