

## **02 - Probate Information**

The Probate Division 46<sup>th</sup> Circuit Trial Court ensures that the rights of all residents are effectively protected in accordance with Michigan Law.

### ***What matters does the Probate Division handle?***

- Processes estates in this County with or without a will, (including small estates that sometimes can be handled in a single day).
- Appoints guardians and conservators of minors and adults, including disabled individuals, who are not able to manage their own affairs.
- Issues name change orders for minors and adults.
- Files acknowledgments of paternity for children born out of wedlock.
- Settles disputes concerning trusts.
- Considers petitions to provide treatment for mentally ill persons, including commitment to mental health facilities.
- Orders treatment for people with contagious diseases who refuse treatment.
- Considers petitions requesting emancipation of a minor.
- Considers whether or not to authorize abortions for minors seeking to avoid parental consent.

### ***How are these items processed by the Court?***

You must fill out forms to start the probate process. These forms can be picked up at the court.

All forms except those for mental health commitment are filed at the Probate Court.