

Understanding the Terminology

Here are a few common terms with regard to Probate.

Personal Representative

A person or institution appointed to carry out the terms of the will.



Probate

The process of establishing the validity of a will or determining the distribution of assets if there is no will.

Decedent

A person who has died.



Beneficiary

A person or Institution who receives assets or benefits from an estate.

The Estate

All assets, owned by the Probate Estate.



Intestate Succession

When a person dies without a will, a court will distribute your property according to the laws of your state.