Probate Preparation Checklist

	Items to Locate	Located	Location/Information	Given to Attorney
1	Decedent's Last Will and Testament Codicils to the Decedent's Last			
2	Will and Testament			
3	Decedent's Trust			
4	Decedent's Funeral Arrangements			
5	Decedent's full name, birthdate, social security number			
6	Documentation regarding Decedent's citizenship (if applicable)			
7	Decedent's safety deposit box			
8	Decedent's marriage license			
9	Decedent's divorce decrees			
10	Decedent's prenuptial agreement			
11	Decedent's marital or partition agreements			
12	Decedent's children – names, ages, contact information, born or adopted, etc.			
13	Death Certificates (order 5 – 10 certified copies)			
14	Secure the Decedent's home			
15	Decedent's Assets and Debts			
	a) Real Property (need legal description)			
	b) Mineral Interests			
	c) Rental and Lease Contracts			
	d) BankAccounts(need name of bank and account numbers, owners of account, and what type of an account)			
	e) Savings Accounts (need name of bank and account numbers, owners of account, and what type of an account)			
	f)) Savings & Loan Accounts (need name of bank and account numbers, owners of account, and what type of an account)			
	g) Credit Unions (need name of bank and account numbers, owners of account, and what type of an account)			
	h) Securities and Investments–stocks, bonds, brokerage accounts, mutual funds, annuities, stock options, etc. (need names, account numbers, and ownership interest)			
	i) Security Interest (had the Decedent been granted a security interest in any property?)			

j) Tax Deferred Accounts/Plans – i.e., 401(K) plans, individual retirement accounts (IRA), pension plans, benefit plans, employee stock ownership plans, any other retirement plans – (need names, account numbers, named beneficiaries)	
k) Non-Qualified Benefit Plans	
Decedent'sCompanyBenefits (employment trusts, accrued, unpaid bonuses, stock purchase plans, employment contracts)	
m) Life Insurance (need names, account numbers, named beneficiaries)	
n) MilitaryRetirementBenefits	
o) MotorVehicles(title, make, model, year, Vehicle Identification Number)	
p) Equipment and Machinery(need description, make, model,	
vin numbers)	
q) Valuable Collections (need specific description of items in collection)	
r) Receivables (Did any one owe the Decedent money?)	
s) Tax Refunds	
t) Tax Prepayments	
u) Lawsuits (Was the Decedent involved in a pending lawsuit at death?)	
v) Pending Claims against the Decedent	
w) Copyrights and Patents (Did the Decedent copyright or patent anything, or was a copyright or patent pending?)	
x) Decedent's BusinessAssociations	
y) Decedent's cash on hand	
6 Create List of Decedent's Heirs with full names and contact information	
7 Name of Decedent's CPA	