

May 10, 2011

John J. Cahill, Petitioner
Clark County Public Administrator
515 Shadow Lane
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

Re: Estate of Hester Helena Murray
Eighth Judicial District Case No. P-09-066431-E

Dear Mr. Cahill:

This correspondence is to provide you with the updated status of the Estate of Hester Helena Murray (hereinafter referred to as the "Decedent").

The Decedent passed away on July 21, 2008. No Will was found. As Public Administrator, you were appointed as the Administrator on September 18, 2009.

The Decedent was born in South Africa and had been living in the United States for a number of years before her death. The Decedent was not married at the time of her death and had no children. She left a detailed list of her family history, including the names of her parents (both of whom she indicated were deceased) and each of her siblings and their last known addresses, all of whom were in South Africa. Due to the fact that there was no Will, in accordance with NRS 134.060, the beneficiaries of the estate are the Decedent's siblings, if then living, and if a sibling is not then living, the issue of the sibling by right of representation. The Public Administrator's office hired a private investigator, Cliff von Langen, with Von Langen, LLC. In turn, Von Langen, LLC has hired the firm of Cilliers & Reynders, Inc., in South Africa to find the heirs.

The Decedent had nine siblings. We had determined that four siblings passed away and we were able to locate the children of those four deceased siblings. We have been receiving monthly updates from the investigators as to the status of the search for the other siblings or their descendants. Unfortunately, according to our investigators, the South African system has been requiring multiple actual visits to various governmental offices and progress has been slow.

On January 28, 2011, we received a "Request for Special Notice" indicating that the law firm of Kunin & Carman was representing Leonie Barnard, Delene Meyer and Martha Strydom. Up until the time that we received this notice, we had no previous knowledge of whom these individuals were. I spoke with the attorney representing those individuals, Jim Davis, and was notified that they were the children of one of the Decedent's siblings, which we, up to this date, had not located. According to Mr. Davis, a professional heir hunting firm located these heirs, presumably after the heirs agreed to

EXHIBIT E Senate Committee on Judiciary

Date: 5-12-11 page 1 of 5

John J. Cahill
May 10, 2011
Page 2

pay a portion of their inheritance to the heir hunters. The heir finding firm then asked Kumis & Carman to represent the heirs the heir hunters located. I was also informed that there was an additional nephew of the Decedent in this family, but that he was deceased. Mr. Davis was uncertain as to whether or not that deceased nephew had any surviving children, who would inherit the deceased nephew's share in accordance with NRS 134.060.

During my conversation with Mr. Davis, he inquired as to why the estate had not yet been closed and why distribution had not yet been made. I informed him that we were still looking for the heirs and were receiving regular reports from the investigators. I followed up my telephone conversation with Mr. Davis with a letter confirming our discussion and why the estate had not been closed. I also asked him to please share any information that the heir finding firm had on additional heirs, if any, so we can expedite closing the estate.

The law firm of Kunin & Carman, representing the three recently discovered issue of one of Decedent's deceased siblings, subsequently filed a "Petition for An Order To Show Cause Why The Administrator Should Not Be Removed for Failure to Execute His Administrative Duties." A hearing is set on this matter for May 27, 2011.

In its Petition, Kunin & Carman objected to the continued search for heirs more than 18 months after the opening of the Estate in accordance with NRS 143.037. The Petition filed contained the following argument:

"Although an Administrator of an Estate does have a duty to locate and notice heirs, it is believed that this Administrator has taken it upon himself to conduct a world-wide search. To assist in his search, it is upon understanding and belief that the Administrator hired a private heir finder, the cost of which is unknown. The Administrator has overstepped his bounds in search for heirs and has failed to fulfill his Administrative duties. If the Administrator knows particular heirs exist but he is unable to locate them, then the amount due those heirs shall be delivered to the State Treasurer. But the known heirs must receive their distribution. If the Administrator does not know specifically of heirs, he cannot go on a fishing trip. He must distribute the estate to the known heirs. The Administrator has a duty to distribute to known heirs and close this Estate with the time frame defined by the Statutes. The Administrator should be ordered to show cause why he should not be removed for failing to comply with NRS 143.037."

I am filing an opposition to this Petition and will show that based on the information and

E - 2

John J. Cahill
May 10, 2011
Page 3

reports we are receiving from the firm hired in South Africa to locate the heirs, we are not yet in a position to close this Estate. The South African firm has reported that it should be receiving additional information shortly from the governmental authorities. Further, I do not feel that this is a "fishing trip." We have names and old addresses for each of the Decedent's siblings. We need only to determine if the remaining four siblings that we have yet been able to locate are living, and if not living, then whether or not a deceased sibling left surviving children. The private investigators have assured us that although time consuming based on the South African system, this is an achievable goal. If we send the money to the State Treasury for the siblings that we have not been able to locate to date merely because it has taken longer than expected, I do not think that is sufficient performance of the administrator's fiduciary duty. I do not feel that we have sufficient information from South Africa to discontinue our search. The investigators in South Africa are expecting from the governmental authorities a list of children known to be born of the Decedent's four siblings we have not been able to locate. To send the inheritance due to those individuals whose names we have not yet ascertained but we are told we are imminent in obtaining to the Nevada State Treasury as unclaimed property for heirs that are in South Africa is surely a guarantee that those funds will not be collected by the rightful beneficiaries.

There is the possibility that the heir finding firm that hired Kumis & Carman has additional information regarding heirs, but is unwilling to provide that since those heirs did not agree to pay the heir finding firm a commission. It is my opinion that the motivation behind filing the Petition is to force the administrator to abandon the search for heirs so that the heir finding firm and the attorneys can get their commission from the heirs as soon as possible. I believe this is not a proper motivation to abandon a search. It is my recommendation that we continue the search at least until the South African firm obtains the names of the issue of the Decedent's siblings and we attempt to contact them at their last known addresses.

Sincerely,
WALLS LAW FIRM

TINA M. WALLS, ESQ.

TMW:bl