



## **Temecula Probate Attorney Elaborates on the Time Frame for Completion of the Probate Process**

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Temecula probate attorney Steven F Bliss, Esq. stated that he often gets asked about how long the California probate process takes. He said it was a difficult question to answer because every probate case has different issues that must be resolved when it comes to the settlement and distribution of an estate. One is also dealing with a California probate court system that is often very rigid and unforgiving in nature he stresses.

Attorney Bliss estimates that the average time for the state to settle probate cases in California is anywhere from six months to a year but this time frame is certainly not set in stone. Probate cases can and do sometimes take well over a year to be resolved by the California court system. He went on to say that longer probate settlement timeframes often involve cases with contested wills or deceased persons who did not put their legal affairs in order as far as a will is concerned. That's why he emphasizes the need for his clients to take advantage of competent estate planning services. When they do this, the wishes in their will are then spelled out in clear black and white legal terminology so they are not left up to interpretation by a probate court judge.

Attorney Bliss had this to say on the probate process time frame. He says, "Very seldom do probate cases in

the State of California get settled in less than 6 months. The sad part of that is many of these probate cases will also drag out for a year or longer. That's why proper estate planning with an experienced probate attorney is essential for helping to keep the completion of the probate process to as short a time frame as possible.?

He went on to add that there are several things that one should consider before hiring an estate planning and probate attorney. On that, he says, "You need to ask any probate attorney you are thinking about hiring questions like how many probate cases they have handled in the past 10 years and if they have ever been sued over how they litigated a probate case. You should also know if a probate attorney handles their own probate claims litigation and if they have the required amount of malpractice insurance.?"

The Law Firm of Steven F. Bliss Esq. not only handles legal affairs pertaining to probate and estate planning. They also specialize in such forms of law as trust administration and bankruptcy. Attorney Bliss talked about why someone would want legal help when pursuing any of these matters. He states, "Bankruptcy is often viewed as a financial kiss of death by many people. It absolutely does not have to be that way if it is handled under the guidance of an experienced bankruptcy attorney. Establishing an ironclad trust with the help of an attorney helps people avoid some of the pitfalls that occur during the probate process. Trusts can offer those that establish them and their beneficiaries with tax savings, protection of assets and will distribution timeframes for minors and potential spendthrifts.?"

Attorney Bliss is a lawyer that now has well over 27 years dealing with probate law in the State of California. He describes his law firm as a boutique law firm that takes a friendlier and more personal approach to the probate and the other legal matters that they handle for their clients. The law firm offers those that are interested in their legal services a free, no obligation thirty-minute office consultation.

The Temecula branch of the Law Firm of Steven F. Bliss, Esq. is located very near Avis Car Rental and the Plaza Seville Shopping Center in Temecula. If one wants to see exactly where they are located on a Temecula map, these probate attorney directions should help. A map showing their Temecula location can also be viewed by clicking on the "locations" drop-down menu on their website. Their main office is located in the San Diego, California area.

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*My law practice is concentrated in the areas of Wills, Living Trusts and Estate Planning; assisting clients in Probate and Trust Administration matters.*

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