

**PETITION AND ORDER TO OPEN SAFE DEPOSIT BOX  
TO LOCATE WILL/BURIAL DEED**

1. Banks/financial institutions typically seal the safe deposit box of a deceased person. Even if you have the key to access the box, you may find that you will not be allowed to open the box of the deceased person. You may want to open the box to look for a will or burial instructions. You can do this by filling out the top portion of the attached "Petition and Order to Open Safe Deposit Box to Locate Will or Burial Deed", PC 551 (note that the box must be located in Ottawa County) and sending it to the Probate Court with a \$10 filing fee (payable to the Ottawa County Probate Court).
2. When the Judge signs the order, the Court will send you a certified copy so that you can bring it to the bank/financial institution to examine the contents of the box. The enclosed "Safe Deposit Box Certificate and Receipt", PC552 must be taken to the bank/financial institution so that the petitioner can fill it out at the time the contents are examined. It must be returned to the Court within seven (7) days of opening the box.

Send forms to:

Ottawa County Probate Court  
12120 Fillmore Street  
West Olive, MI 49460

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

PETITION AND ORDER  
TO OPEN SAFE-DEPOSIT BOX  
TO LOCATE WILL OR BURIAL DEED

FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**USE NOTE:** File this petition in the county where the safe-deposit box is located.

Estate of \_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION**

1. I, \_\_\_\_\_, am interested in the decedent's estate and make this  
Name  
petition as \_\_\_\_\_.  
Relationship to decedent, i.e. heir, devisee, etc.

2. Decedent died \_\_\_\_\_, domiciled in \_\_\_\_\_.  
Date County and state or other jurisdiction

3. \_\_\_\_\_, as lessor, leased to decedent, alone or jointly, safe-  
Name of bank, trust company, or safe-deposit company  
deposit box number \_\_\_\_\_, located at \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ in this  
Branch City or township  
county, and the safe-deposit box may contain decedent's will and/or a deed to a burial plot in which the decedent is to be interred.

4. **I REQUEST** that this court issue an order directing the lessor to permit \_\_\_\_\_  
Name  
to examine the contents of the safe-deposit box in the presence of an officer or other authorized employee of lessor for the purpose of locating and removing a will and/or a deed to a burial plot only.

I declare under the penalties of perjury that this petition has been examined by me and that its contents are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

_____	_____	_____	_____
Attorney signature	Petitioner signature	Date	
_____	_____	_____	_____
Name (type or print)	Name (type or print)	Bar no.	
_____	_____	_____	_____
Address	Address		
_____	_____	_____	_____
City, state, zip	City, state, zip	Telephone no.	Telephone no.

**ORDER**

**IT IS ORDERED:**  
5. The above petition is granted and the lessor is ordered to permit \_\_\_\_\_  
to examine the safe-deposit box described above in the presence of an officer or other authorized employee of the lessor. Only a will of the decedent and/or a deed to a burial plot shall be removed from the box and shall be delivered by the person named above to the probate register or deputy register of this court.  
6. At the time of the opening of the safe-deposit box, all persons in attendance shall execute a written statement certifying whether a will and/or a deed to a burial plot was found and that no other items were removed from the safe-deposit box. The person named above shall file that written statement with the probate register or deputy register of this court within 7 days of opening the box. If no safe-deposit box is located, the person named above shall file a written statement indicating that no box was found.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Judge Bar no.

Do not write below this line - For court use only

<b>STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF _____</b>	<b>SAFE-DEPOSIT BOX CERTIFICATE AND RECEIPT</b>	<b>FILE NO.</b> _____
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Estate of \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE**

1. The undersigned certify that they were present on this date at the opening of the safe-deposit box number \_\_\_\_\_

located in \_\_\_\_\_, and

Name of bank, trust or safe-deposit company

a. they  did  did not find a will of the decedent;

b. they  did  did not find a deed to a burial plot in which decedent is to be buried;

c. no item or items, other than the deed or will, were removed from the safe-deposit box.

2. No safe-deposit box was located.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Signatures of others present, if any:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person named in order to examine contents of box

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of bank officer or authorized employee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**REGISTER'S RECEIPT**

3. I acknowledge receipt from \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person given authority by court order to examine contents of box

of the following items:

a. will of the decedent.

b. burial plot deed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy probate register

Do not write below this line - For court use only