

# FAQ's

## **What is "legal advice" vs. "procedure"?**

Legal advice is a recommendation as to what particular action an individual should take given a set of certain circumstances. Only lawyers may give legal advice.

Procedure is the step-by-step process an individual follows after it is determined which action is best for the particular circumstances.

## **What does filing cost?**

In general, starting an Estate, Conservatorship, Guardianship, or Name Change is \$175 plus an additional \$12.00 for one certified copy of the Letters. Accounts, motions, and petitions are \$20.

## **How can I get copies back from the court?**

The Probate Court will return a file stamped copy to you if you provide a postage-paid return envelope and an extra copy of the document you would like returned.

## **What is a Power of Attorney?**

A Power of Attorney is a written and notarized document giving an individual the legal power to act on behalf of another according to the terms of the document. There is no Court involvement.

## **If I have a Power of Attorney, do I need a guardianship or conservatorship?**

It depends upon the authority granted by the Power of Attorney. A Power of Attorney may grant the fiduciary broad powers over the person and his/her estate, or limited powers to act only in certain circumstances. If the Power of Attorney grants only limited powers, a guardian or conservator may be necessary. It is best to consult an attorney on issues regarding powers of attorney.