Deficiency Orders



Paragraph 3





C

If you represent to the Court that you do not have an address for an heir or beneficiary, you must also provide a <u>Affidavit of Diligent Search</u>.

2

Proof of a "diligent" search must be provided before other means of service will be pursued.



Be sure that the search is reasonably diligent in light of the facts and circumstances.

You MUST List ALL Heirs

NOT SURE WHO THE HEIRS ARE?

Review the Heirs Determination Worksheet.

Heir: Those who are entitled to inherit when there is **NO WILL**.

NOTE: Heirs are determined at time of death

Predeceased = Died Before Post-Deceased = Died After

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:



Don't forget to list the Petitioner if they are also an heir.



Don't forget to list their ages. If they are over the age of 18, you may simply list, "over the age of 18".



Be sure to include the Personal Representative (not next of kin) of the estate of any post-deceased heir (or a Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) will be appointed automatically).



If the heirs are unknown, the court will appoint a GAL to investigate.

Refer to <u>O.C.G.A. § 53-2-1</u> for help determining heirs