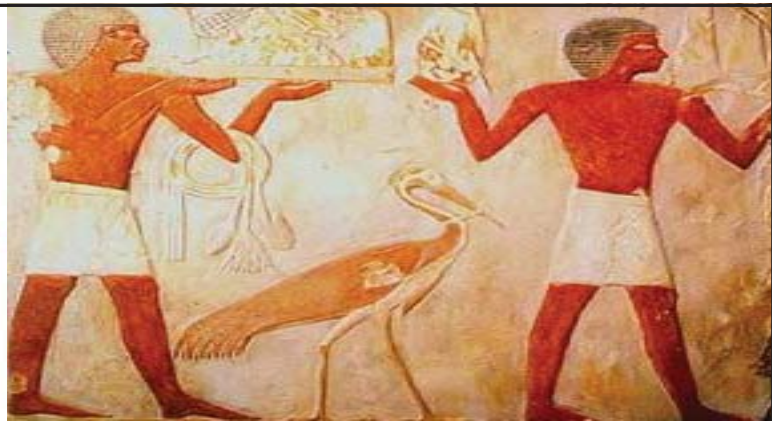




HEIRSHIP DETERMINATION

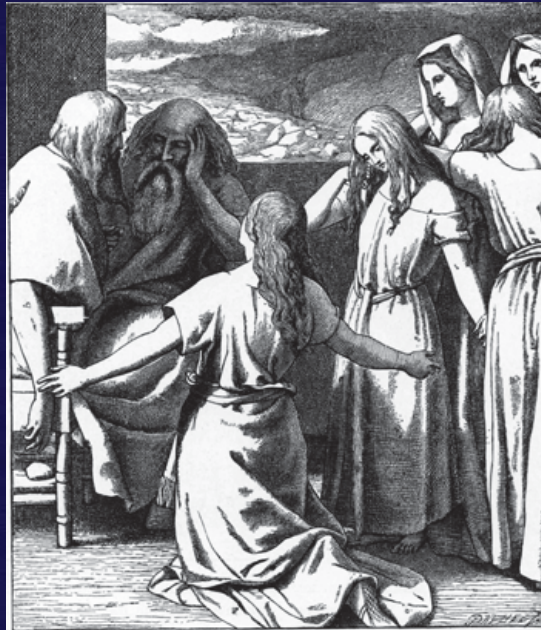
Hon. Guy Herman
Judge
Travis County Probate Court
Austin, Texas







First Heirship Determination



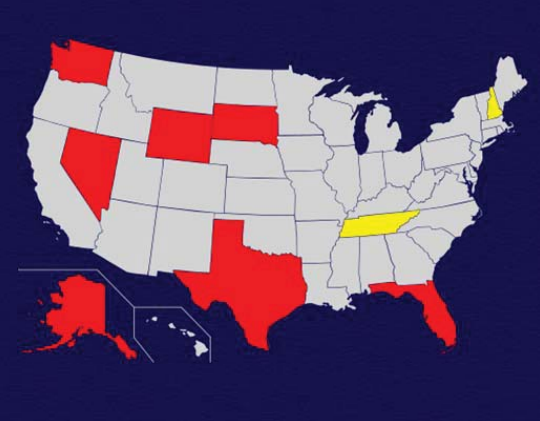
Goals

- “Heirship Determination?”
 - What it is
 - What it is not
 - How it is done
- Best Practices
- The Hearing Process
- Problem Areas





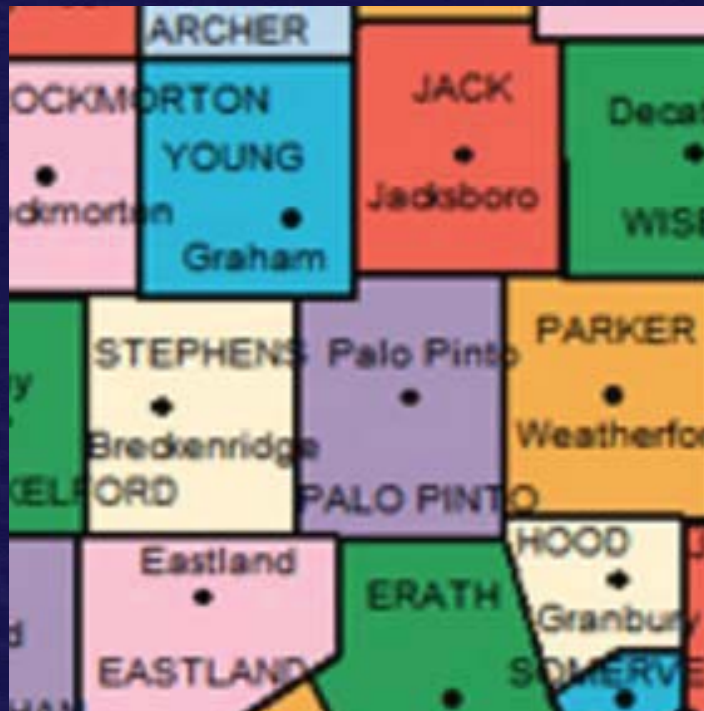
Heirship Basics



Jurisdiction



Venue



A Creature of Statute, Sometimes Affected by Common Law

- Homestead
- Exempt Property
- Allowances
- No Forfeitures
- Anti-alienage Laws
- Voiding devises, etc. to Former Spouse

Inheritance Laws

SUBCHAPTER B. MATTERS AFFECTING INHERITANCE (§§201.051 - 201.062)

Sec. 201.051. Maternal Inheritance. [TPC §42(a)]
(a) For purposes of inheritance, a child is the child of the child's biological father and the child's issue shall inherit from the child's biological father, both descendants, ascendants, and collateral kin, as if the child and the child's issue. However, if the child and the child's issue are both adopted by the same person, the child and the child's issue shall inherit from the adoptive parent as if the child and the child's issue were the biological children of the adoptive parent.

Sec. 201.052. Paternal Inheritance. [TPC §42(b)(1)]
(a) For purposes of inheritance, a child is the child of the child's biological father if:
(1) the child is born under circumstances described by Section 160.201, Family Code;
(2) the child is adjudicated to be the child of the father by court decree under Chapter 160, Family Code;
(3) the child was adopted by the child's father; or

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"Heirship Determination"