

## Office of the Secretary, Interior

## § 30.207

after the mailing of the notice of the summary probate.

### **§ 30.203 May I request that a formal probate proceeding be conducted instead of a summary probate proceeding?**

Yes. Interested parties who are devisees or eligible heirs have 30 days after the mailing of the notice to file a written request for a formal probate hearing.

### **§ 30.204 What must a summary probate decision contain?**

The written decision in a summary probate proceeding must be in the form of findings of fact and conclusions of law, with a proposed decision and order for distribution. The judge or ADM must mail or deliver a notice of the decision, together with a copy of the decision, to each affected agency and to each interested party. The decision must satisfy the requirements of this section.

(a) Each decision must contain one of the following:

(1) If the decedent did not leave heirs or devisees a statement to that effect; or

(2) If the decedent left heirs or devisees:

(i) The names of each heir or devisee and their relationships to the decedent;

(ii) The distribution of shares to each heir or devisee; and

(iii) The names of the recipients of renounced or disclaimed interests.

(b) Each decision must contain all of the following:

(1) Citations to the law of descent and distribution under which the decision is made;

(2) A statement allowing or disallowing claims against the estate under this part, and an order directing the amount of payment for all approved claims;

(3) A statement approving or disapproving any renunciation;

(4) A statement advising all interested parties that they have a right to seek de novo review under § 30.205, and that, if they fail to do so, the decision will become final 30 days after it is mailed; and

(5) A statement of whether the heirs or devisees are:

(i) Indian;

(ii) Non-Indian but eligible to hold property in trust status; or

(iii) Non-Indian and ineligible to hold property in trust status.

(c) In a testate case only, the decision must contain a statement that:

(1) Approves or disapproves a will;

(2) Interprets provisions of the approved will; and

(3) Describes the share each devisee is to receive, subject to any encumbrances.

### **§ 30.205 How do I seek review of a summary probate proceeding?**

(a) If you are adversely affected by the written decision in a summary probate proceeding, you may seek de novo review of the case. To do this, you must file a request with the OHA office that issued the decision within 30 days after the date the decision was mailed.

(b) The request for de novo review must be in writing and signed, and must contain the following information:

(1) The name of the decedent;

(2) A description of your relationship to the decedent;

(3) An explanation of what errors you allege were made in the summary probate decision; and

(4) An explanation of how you are adversely affected by the decision.

### **§ 30.206 What happens after I file a request for de novo review?**

(a) Within 10 days of receiving a request for de novo review, OHA will notify the agency that prepared the probate file, all other affected agencies, and all interested parties of the de novo review, and assign the case to a judge.

(b) The judge will review the merits of the case, conduct a hearing as necessary or appropriate under the regulations in this part, and issue a new decision under this part.

### **§ 30.207 What happens if nobody files for de novo review?**

If no interested party requests de novo review within 30 days of the date of the written decision, it will be final for the Department. OHA will send:

(a) The complete original record and the final order to the agency that prepared the probate file; and