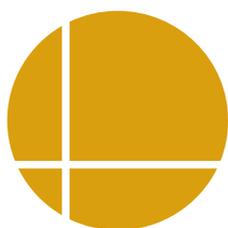




Probate Services



Lifetime
SOLICITORS

Unit 3, Southview Business Centre, Tinwell Road, Stamford, PE9 2JL

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Why choose us?

Probate is the handling of the Estate and possessions of somebody who has died. It is the commonly used term when talking about applying for the right to deal with a deceased persons affairs. The process itself can be complex and a difficult one to deal with when someone is going through bereavement.

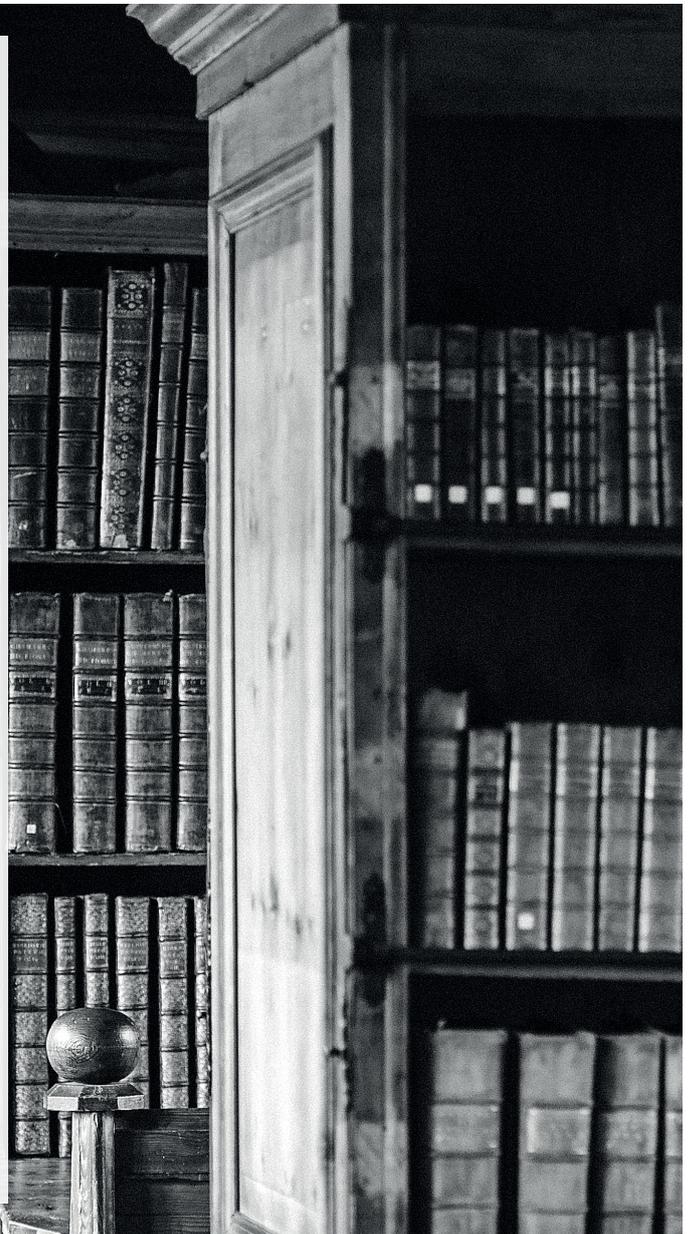
Supporting you at a difficult time

Our Probate team at Lifetime Solicitors will be here to support your family and friends through the process of administering your estate in accordance with your will. Whether it be helping with the smaller legalities or taking control of the entire process for you, our legal team will work in a sympathetic manner, with efficiency and consideration to the practical needs of your family.

Our dedicated team include members of the Society of Trust and Estate practitioners, who abide by a professional code of conduct and will deal with your estate and loved ones with dignity and integrity.

We cover all aspects of estate and trust administration, right from the beginning to ensure that your loved ones are relieved of the burden that comes with registering your death, through to contacting institutions and obtaining the correct information to complete the probate process. With the recent changes in Inheritance Tax Law, it is important to have a solicitor assist you to make sure that you are paying as little tax as possible. Dealing with tax issues can be difficult and stressful but we are able to advise you in a clear fashion.

It is important that as much of your hard earned assets pass to your loved ones and it is our aim to achieve this for you.



We can look to assist you and any beneficiaries with your own estate planning to ensure your affairs are in order.

With the recent introduction of the Residential Nil Rate Band it is even more important than ever that you have professionals involved to ensure that the right claims are made within the required time limits during the administration of the estate to maximize the tax allowances available on death. Not only is this important when dealing with Probate, but it is important to ensure that consideration is given to your own tax position and put in place appropriate estate planning.



The Importance of Estate Planning

There are many things that you can do now to make the Probate process smoother for those you leave behind. If there are people that you care about in your life then making a Will is the only way to ensure that they are taken care of in the way you would like.

Not only can it stop family arguments and financial hardship, but if you do not have any immediate family, you can also ensure that your assets go to the people or organisations of your choice. Decisions about appointing executors and guardians are also an important part of making your Will to make sure your estate is dealt with properly, and that your children are cared for.

At Lifetime Solicitors we go beyond advising you in relation to writing your Will in isolation and we look at estate planning using a variety of different legal mechanisms to ensure you and your loved ones are fully protected and that the use of any tax allowances is maximised.

We will talk through your individual circumstances and help establish a plan to deal with such issues as inheritance tax and placing assets in trust.

A guide to the Probate Process

Did the deceased leave a valid Will?

- If there is a Will, it confirms who can apply for the grant (the 'executors'). If there is not a valid Will, then the estate will have to be administered in accordance with the rules of intestacy.
- We will help to collect the deceased's papers and to identify their assets and liabilities, we will gather this information and notify any institutions that need to be informed of the situation.
- If a grant of representation is needed, we will be able to fill in the forms and make the application for you.
- A grant of probate will not be given until some or all of the inheritance tax that is due has been paid. We will be able to apply to have money released to pay the Tax and deal with HMRC on your behalf.
- We will complete any forms to release assets. Our conveyancing team are also able to deal with the sale of any properties in the estate.
- Once all the assets have been released we can pay any debts in the estate and deal with the payment of any other costs.
- We then provide Estate Accounts before distributing funds in accordance with the Will or the intestacy rules.

We subscribe and abide by a number of laws, regulations and legislation for your protection, confidentiality, and security

These include:

- **Solicitors Regulation Authority** - our regulator
- **Legal Ombudsman** - for security
- **The Data Protection Act 1998** - for confidentiality
- **Law** - all our agreements are in accordance with the laws of England and Wales
- **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** - for confidentiality



Charlotte, thank you very much for all your work to do with my mothers probate and financial affairs, you did a great job and I am very grateful.

Slav Paleolog



Lorna, thank you for all your help and assistance in dealing with my fathers probate and Thanks to your team too!

Nicole Cheney



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