BOBBIE GRACE BAYLESS \* BOARD CERTIFIED CIVIL TRIAL LAW TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION NATIONAL BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCACY bayless@baylessstokes.com

### **BAYLESS & STOKES**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW 2931 FERNDALE HOUSTON, TEXAS 77098 Telephone: (713) 522-2224 Telecopier: (713) 522-2218 \* DALIA BROWNING STOKES BOARD CERTIFIED ESTATE PLANNING & PROBATE LAW TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION stokes@baylessstokes.com

\*LICENSED IN TEXAS AND COLORADO

March 14, 2012

## <u>Sent via Certified Mail</u> <u>Return Receipt Requested</u>

Candace L. Kunz-Freed Vacek & Freed, PLLC 11777 Katy Freeway, Suite 300 Houston, TX 77079

Anita Kay Brunsting 203 Bloomingdale Circle Victoria, TX 77904

Amy Ruth Brunsting 2582 Country Ledge New Braunfels, TX 78132

### Re: Estates of Elmer and Nelva Brunsting

Dear Ms. Freed, Ms. Brunsting, & Ms. Brunsting:

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As you no doubt now know, I represent Carl Brunsting. Carl was named as the personal representative in both Elmer and Nelva Brunsting's wills. Carl has reason to believe that one of the parties to whom this letter is addressed has the original of his father's and/or his mother's wills. He also has reason to believe that the parties to whom this letter is addressed have papers belonging to the estate of Elmer and/or Nelva Brunsting.

To the extent any of you have the original of Elmer or Nelva Brunsting's wills, you had an obligation pursuant to Tex. Prob. Code Ann. §75 to deliver those original wills to the clerk of the Harris County Probate Court upon learning of Elmer and Nelva's deaths. I have checked the probate court records, and it does not appear that the original of either will has been so delivered. Tex. Prob. Code Ann. §75 also requires the delivery of any papers belonging to Elmer and Nelva's estate to Carl. Tex. Prob. Code Ann. §75, a copy of which is enclosed, provides for severe penalties for the failure to deliver the original wills to the probate clerk or the papers to the executor.

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Although it is not required, demand is hereby made that the original wills of Elmer and Nelva Brunsting be filed with the Harris County Probate Clerk, pursuant to Tex. Prob. Code Ann. §75, within five business days of your receipt of this letter and that notice be provided to me of that filing. Demand is also made that all papers belonging to Elmer or Nelva Brunsting be delivered to my office within two weeks of your receipt of this letter. If for some reason those time frames create a problem, please contact me upon your receipt of this letter. I hope it will not be necessary to invoke the remedies set forth in Tex. Prob. Code §75, so I look forward to your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Bobbie G. Bayless

DUDUE O. Dayi

BGB/st

cc: Carl Brunsting (via email)

# Westlaw. V.A.T.S. Probate Code, § 75

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### Effective: [See Text Amendments]

Vernon's Texas Statutes and Codes Annotated Currentness Texas Probate Code (Refs & Annos) <sup>™</sup> Chapter V. Probate and Grant of Administration (Refs & Annos) <sup>™</sup> Part 1. Estates of Decedents →→ § 75. Duty and Liability of Custodian of Will

Upon receiving notice of the death of a testator, the person having custody of the testator's will shall deliver it to the clerk of the court which has jurisdiction of the estate. On sworn written complaint that any person has the last will of any testator, or any papers belonging to the estate of a testator or intestate, the county judge shall cause said person to be cited by personal service to appear before him and show cause why he should not deliver such will to the court for probate, or why he should not deliver such papers to the executor or administrator. Upon the return of such citation served, unless delivery is made or good cause shown, if satisfied that such person had such will or papers at the time of filing the complaint, such judge may cause him to be arrested and imprisoned until he shall so deliver them. Any person refusing to deliver such will or papers shall also be liable to any person aggrieved for all damages sustained as a result of such refusal, which damages may be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction.

#### CREDIT(S)

Acts 1955, 54th Leg., p. 88, ch. 55, eff. Jan. 1, 1956.

<The Texas Probate Code is repealed and the Estates Code is enacted, effective January 1, 2014, by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., ch. 680, Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., ch. 823 (H.B. 2759) and Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., ch. 1338 (S.B. 1198).>

Current through the end of the 2011 Regular Session and First Called Session of the 82nd Legislature

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