

MSBA PROBATE & TRUST LAW SECTION E-NEWSLETTER

May 2019

Call for Submissions

We are always looking for attorneys to write brief articles for this newsletter. Articles can focus on any issues relevant to probate and trust law. This newsletter is distributed to the Probate and Trust Law Section membership, which consists of approximately 1,070 practitioners. Writing for the newsletter is a great way to share your knowledge and expertise with your colleagues.

If you are interested in submitting an article, please contact Emma Maddy (emma.maddy@stinson.com) or Kiley Henry (KEH1@ntrs.com) with your idea.

Please visit the Section's website for ideas and to see the various articles that have been written in the past.

Best Regards,
Emma Maddy & Kiley Henry
Probate & Trust Newsletter Editors

Legislative Notice

Please be advised that the joint subcommittee intends to introduce the “Uniform Power of Attorney Act” with some proposed revisions in Minnesota’s 2020 legislative session (a copy of which is posted [here](#)). The Legislative Subcommittee of the Probate and Trust Section is currently reviewing the proposal for comment in fall 2019. If you have comments or concerns about the proposed Act, please send those comments to Lauren Barron (lauren.barron@faegrebd.com) and/or Adam Rohne (arohne@felhaber.com) for further follow-up and review. Thank you for your help.

Upcoming Events and CLE Programs

- **Greater MN Probate & Trust Study Group Conference Call**
 - Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 9 a.m. (the 3rd Wednesday of every month)
 - Call-in Number: (877) 226-9607 passcode: 9295091072
 - Contact Patrick Lowther (pat@lawmanpal.com) with any questions or to join the group.
 - Please note, the May call will be the last call until September.

- **MSBA Probate & Trust Law Section Meeting**
 - May 16, 2019 at 3:30pm
 - Location: MSBA Office in City Center, Minneapolis

- **MSBA Probate & Trust Law Section Law School and Attorney Meet and Greet Happy Hour:** Immediately following the Section Meeting (4:30pm on May 16, 2019), at the Local. Please register [here](#).
- **CLEs**
 - MSBA, April 30, 2019: [Ethics and Technology- Practical Tips for Your Estate Planning and Probate Practice](#)
 - RCBA, May 9, 2019: [Scraping Probate Litigation Off Your Plate](#)
 - MinnesotaCLE, June 10/11, 2019: [2019 Probate & Trust Law Section Conference](#)

Tech Tip

Encryption 101: What It Means and How You Should Use It

By: Richard Baum, Technology Chair, Probate & Trust Section

The foundation for digital security is encryption. But what exactly is it and how does it work?

Encryption scrambles digital content and makes it impossible (or virtually impossible) to read unless you have permission to access it. If you don't have permission to access it, you will not be able to read the data. This applies to data when it is sent or received ("in-transit") and when it is stored on a device ("at rest").

An example of in-transit encryption is when you purchase an item online. When you are in the online checkout with your items (entering credit card information and confirming billing and shipping address), your browser should display either "https" at the beginning of the website you are on or a padlock in the address field, like this:



This tells you your credit card information is encrypted while it is being sent to the online store. Behind the scenes your computer browser exchanged encryption keys with the online store that ensured the transaction is secure.

Uploading documents to a cloud storage site (Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.) should also use a secure URL connection to ensure your data is secure. If you do not see the padlock or "https" in the address field you should be aware that any information you send or receive on that website is not secure.

Data that is encrypted at rest means it has been scrambled and can only be accessed with a password. This means if your device is stolen the hard drive contents cannot be accessed without great difficulty (or be virtually impossible).

Devices such as mobile phones, tablets, laptops, desktop computers, and network servers should be encrypted. Each device utilizes its own means to achieve encryption and you should know how to encrypt each device. Please note that your security plans can be thwarted, however, if the password to access that device is readily available or easily guessed. In other words, do not tape your password to the encrypted device or use a password that is easy to guess, such as "1234," "password," or "Qwerty."

Lastly, keep in mind that plain old text messaging from your phone (not iMessage on iPhones or other specialty texting apps) is not encrypted. This is because there are many links in the chain from the sender's phone to the recipient, and some of those links are never encrypted.

Newsletter Committee Chairs: Emma Maddy (emma.maddy@stinson.com); Kiley Henry (KEH1@ntrs.com)

To access the PROBATE & TRUST LAW SECTION WEBSITE |Click [here](#)

If you do not wish to receive this E-Newsletter, send your request to be removed from the mailing list to Tram Nguyen at tnguyen@statebar.gen.mn.us.

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