

ANTHONY B. SCIARRETTA  
JUDGE



Frank S. Lombardi  
~~ELIABETH T. BUCCI~~  
CLERK  
THERESA CADUTO  
DEPUTY CLERK

PROBATE COURT OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE  
RHODE ISLAND

January 17, 1995

To The Honorable Vincent A. Cianci, Mayor and  
The Honorable Council of the City of Providence

I hereby submit the annual report of the operations of the Probate Court of the City of Providence for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1993 and ending June 30, 1994.

The cash receipts for this period amounted to \$214,210.67 which was up from \$211,555.54 for the previous period.

In the period from July 1, 1994 to December 31, 1994 the collections totaled \$116,407.06 which is up from \$112,663.98.

If the receipts continue as in the past, I would anticipate that the receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995 to be around \$210,000.

The number of wills filed for probate this past year was 243 compared to 268 from last year, and the number of petitions for administration was 89 as compared to 85 for the previous year.

The number of guardianships granted by the Court was 61 as opposed to 45 for last year. There were no new petitions for conservatorship granted nor were there any adult adoptions granted during this period.

There were 131 change of name petitions granted this period as against 122 during the same period for the previous year. In addition, thereto, there were 41 petitions for the sale of real estate filed by various executors, guardians and administrators. There were also 273 miscellaneous petitions filed and granted or denied for various reasons.

There were 400 inventories filed by the fiduciaries and the necessary fees collected and reflected in the total receipts of the year.

During the year there were 271 accounts filed and processed by guardians, conservators, executors and administrators. There were 204 affidavits of completed administration filed.

There were 22 new registry accounts opened for absentees totaling \$55,103.55. There were no new registry accounts opened for minors.

Mayor Cianci and the Honorable City Council  
page two

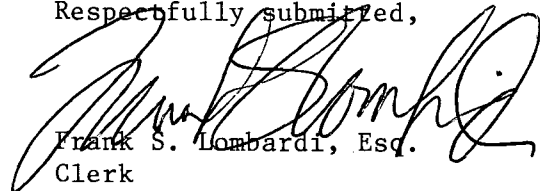
All of the above petitions were processed by the staff and advertised, when required by statute. In addition, all petitions requiring a hearing were acted upon by the Judge or Acting Judge, in his absence.

The Court has continued its' tracking of pending estates. While the Court has continued with its' manual tracking system of monitoring guardianship estates for the filing of annual accounts and status reports, it has begun the process towards computerization. The Clerk has scheduled meetings with the computer people of the City with a goal towards efficient record keeping and tracking of the Court's statutory obligation to monitor these accounts. Moreover, with computerization, timely filing of accounts will be facilitated through up to date communications with attorneys handling these pending files. It is expected that an operational computer program will be in place by the end of this year.

The Court, also has been sending out notices and orders regarding petitions which have been pending for a considerable time without activity. In addition, we order attorneys and/or fiduciaries to file inventories, accounts, status reports and/or pay bond premiums, when said fiduciaries have failed to comply with the applicable statutes. In May, 1994, we started keeping track of the orders to file/citations/orders to appear. From then to December 31, 1994, we have sent 222 citations and 257 orders to various attorneys and fiduciaries. The automation of the Court will facilitate in this endeavor as well.

Although the number of some of the above mentioned petitions has declined from the previous year, our work load has not diminished, since the new guardianship statute is much more complex and required additional work by the Court and places mandates on the Probate Court which did not previously exist. In addition, the Probate Court, as stated above, has taken action, sua sponte in all estate matters, in order to insure that the fiduciaries are complying with RI General Laws.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Frank S. Lombardi, Esq.  
Clerk

IN CITY COUNCIL

FEB 2 1995

READ

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

  
Michael X. Clement CLERK