



## Probate & Administration of Decedent Estates - YAP

Prepared by MLSC Yap, August 2022

When a person in a family passes away and the family realizes that the family needs to access the personal property of the deceased person, such as a bank account or a check or a share account, a family representative may call the Yap office of Micronesian Legal Services at 350-2193 for help in getting advice on what is required for petitioning the court to appoint a family member to become the administrator of the asset(s) of the deceased person.

The same advice and assistance applies to a family who needs to have surveyed real property (land) in the name of a deceased person transferred to a member of the family or transferred to someone who is entitled under custom to inherit ownership of the property after the death of the title holder. You may call the Yap office of Micronesian Legal Services for help in getting advice on what is required for petitioning the court to appoint a family member or someone entitled to become the administrator of the real property under the name of the deceased person.

A person, who is appointed as an administrator of an estate of a deceased person by the court pursuant to the family's request, is someone who has been granted power and authority to decide how to properly distribute the asset(s) of the deceased person to those entitled to, whether the administrator himself or others in and out of the family who are entitled to the asset(s).

If the deceased person had a will made during the time he was living, the person who was named in the will as the executor of the will can call the Yap office of Micronesian Legal Services for help in petitioning the court to approve the validity of the will and have the executor be able to carry out the directives and instructions in the will left by the deceased person.

An executor named in a will which has been validated by the court has the responsibility to take only those actions authorized by the will which he or she is executing.

The legal information we provide here is general information to help you decide how to handle legal issues. It is not advice about what you should or should not do. For advice, or for more legal help, please contact your local MLSC office and request legal assistance.

Caution!--laws are different in different locations. The information here applies only in this jurisdiction. Do not use the information here for legal issues in other jurisdictions.