

INSTRUCTIONS FOR  
NOTICE TO THE COURT  
OF MISSING DISTRIBUTEES

**Before You Get Started**

Many people will not need to use this form. It's only used in cases where there are people who have a right to the property but the location of those people is not known.

Remember that you are required to tell the Court honestly about everyone who has a legal right to the Decedent's property. If there is someone who has a right to the property, and you don't know where that person is or how to find them, you must tell the Court about it. This is called giving the Court Notice of Missing Distributees.

Families can be complicated. There might be someone you don't like, or who you don't really think of as being part of your family. But that doesn't change anyone's legal rights. The Court needs to know about everyone who has a legal right to the property.

You might have a half-brother you never met or a step-mother you haven't seen in years. If you think the law says they have a right to the Decedent's property, you have to tell them about this case. If you don't know where they are, you need to try to find them.

If you have made efforts to find someone, and you have truly not been able to, that person is called a Missing Distributee. You will file a Notice to the Court of Missing Distributees to tell the Court about the people you can't find and what you did to try to locate them.

**How to Fill Out the Notice to Court of Missing Distributees**

**Top of the page.**

Fill this out the same way you did on other forms in this case.

**Sections 1 through 3.**

Read these sections carefully and make sure you understand them.

#### **Section 4.**

Fill in the chart with all of the information that you have about the Missing Distributees. If there are more than three Missing Distributees, attach additional pages with information on the them.

#### **Section 5.**

On the blank lines, explain everything that you have done to try to find the Missing Distributees. Be honest and include all of the information. The Judge will use the information you write here to decide whether you need to try other ways to find the Missing Distributees.

#### **The Signature Section.**

On the line labelled DATED, write the date you are signing the form. Sign your name on the signature line.

Print your name neatly. Write in your email address, your phone number, and your mailing address.

#### **Certificate of Service**

This Notice does not need to be served formally (with a process server and affidavit). You do need to make sure each Distributee who is not missing gets a copy of it. If someone filed an objection in this case, you need to give them a copy of this document. Fill in the accurate information for where and how the document was served. Remember to sign and date the Certificate of Service. Fill out a separate Certificate of Service for each person you gave the document to.

#### **File the Notice**

File the Notice at the Clerk's Office.

#### **Next Steps**

It's important to know that the Court might give you special directions for what to do about Missing Distributees. If the Court orders you to do something (for example, to make more efforts to find the Missing Distributees), make sure you do everything the Court requires.

If it has been more than 30 days since the first publication of the Notice **and** it has been more than 20 days since you mailed the copies of the Application and Notice to the necessary people, you can

file the form called Request to Set Hearing on Distribution of Real Property. That form and the Instructions for it are available on the [Wyoming Judicial Branch website forms page](#).

## **Important Things You Need to Know**

### Who can help me with these forms?

It is important for you to know that Court Clerks are not allowed to help you fill out these forms.

Here are some free resources that can help people with limited income and limited assets:

- Legal Aid of Wyoming Hotline. This Hotline gives you an opportunity to talk with a lawyer. 1-877-432-9955.
- Wyoming Free Legal Answers. This website gives you a chance to privately ask questions about your situation and then receive answers from a lawyer.  
<https://wyoming.freelegalanswers.org/>
- Volunteer Reference Attorney Program. This program lets you have a short informational meeting with a lawyer. You can learn about the locations and dates by checking the calendar on the Wyoming Judicial Branch website at  
<https://www.wyocourts.gov/find-legal-services/>

If you do not qualify for the free services above, you can contact the Wyoming State Bar at 307-432-2107 for referral to Wyoming lawyers. (Those lawyers charge for their services.)

### Where can I read the Wyoming laws about distribution of real property?

These laws are found in Wyoming Statutes Title 2, Chapter 1, Article 2. The laws about real property start at statute 2-1-205.

You can read them online by visiting the Wyoming Legislative Service Office website (<https://wyoleg.gov/>) or you can look at statute books at your local library.