

LACKAWANNA JURIST

**JUDICIAL OPINION**

CASE NAME AND NUMBER: Francis v. Xu, et al. - 2026 WL 1067139  
(Lacka. Co. 2026)

DATE OF DECISION: April 16, 2026

JUDGE: Terrence R. Nealon

ATTORNEYS INVOLVED: Patrick J. Doyle, Jr., Esquire, and Kelly M. Ciravolo, Esquire, *Counsel for Plaintiff*  
Robert J. Aldrich, Esquire, and Victoria C. Scanlon, Esquire, *Counsel for Defendant*,  
*Anni Xu, M.D.*  
Candy Barr Heimbach, Esquire, *Counsel for Defendants, Lehigh Valley Physicians Group Pocono Medical Center d/b/a Lehigh Valley Hospital Dickson City, Lehigh Valley Hospital d/b/a Lehigh Valley Hospital Dickson City, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Inc.*

SUMMARY OF OPINION:

The defendant-physician in this malpractice suit filed preliminary objections seeking to dismiss this matter on the grounds that plaintiffs failed to effectuate service of original process upon the physician prior to the expiration of the two-year statute of limitations, and further neglected to make a good faith attempt to promptly accomplish such service on her. To toll the applicable statute of limitations, a plaintiff must make a good faith effort to timely serve initial process on a defendant, and if a plaintiff fails to do so, the civil action is subject to dismissal where either (a) plaintiff has demonstrated an intent to stall the judicial machinery or (b) plaintiff's failure to comply with the service rules has prejudiced the defendant.

The record submitted by the parties reflected that plaintiffs first attempted to serve the physician at the Lackawanna County hospital where she treated the male plaintiff, and upon being advised that the physician no longer was employed there, they promptly investigated and determined the Delaware County location of the physician's residence and the sheriff made "multiple attempts" to serve the physician there prior to the expiration of the limitations period. In addition to expeditiously reinstating the process and renewing efforts to serve the physician at her residence, plaintiffs also initiated and achieved service of original process upon in-house counsel at another hospital in Lycoming County which advertised the physician's affiliation with it. Personal service of process was eventually made upon the physician's adult "friend" at the physician's Delaware County residence,

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despite the physician's failure to contact the sheriff's office in response to a note that the sheriff left at the physician's residence during an earlier service attempt. Finally, after the physician filed the instant preliminary objections which raised plaintiffs' failure to seek a special order authorizing service under Pa.R.Civ.P. 430, plaintiffs requested and secured a court order authorizing such service by publication and seasonably consummated that alternate method of service.

To sustain the physician's preliminary objections and dismiss this action for improper and untimely service of process, it must be clear and free from doubt, even after the record is examined in the light most favorable to plaintiffs, that plaintiffs failed to make a good faith attempt to promptly serve process on the physician. The record reflected that plaintiffs effectuated service of process upon the physician (1) in Lycoming County under Pa.R.Civ.P. 402(a)(2)(iii) "at any usual place of business" of the physician by hand-delivering the reinstated process "to the person for the time being in charge" there, (2) in Delaware County in compliance with Pa.R.Civ.P. 402(a)(2)(i) by service upon "an adult person in charge of [the physician's] residence," and (3) by publication pursuant to Pa.R.Civ.P. 430(a)-(b). The service of process upon the physician resulted from plaintiffs' repeated efforts to diligently and timely serve the physician who did not identify any prejudice that she allegedly suffered due to any delay in serving initial process. Therefore, the physician's preliminary objections asserting improper service of original process were overruled.

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**JUDICIAL OPINION**

CASE NAME AND NUMBER: DEMETRA & DIMITRI, LLC v.  
JOHN GEORGINIS and JAMES  
GEORGINIS, 2023-CV-05431

DATE OF DECISION: MAY 28, 2026

JUDGE: MARK POWELL

ATTORNEYS INVOLVED: Paul J. LaBelle, Esquire  
LaBelle & Associates, LLC  
*Counsel for Paul J. LaBelle*  
Joseph S. Toczydlowski, Esquire  
*Counsel for Plaintiff*  
Brendan N. Fitzgerald, Esquire  
Joyce, Carmody, & Moran, P.C.  
*Counsel for John Georginis*  
James Georginis  
*Pro Se*

SUMMARY OF OPINION:

The record supports the Court’s decision to grant Attorney Paul J. LaBelle and Paul J. LaBelle & Associates, LLC’s leave to withdraw as counsel for Defendant James Georginis in a civil action involving claims for theft by extortion, unjust enrichment, conversion, and breach of contract arising from a dispute with respect to properties located in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Although Appellant argued the Court improperly relied upon his failure to file a response and further asserted he could not afford replacement counsel, the Court concluded the submissions filed by Appellant actually substantiated Counsel’s claims of a complete breakdown in the attorney-client relationship.

The Court explained that withdrawal of counsel is committed to the sound discretion of the trial court and will only be reversed for an abuse of discretion. *See Phoenix Mut. Life Ins. Co. v. Radcliffe on the Delaware, Inc.*, 266 A.2d 698 (Pa. 1970); *Hernandez v. Japort*, 205 A.2d 867 (Pa. 1965). The Opinion further recognized that no bright-line rule governs petitions to withdraw, requiring a case-by-case analysis. *Commonwealth v. Fortune*, 302 A.3d 780, 788 (Pa. Super. 2023). Applying Pa.R.Civ.P. 1012 and Rule 1.16 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct, the Court found Counsel established sufficient grounds for permissive withdrawal based upon Appellant’s failure to pay legal fees, lack of cooperation, excessive and repetitive communications, and irreconcilable

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disagreements concerning representation. The Court relied upon authorities recognizing that nonpayment of fees and the development of an antagonistic attorney-client relationship constitute good cause for withdrawal, including *Gerold v. Vehling*, 89 A.3d 767 (Pa. Cmwlth. 2014), *Commonwealth v. Roman*, 549 A.2d 1320 (Pa. Super. 1988), and *Wolgin v. Smith*, 1996 WL 482943 (E.D. Pa. 1996).

The Court further determined Appellant would not suffer undue prejudice from Counsel's withdrawal because the matter remained in the preliminary stages, no trial date had been scheduled, and substitute counsel could readily become familiar with the case. Counsel had also warned Appellant regarding unpaid fees and advised him to secure replacement counsel as early as July 2024. Although Appellant asserted potential criminal exposure and inability to retain new counsel, the Court found those assertions unsupported by the record, noting the matter was purely civil in nature and that Appellant had recently retained another attorney and tax professional for related matters. Accordingly, the Court concluded continued representation would impose an unreasonable financial and professional burden upon counsel, while withdrawal would neither delay the proceedings nor interfere with the administration of justice.

Judge Mark Powell

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### ESTATE

#### First Notice

**ESTATE OF EUGENE D. BACORN**, late of Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania (died April 24, 2026). Letters Testamentary having been granted, all persons having claims or demands against estate of decedent shall make them known and present them, and all persons indebted to said decedent shall make payment thereof without delay to Margaret Herie, Executor, 100 Smallacombe Drive, Unit 1, Scranton, Pennsylvania 18508 or to Jenna Kraycer Tuzze, of Oliver, Price & Rhodes, LLP, Attorney for the Estate, 1212 South Abington Road, Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania 18411.

**ESTATE OF RUTH CAPORALI**, late of Carbondale, Pennsylvania (died March 22, 2026). Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration on the above Estate have been granted to Erika Tolerico, of Carbondale, PA. All persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make payment and those having claims to present the same without delay to the personal Representative named herein, or to Patrick N. Coleman, Esquire, Tellie & Coleman, P.C., 310 East Drinker Street Dunmore, PA 18512.

**ESTATE OF BARBARA J. CHOFEY**, late of the Borough of Taylor, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, died on August 6, 2025. Letters Testamentary having been granted to Richard Chofey, Jr. Creditors shall make demands and debtors shall make payment without delay to Marjorie DeSanto Barlow, Esq., Attorney for the Estate, Desanto Barlow Law, PC, 327 N. Washington Ave., Ste. 400, Scranton, PA 18503.

**ESTATE OF GAIL A. COSKLO**, late of Fell Township, Pennsylvania (died March 17, 2026). Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Gail Cosklo have been issued to Sandra E. Cosklo and Melanie S. Cosklo Balfour, Executors of the Estate. All those having claims or demands against the Estate or indebtedness owed to the Estate shall present claims or remit payment without delay to the Executors at 2925 State Route 247, Clifford Township, PA 18407 or to Robert T. Kelly, Jr., Myers, Brier & Kelly, LLP, Attorney for the Estate, 425 Biden Street, Suite 200, Scranton, PA 18503.

**ESTATE OF MARTIN J. DWYER a/k/a MARTIN DWYER**, late of Scranton, Pennsylvania (died March 25, 2026). All creditors are requested to present their claims and all persons indebted to the decedent will make payment to Evelyn Fontanella, Executrix; or to John J. Brazil, Jr., attorney for the Estate, 712 Main Street, Suite 1, Moosic, Pennsylvania 18507.

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary have been granted in the **ESTATE OF WILLIAM J. GRIFFIN, JR.**, late of Scott Twp, Lackawanna County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (died April 12, 2026). All persons indebted to the Estate are requested to make payments and all those having claims or demands are to present same, without delay to Brenda Griffin, Executrix of the Estate or Sean P. McGraw, Esquire, Attorney for the Estate, 41 N. Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Carbondale, PA 18407.

**ESTATE OF JOYCE E. HAM A/K/A JOYCE ELLEN HAM A/K/A JOYCE T. HAM A/K/A JOYCE HAM** (died April 14, 2026) formerly of Scott Township, Pennsylvania. All persons indebted to the estate shall make payment and those having claims or demands are to present same without delay to the Executrix, Kimberly Zagorski, or Richard A. Fanucci, Attorney for the Estate, 1711 Main Street, Blakely, PA 18447.

**ESTATE OF RAYMOND J. MAURO, JR.**, late of Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania (died November 26, 2024). Letters in the above Estate having been granted, all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the Decedent shall make them known and present them, and all persons indebted to the said Decedent shall make payment thereof, without delay, to Brian Mauro, Personal Representative, or to Joseph S. Toczydlowski, Jr., Esquire of the Toczydlowski Law Office, 723 N. Main Street, Archbald, PA 18403.

**ESTATE OF LORETTA E. MURRAY a/k/a LORETTA ELIZABETH MURRAY a/k/a LORETTA MURRAY**, Deceased, late of 930 Stafford Ave., Scranton, PA 18505, (Died April 4, 2026). Janet Cusick, Executrix; Dante A. Cancelli, Esquire, Suite 260, 125 North Washington Ave., Scranton, Pennsylvania 18503, Attorney.

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Testamentary have been granted in the **ESTATE OF KUSUMEN R. PATEL**, late of Scranton, Pennsylvania (died February 11, 2025), to Jenis Patel, Executor. All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make payment and those having claims or demands to present the same without delay to the Executor of the Estate and/or his attorney. John P. Rogers, Esquire, 1170 Highway 315, Suite 1, Plains, PA 18702, 570-823-0101.

**ESTATE OF CARL W. SHINER III, ESTATE NO. 35-25-01055**, Deceased, late of Old Forge, Lackawanna County, PA died July 19, 2025. Notice is hereby given that Letters of Testamentary have been granted in the above Estate. All persons indebted to said Estate are required to make payments, and those having claims or demands are to present the same without delay to the Executor Noelle Drozdick, % Attorney James T. Mulligan, 3703 Birney Ave. Moosic, PA 18507.

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**ESTATE OF ALESSANDRO H. TUZZE A/K/A ALEX H. TUZZE A/K/A AL TUZZE**, late of Carbondale, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania (died April 23, 2025). Letters Testamentary having been granted, all persons having claims or demands against estate of decedent shall make them known and present them, and all persons indebted to said decedent shall make payment thereof without delay to Joseph A. Tuzze, Executor, 116 Sunset Avenue, Greenfield Township, Pennsylvania 18407 or to Jenna Krayer Tuzze, of Oliver, Price & Rhodes, LLP Attorney for the Estate, 1212 South Abington Road, Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania 18411.

### Second Notice

**ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER EDWARD AVAKIAN aka CHRISTOPHER AVAKIAN**, late of Gouldsboro, Lackawanna County, PA (April 12, 2026). Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration on the above Estate have been granted to Linda Ann Avakian. All persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make payment and those having claims to present the same without delay to the Administratrix named above or to Timothy B. Fisher II, Esquire, Fisher & Fisher Law Offices, LLC, Attorneys for the Estate, 525 Main Street, PO Box 396, Gouldsboro, PA 18424.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Letters Testamentary have been granted in the **ESTATE OF JOSEPH F. BELEK**, late of Eynon, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania (died April 27, 2026). All persons indebted to the Estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims or demands are to present same, without delay, to Executor, Brock Sultzer, or John J. Lawler, Jr., Attorney for the Estate, 25 North Main Street, Suite Two, Carbondale, Pennsylvania 18497.

**MARY JUDITH COLLERAN**, Deceased. Late of Scranton City, Lackawanna County, PA. D.O.D. 4/3/26. Letters Testamentary on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to Teresa R. Colleran, Executrix, c/o Brittany J. Camp, Esq., 1001 Conshohocken State Rd., #1-300, West Conshohocken, PA 19428. Atty.: Brittany J. Camp, Heckscher Teillon Terrill & Sager, P.C., 1001 Conshohocken State Rd., #1-300, West Conshohocken, PA 19428.

**ESTATE OF MICHAEL A. GORMAN**, late of Scranton, PA, died 3/25/26. Letters Administration granted to Chad M. Rouse. All persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make payments and those having claims to present the same without delay to Admin. or Robert J. Murphy, Esq., 208 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, PA 18512, counsel for the Estate.

Estate of **JOSEPH J. KVAKA, SR.**, late of Soctt Twp, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania (died March 23, 2026). Notice is hereby given that Letters Administration for the Estate have been issued to Luann Hameza, Administrator of the Estate. All those having claims or demands against the Estate or indebtedness owed to the Estate shall present claims or remit payment without delay to the ADMINISTRATOR, or to John J. McGovern, Jr., Attorney for the Estate, 321 Biden Street - Suite 201, Scranton, PA 18503.

Estate of **PATRICK J. MCNALLY SR.**, late of Taylor, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania (died December 13, 2025). Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate have been issued to Patrick Joseph McNally, Jr., Executor of the Estate. All those having claims or demands against the Estate or indebtedness owed to the Estate shall present claims or remit payment without delay to the Executor or to John J. McGovern, Jr., Attorney for the Estate, 321 Biden Street - Suite 201, Scranton, PA 18503.

Estate of **STANLEY L. MUHA**, late of Taylor, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania (Found dead April 9, 2026). Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate have been issued to Tamara Souter, Executrix of the Estate. All those having claims or demands against the Estate or indebtedness owed to the Estate shall present claims or remit payment without delay to the EXECUTRIX, or to John J. McGovern, Jr., Attorney for the Estate, 321 Biden Street - Suite 201, Scranton, PA 18503.

**ESTATE OF EDMUND J. PAOLONI**, late of Olyphant, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania (died April 29, 2026). Letters Testamentary having been granted, all persons having claims or demands against estate of decedent shall make them known and present them, and all persons indebted to said decedent shall make payment thereof without delay to the Executor, Lora Lynn, 122 Northpoint Drive, Olyphant, PA 18447, or to the attorney for the estate, Joseph A. O'Brien of Oliver, Price & Rhodes, LLP, 1212 South Abington Road, Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania 18411.

**ARNOLD LESTER SEIFF A/K/A ABISH SEIFF**, Deceased. Late of Scranton City, Lackawanna County, PA. D.O.D. 3/10/26. Letters of Administration on the above Estate have been granted to the undersigned, who request all persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent to make known the same and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to Leonora Seiff, Administratrix, 710 Clay Ave., Scranton, PA 18510. Atty.: Daniel Baltuch, 104.5 Forrest Ave., #10, Narberth, PA 19072.

**ESTATE OF EDWARD S. SNYDER aka EDWARD SNYDER**, late of Gouldsboro, Lackawanna County, PA (March 30, 2026). Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary on the above Estate have been granted to Edward James Snyder. All persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make payment and those having claims to present the same without delay to the Executor named above or to Timothy B. Fisher II, Esquire, Fisher & Fisher Law Offices LLC, Attorneys for the Estate, 525 Main Street, PO Box 396, Gouldsboro, PA 18424.

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**ESTATE OF PAULINE M. SNYDER aka PAULINE SNYDER**, late of Gouldsboro, Lackawanna County, PA (March 3, 2026). Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary on the above Estate have been granted to Edward James Snyder. All persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make payment and those having claims to present the same without delay to the Executor named above or to Timothy B. Fisher II, Esquire, Fisher & Fisher Law Offices LLC, Attorneys for the Estate, 525 Main Street, PO Box 396, Gouldsboro, PA 18424.

**ESTATE OF MICHAEL SNYDER**, late of the Borough of Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania, (died October 10, 2024.) Letters Testamentary on the above Estate having been granted, all persons having claims and demands against the Estate of the above decedent shall make them known and present them; all of the persons indebted to the said decedent shall make payment thereof without delay to Patrick Snyder, 324 Bedford Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411 or Patrick J. Lavelle, Esquire, 715 North State Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters of Administration have been granted to David Zrybko, Administrator of the **ESTATE OF RUTH ZRYBKO** late of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, date of death September 24, 2024. Creditors are to present claims and debtors are to make payments to Anne Marie Howells, Esquire (Attorney for the Estate), 307 West Market Street, Suite #1, Scranton, PA 18508-2783, (570) 344-1088.

**ESTATE OF MARY ZUCZEK**, late of Olyphant, Pennsylvania (Died: April 10, 2026), Mary Ann Zuczek, Executrix or Albert E. Nicholls, Jr., Attorney for the Estate, 1421 E. Drinker Street, Dunmore, Pennsylvania 18512.

### Third Notice

**ESTATE OF ALI AZIZIAN** late of North Abington, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, 18414 (died October 7, 2024). Letters in the above Estate having been granted, all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the Decedent shall make them known and present them, and all persons indebted to the said Decedent shall make payment thereof, without delay, to Elham Earmankhah a/k/a Elham Nikoufekr, Personal Representative, or to Joseph S. Toczydlowski, Jr., Esquire of the Toczydlowski Law Office, 723 N. Main Street, Archbald, PA 18403.

**ESTATE OF LUCILLE BANICK**, late of Lackawanna County, deceased. Letters Testamentary having been granted, all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims to present them without delay to: Brian Petula, Esq., Executor, 8 Woodlawn Ave., Factoryville, PA 18419.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters of Administration CTA have been granted to Susan Corcoran and Thomas Corcoran Co-Administrators CTA of the **ESTATE OF CATHERINE CORCORAN a/k/a CATHERINE T. CORCORAN** late of Scranton, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, who died on March 11, 2026. All persons indebted to said Estate are required to make payment and those having claims to present the same without delay to the Co-Administrators CTA or to Michael F. Cosgrove, squire of Haggerty Hinton & Cosgrove LLP, 1401 Monroe Avenue, Suite 2, Dunmore, PA 18509.

Letters Testamentary have been granted in the **ESTATE OF ALYCE R. DEANTONA**, to Marc J. DeAntona and Craig C. Mailen, Co-Executors, or to Shrive Law, LLC, Jason A. Shrive, Esquire, 538 Biden Street – Suite 318, Scranton, PA 18503, Attorney. All persons having claims against the Estate are requested to present them in writing and all persons indebted to the Estate are to make payment to it in care of the Attorney noted above.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary have been granted in the **ESTATE OF SHIRLEY DURDAN**, late of Clarks Summit, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, on March 10, 2026. All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make payment and those having claims or demands to present the same without delay to William Durdan, Executor residing at 244 County Road 579, Bloomsbury, New Jersey 08804 or to their attorney Stephanie Anthony, Esq. 81837 at 6392 Overbrook Ave. Philadelphia Pa, 19151.

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary have been granted in the **ESTATE OF HARRY GRANVILLE**, late of Carbondale, Lackawanna County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (died September 19, 2025). All persons indebted to the Estate are requested to make payments and all those having claims or demands are to present the same, without delay to Paul Granville, Administrator of the Estate or Sean P. McGraw, Esquire, Attorney for the Estate, 41 N. Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Carbondale, PA 18407.

**ESTATE OF KATHLEEN MEYERS** late of Carbondale, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, 18407 (died March 22, 2026). Letters in the above Estate having been granted, all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the Decedent shall make them known and present them, and all persons indebted to the said Decedent shall make payment thereof, without delay, to Misty Savage, Personal Representative, or to Joseph S. Toczydlowski, Jr., Esquire of the Toczydlowski Law Office, 723 N. Main Street, Archbald, PA 18403.

**JOAN OCCULTO**, late of Dunmore, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, (died April 2, 2025). Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary have been issued to Bonnie French, Executrix of the Estate. Marianne M. Stivala, Esquire, Cali Law, 103 East Drinker Street, Dunmore, Pennsylvania 18512.

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Letters Testamentary have been granted in the **ESTATE OF JOHN PRONKO JR.**, to John Pronko III, Executor, or to Shrive Law, LLC, Jillian Kochis, Esquire, 538 Biden Street – Suite 318, Scranton, PA 18503, Attorney. All persons having claims against the Estate are requested to present them in writing and all persons indebted to the Estate are to make payment in care of the Attorney noted above.

Letters of Administration on the **ESTATE OF BARRY LEE RIEDER a/k/a BARRY L. RIEDER**, Deceased who died on December 1, 2025, late of the City of Scranton, Pennsylvania having been granted, all persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make payment and those having claims present the same without delay to Barry Rieder c/o: Thomas Patrick Hogan, Esq., Law Office of Thomas A. O'Connor, P.C., 211-A East Main Street, Plymouth, PA 18651.

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration have been granted in the **Estate of RAYMOND SANTAMARIA** late of Moosic, Lackawanna County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (died February 17, 2026). All persons indebted to the Estate are requested to make payments and all those having claims or demands are to present same, without delay to Salvatore SantaMaria, Administratrix of the Estate or Jeremy E. Yzeik, Esquire, Attorney for the Estate, 1133 Main Street, Honesdale, PA 18431.

**ESTATE OF JOSEPH C. SELTOR aka JOSEPH SELTOR**, late of Jefferson Township, Lackawanna County, PA (December 19, 2025). Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration on the above Estate have been granted to Joan M. Walsh. All persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make payment and those having claims to present the same without delay to the Administratrix named above or to Timothy B. Fisher II, Esquire, Fisher & Fisher Law Offices LLC, Attorneys for the Estate, 525 Main Street, PO Box 396, Gouldsboro, PA 18424.

**ESTATE OF REGINA MARIE SORGE**, late of the Borough of Dunmore, Pennsylvania (died April 1, 2026). Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration on the above Estate have been granted to April C. Tabor, of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. All persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make payment and those having claims to present the same without delay to the Personal Representative named herein, or to Patrick N. Coleman, Esquire, Tellie & Coleman, P.C., 310 East Drinker Street, Dunmore, PA 18512.

**MARY F. TYSON**, deceased, late of Scranton, PA (died January 8, 2026). Letters Testamentary having been granted, all persons having claims or demands against the Estate of the Decedent shall make them known and present them, and all persons indebted to the Decedent shall make payment thereof to Paula Kubick, Executrix, or to Raymond W. Ferrario, Attorney for the Estate, Suite 528, Scranton Life Building, 538 Biden Street, Scranton, PA 18503-1816.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary have been granted to Rosemary Urban, Executrix of the **Estate of GERARD P. VASIL** late of Old Forge, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, who died on DECEMBER 10, 2025. All persons indebted to said Estate are required to make payment and those having claims or demands to present the same without delay to the Executrix, c/o Biagio V. Musto, II, Esquire, 171 William Street, Pittston, PA 18640.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary have been granted to Seth C. Wargo in the **ESTATE OF SUZANNE WARGO A/K/A SUZANNE M. WARGO**, late of Scranton, PA (died January 5, 2026). All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and creditors to present their claims without delay to the Executor c/o Ernest A. Sposto Jr., Esq., 108 North Washington Avenue, Suite 401, Scranton, PA 18503, Attorney for the Estate.

**ESTATE OF RICHARD H. WOLF aka RICHARD WOLF**, late of Jefferson Township, Lackawanna County, PA (February 11, 2026). Notice is hereby give that Letters Testamentary have been granted to Joan Walsh. All persons indebted to the said Estate are required to make payment and those having claims to present the same without delay to the Executrix named above or to Timothy B. Fisher II, Esquire, Fisher & Fisher Law Offices LLC, Attorneys for the Estate, 525 Main Street, PO Box 396, Gouldsboro, PA 18424.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary have been granted to Philip H. Woodyatt in the **ESTATE OF AUDREY E. WOODYATT**, late of South Abington Township, PA (died April 13, 2026). All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and creditors to present their claims without delay to the Executor c/o Ernest A. Sposto Jr., Esq., 108 North Washington Avenue, Suite 401, Scranton, PA 18503, Attorney for the Estate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary in the **ESTATE OF BERNADETTE ZACHARDA**, late of Throop Borough, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, who died on February 25, 2026, have been granted to Danielle Landers-Nolan, Executrix. All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make payment and those having claims or demands are requested to present the same without delay to: David E. Schwager, Esquire 183 Market Street Suite 100 Kingston, PA 18704-5444

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**Change of Name**

In the Court of Common Pleas, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, Civil Division: In Re: In the Matter of the Petition of **Kylie Lynn Kilvitis** for Change of Name to **Kylie Lynn Ann Sable**. Notice is hereby given that on April 9, 2026, the Petition for Change of Name was filed in the above Court, requesting an Order to change Petitioner's name to Kylie Lynn Ann Sable. The Court has fixed the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., in Courtroom A, at the Lackawanna County Government Center located at 123 Wyoming Avenue in Scranton, PA 18503 as the time and place for the hearing of said petition for name change, when and where all persons interested may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said Petition should not be granted.

In the Court of Common Pleas, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, Civil Division: In Re: In the Matter of the Petition of **Menynn Thompson** for Change of Name to **Za'Nyah Carter**. Notice is hereby given that on May 13, 2026, the Petition for Change of Name was filed in the above Court, requesting an Order to change Petitioner's name to Za'Nyah Carter. The Court has fixed the 31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., in Courtroom A, at the Lackawanna County Government Center located at 123 Wyoming Avenue in Scranton, PA 18503 as the time and place for the hearing of said petition for name change, when and where all persons interested may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said Petition should not be granted.

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RE: ESTATE OF : IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
: OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY  
VICTOR MANUEL ACEVEDO VERA : PENNSYLVANIA  
: ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION  
DECEASED- DOD: February 10, 2025 : NO.35. 2026-532  
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**NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition for Grant of Letters of Administration has been filed in the Estate of Victor Manuel Acevedo Vera, deceased, late of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, DOD: February 10, 2025. **A hearing on said Petition is scheduled for June 16, 2026, at 9:30 A.M.** before the **Lackawanna County Register of Wills/Orphans' Court, Lackawanna County Government Center, 123 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, Pennsylvania 18503.** Any person wishing to object to the granting of Letters of Administration to Miriam Ramos shall appear at said hearing or file objections according to law.

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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY,  
PENNSYLVANIA

In Re: S N C B  
A minor

:  
:  
: No. A17-2026

NOTICE

TO: JOSE ROSALES

A Petition has been filed asking the Court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, STEYCI NAHOMI CANALES BERTHOTY. The Court has set a hearing to consider ending your parental rights. The hearing on the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights will be held on **July 1, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.**, at **123 Wyoming Avenue, First Floor, Scranton, PA 18503**. You are hereby notified that a hearing on a Petition for Adoption of the above-named child has also been scheduled for **July 29, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.**, at the same location. You are warned that even if you fail to appear at the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the Court without your being present. **IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR AT THIS HEARING, THE COURT MAY DECIDE THAT YOU ARE NOT INTERESTED IN RETAINING YOUR RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD AND YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY AFFECT THE COURT'S DECISION ON WHETHER TO END YOUR RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. YOU ARE FURTHER WARNED THAT EVEN IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT THE SCHEDULED HEARING, THE HEARING WILL GO ON WITHOUT YOU AND YOUR RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD MAY BE ENDED BY THE COURT WITHOUT YOUR BEING PRESENT.**

You have the right to be represented at the hearing by a lawyer. You should take this notice to your lawyer at once. If you do not have a lawyer or cannot afford one, you should contact one of the following offices to find out where you can get legal help:

**Northern Pennsylvania Legal Services**  
33 N. Main Street  
Pittston, PA 18640  
(570) 299-4100

**Lackawanna Bar Association**  
233 Penn Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18503  
(570) 969-9161