

# OAKLAND COUNTY PROBATE COURT IMPORTANT NOTICE

## THE COURT RULES WERE AMENDED ON 11/15/05

Pursuant to Supreme Court Order ADM File No. 2004-54

These are some of the procedural changes that are **effective immediately**; the court continues to sort out additional details. The court rule amendments can be viewed at the SCAO website at: <http://courts.michigan.gov> (click on “Court Rules, proposed and recently adopted”)

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**Death certificates** are required to start every decedent estate.

“Alternative documentation” may be accepted if a death certificate is not available (a letter from the morgue, hospital or funeral home, or an obituary from a newspaper would be acceptable).

The **inventory fee calculation** now allows for deductions for secured loans on property (real or personal). We will deduct the balance owing on the loan. See November 2006 Notice: *Calculation of Inventory Fees (aka Gross Estate Fees)* Changed at: <http://www.oakgov.com/probate/assets/docs/New>

**Inventories on conservatorships** must list all property the protected person owns jointly or in common with others, indicating the type of ownership. The name(s) of the other owner(s) is/are not required.

**Conservatorship accounts** must be served on all interested persons annually, and a proof of service must be filed along with the account.

**Conservators of minors** must file an **initial verification** of funds on deposit (showing the establishment of a restricted account) **within 14 days** of qualification, as well as an **annual verification with a copy of the financial institution statement attached**, and the annual account.

At the time the account is filed, **all conservators** must present a copy of the **financial institution statement** for all liquid assets (anything except real or personal property) **dated within 30 days** after the end of the accounting period.

**Conservators petitioning for the sale of real estate** must attach a copy of the most recent assessor statement or tax statement showing the state equalized value.