TO: The Bar DATE: March 17, 2020

FROM: Ponda A. Caldwell Probate Judge

In light of the COVID-19 threat to our community, the Spartanburg County Probate Court services will be modified in an effort to reduce the spread of germs and viruses. Our goal is to reduce the person-to-person contact that is inherent in normal court operations. Therefore, the Court will conduct as much business as it can via phone, email, and mail.

All non-emergency hearings will be cancelled effective today until March 31, 2020, at which time the Court will reassess the situation and make an informed decision about conducting hearings. If you have a non-emergency hearing scheduled with the Court during this time frame, please contact the Court at your earliest convenience to reschedule the hearing. If you need an emergency hearing, we will, of course, be available to hold those hearings.

In addition, all appointments currently scheduled with the Probate Court from the date hereof until March 31, 2020, will be cancelled. If at all possible, please consider mailing the appropriate forms and accompanying filing fees, if applicable, and the Court's staff will process these. If it is not possible to handle the cancelled appointments by mail, Court staff will be available by phone and email to answer any questions you may have regarding the rescheduling of same.

The Court will remain open for the receipt of all filings, including without limitation, filings to open estates, Inventories and Appraisals, accountings, filings to close estates, and petitions, motions, etc.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we all navigate through this COVID-19 crisis. Stay healthy!