

**From:** [sbesst@aol.com](mailto:sbesst@aol.com)  
**To:** [Garcia, Jesus](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on the Probate System in MD for Dec. 1st  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 25, 2025 3:04:25 PM

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Mr. Garcia,

I practice law in Wicomico County, MD and handle estates regularly in many Maryland counties. I have been doing this for over 40 years. My husband now practices primarily civil litigation in the circuit courts. Dealing with the Register of Wills' offices in the state is SO much better than dealing with the circuit courts, where the website for filing is worse than awful. The employees of the Register of Wills offices in the state are very helpful, and filing documents is a breeze. In the event of a dispute, the Orphans' Court judges usually handle issues well and provide mediation - and an appeal to the circuit court is always an option in very complex disputes. My husband says he dislikes his job only because of the circuit court system website. He still enjoys legal work, but spending all day as a court clerk on the computer filing pleadings, exhibits and certificates of service separately is unmanageable, and getting 30 emails at once when another party files something is miserable. Lawyers are doing the court clerks' jobs and costs go up for clients. I enjoy handling estates since dealing with the Registers of Wills' offices is a pleasure. I do not want that to change. I think the decision to change the system should be made by lawyers who have practiced in the circuit courts and in the Register of Wills offices and appeared before the Orphans' Courts. There is no question which runs more smoothly and which is more user friendly. PLEASE do not eliminate our Register of Wills offices and our Orphans' Courts.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my thoughts on this important issue.

Susan Tilghman

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