



BONDS, INVENTORIES & ACCOUNTINGS

Steve M. King

Judge

Tarrant County Probate Court One
Fort Worth, Texas

Judicial Bonds

- Courts with Probate & Guardianship Jurisdiction:
 - Population 125,000 or less: \$100,000 Bond
 - Population 125,000 or more: \$250,000 Bond
- Conditioned that Judge will perform duties required by Estates Code.
- County may purchase insurance instead.
- Compliance by November 1, 2017.

Integral Parts of an Ongoing Process

- Qualification of the Personal Representative
- Return of an Inventory
- Periodic Accountings
- Keeping the Court Informed



Nature of Proceedings: Decedent's Estate

- Gather Property
- Resolve Debts
- Distribute Remaining Property



Nature of Proceedings: Guardianship

- Ongoing enterprise
- May continue for a lengthy period
- Income for maintenance and support



Bonds and Oaths



Oath: Sworn Promise to handle estate properly

Bond: Contractual Promise (insurance policy) to pay for damages to the Estate (up to face amount of bond) caused by malfeasance or nonfeasance of Personal Representative

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Title search: Bonds, Inventories, and Accountings

Also available as part of the eCourse

[2017 Estate Planning, Guardianship, and Elder Law eConference](#)

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