

The Rutter Group California Practice Guide: Probate

"What's New or Updated" 2025

The 2025 Edition of *Probate* is an up-to-date guide on probate issues under California law. For this edition, authors Bruce S. Ross and Jeryll S. Cohen have added new material and/or updated existing material based on relevant case and statutory developments, including, but not limited to, the following subjects:

- New maximum values for small estate set-aside and disposition of estate or property without full administration
- New Judicial Council forms for use in summary transfer of real property of small value or succession to decedent's primary residence after April 1, 2025
- Revisions to the Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act expanding its application to any fiduciary acting under power of attorney and to conservators as of January 1, 2025
- New burden of proof for omitted child living at time testamentary instruments were executed in order to obtain distribution contrary to terms of those instruments
- Federal estate tax
- Estate representative responsible for payment of estate income tax and may be held personally liable
- Will contests and alternatives
- Elder and dependent adult abuse claims
- Protection of deceased personality's "rights of publicity"

Please refer to the "Update highlights and filing (PDF)" for a more comprehensive summary of the most significant developments in this edition.