

New submission from TCBA website

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Message TO: Tompkins County Bar Association and Members of the Legal CommunityRE: Tompkins County Surrogate's Court
Limited Hours of Operation
COVID-19

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE TOMPKINS COUNTY SURROGATE COURT'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IS EVER-CHANGING BASED ON THE LATEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION. ALL EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO BALANCE ACCESS TO THE COURTS WHILE CONTINUING TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE COURT USERS AND STAFF. THE POLICY AND PROCEDURE RELATED TO COURT ACCESS DURING THIS TIME ARE EVALUATED DAILY SO THAT THE COURTS CAN PROVIDE THE BEST LEVEL OF SERVICES.

Surrogate's Court

Effective Monday, March 30, 2020, the Surrogate's Court will be staffed only on Tuesdays and Thursdays for essential functions of the court and emergency applications. If you believe you have an application that needs immediate attention, please call Chief Clerk, Lori Decker at 607-216-6654 or send an e-mail to ldecker@nycourts.gov. All messages will be reviewed daily, and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

This Court will continue to accept non-essential filings of all proceeding types; however, please note that there may be a significant delay in processing. We simply do not know how this situation is going to play out in terms of court operations and staffing as this crisis subsides.

Surrogate Court filings may be made by electronic means by visiting the New York State Courts Electronic Filing System (NYSCEF) (www.nycourts.gov) (Links: Topics A-Z; E-Filing), by FC Mail, or by dropping paper filings, enclosed in a sealed envelope, at the main entry of the courthouse with Court Security.

Please forward this information liberally to members of the BAR and in the Legal Community.

Thank you and be well.

Lori S. Decker

Chief Clerk, Tompkins County Surrogate's Court