

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2023-1

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IN PROBATE COURT

NO. 1

CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

**ORDER REQUIRING THE USE OF THE COURT'S APPROVED FORM FOR SMALL ESTATE AFFIDAVITS**

On this day, the Court finds there is a need for an administrative order regarding the form to be used when a Small Estate Affidavit is filed in Cameron County Probate Court No.1 under Texas Estates Code Chapter 205.

The court finds that over half of the Small Estate Affidavits filed in Cameron County do not provide all of the information the Code and the Court require. While approval for a Small Estate Affidavit is within the Court's discretion (see Estates Code §205.003), it wastes the resources of both the Court and the applicants for the Court to evaluate incomplete affidavits.

Therefore, the Court has adopted a Small Estate Affidavit Form that - if completely and correctly filled out – includes all information necessary to enable the Court to determine whether the Court should approve a Small Estate Affidavit. This Small Estate Affidavit form is posted on the probate section of the Court's website.

It is therefore ORDERED that the Cameron County Probate Court No.1 will not approve any Small Estate Affidavit filed after September 14, 2023 unless it uses the approved form posted on the Court's website (or whatever modification of the approved form is posted in the future).

SIGNED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.



Judge Sheila Garcia Bence  
Probate Court No. 1