



MARIPOSA COUNTY

Sheriff's Office • (209) 966-3615



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-606

MEETING: November 25, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Doug Binnewies, Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator

RE: 2014 Estate and Probate Legal Services Agreement

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve Legal Services Agreement with the Law Offices of Starchman and Bryant for the Execution of the Estate and Probate of Roma Jean Mason, and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Agreement.

The Office of the Mariposa County Sheriff assumed Public Administrator responsibilities on May 1st, 2003. The duties of the Public Administrator are to protect the decedent's property from waste, loss or theft; make appropriate burial arrangements; conduct a thorough investigation to discover all assets; and, pay outstanding obligations, including taxes. They also locate the persons entitled to inherit from the estate and ensure that these individuals receive their inheritance. The Public Administrator liquidates and disburses the estate according to the decedent's will, if there is one, or according to probate code. This process can be very lengthy.

All Public Administrative expenses are borne by the estate. Initial legal costs will be covered within the Sheriff's operating budget and these expenses will be reimbursed by the estate. Staff is confident that there are sufficient assets in the estate to cover these expenses.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Mariposa County Public Administrator has been responsible for past estates.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

By statute the responsibility of the estate falls upon the Public Administrator.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The costs associated with the agreement will be reimbursed by the Estate of Roma Jean Mason.

ATTACHMENTS:

Anita Starchman-Bryant Probate Fee Agreement PA (DOC)
Attachment 1 (PDF)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended

Mary Hoelson

Mary Hoelson, Interim CAO 11/19/2014

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Janet Bibby, District III Supervisor

SECONDER: John Carrier, District V Supervisor

AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier