



PROBATE COURT OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE  
RHODE ISLAND

December 10, 2020

In response to the limitations on work schedules for court staff imposed by the State and City of Providence due to the alarming increase of COVID-19 cases, Providence Probate Court **is not scheduling any decedent estates that require advertising and notice after December 22, 2020** until 2021. This **does not include** decedent estates that were advertised for an earlier date and continued to a day certain or matters held Nisi. It is hoped that this action will allow staff to complete processing cases that have been heard by the court, including issuing Certificates of Appointment, Inventories, and publishing Creditor's Notices. Matters filed as of December 10, 2020 will be heard according to the date postmarked or hand delivered to the court. If there is a true emergency involving a decedent estate, the court may hear a Custodianship with notice to all interested parties for good cause shown.

All other cases (including matters requiring advertisement) will continue to be heard on a **regular basis as scheduled by the clerks**, but with a limit on the number of cases heard to insure that the processing backlog does not again become problematic. New filings of all estates will be accepted during this time either via mail or hand delivered.

Kindly contact the court clerks via e mail and not by phone as it is difficult for staff to spend the limited time that they are in the office speaking on the phone.

E-Mail addresses:

**Judge:** [Jmartinelli@providenceri.gov](mailto:Jmartinelli@providenceri.gov)

**Deputy Clerk:** Rene- [rmanosh@providenceri.gov](mailto:rmanosh@providenceri.gov) ;

**Clerk:** Melissa- [mguardarrama@providenceri.gov](mailto:mguardarrama@providenceri.gov) ;

**Clerk:** Deana- [Dburke@providenceri.gov](mailto:Dburke@providenceri.gov)

Thank you for your understanding and patience in these difficult times.

S/ **John E Martinelli**

**John E. Martinelli**  
**Providence Probate Judge**