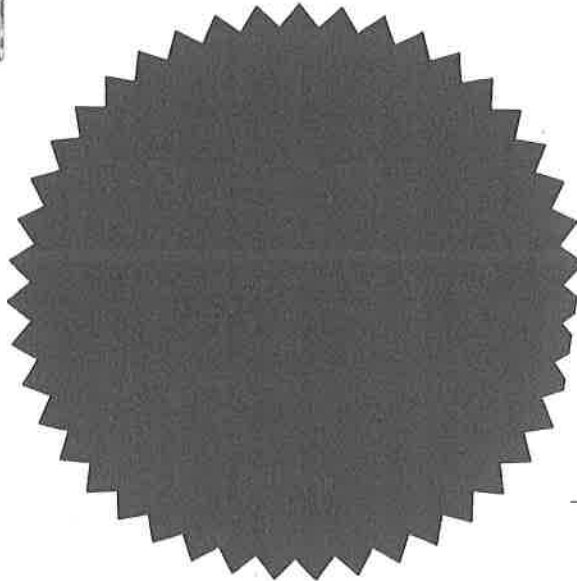


JAMAICA

No. 11 - 2015



I assent,

*P. L. Allen*

*Governor-General.*

*25<sup>th</sup> day of June 2015*

AN ACT to Amend the Administrator-General's Act and certain other Acts to effect reform of the law relating to the administration of estates; and for connected matters.

*[ 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 2015 ]*

BE IT ENACTED by The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Representatives of Jamaica, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Administrator-General's (Amendment) Act, 2015, and shall be read and construed as one with the Administrator-General's Act (hereinafter referred to as the "principal Act") and all amendments thereto.

Short title and construction.

Amendment  
of section 2 of  
principal Act.

2. Section 2 of the principal Act is amended—

- (a) by renumbering the section as subsection (1) of the section;
- (b) in subsection (1), as renumbered, by inserting in the appropriate alphabetical sequence the following definitions—

“grant of representation” in relation to a deceased person, means a grant of probate, letters of administration, or letters of administration with will annexed, or any other representation granted by a court;

“Instrument of Administration” means the Instrument of Administration issued under section 53D(1);

“Instrument of Distribution” means the Instrument of Distribution issued under section 53D(3) in respect of a multi-generational estate;

“mental disorder” means —

- (a) a substantial disorder of thought, perception, memory, or orientation;  
or
- (b) mental retardation, which substantially impairs a person’s behaviour, judgment, capacity to reason, or recognize reality or the person’s ability to meet the demands of life;

“minor” means a person under the age of eighteen years;

“multi-generational estate” shall be construed in accordance with subsection (2);

“primary beneficiary” and “primary estate” shall respectively be construed in accordance with subsection (2);

“succeeding estate”, in relation to a primary estate, means any of the following—

- (a) the estate of a primary beneficiary; and
- (b) any other estate referred to in subsection (2)(c);” and

(c) by inserting next after subsection (1), as renumbered, the following as subsection (2)—

“ (2) A reference in this Act to a multi-generational estate is a reference to a series of estates comprising—

- (a) the estate (referred to as a “primary estate”) in which a grant of representation has been made, of a person who has been dead for a period of not less than twenty-five years or such other period as the Minister may, by order, prescribe;
- (b) the respective estates of the beneficiaries of that primary estate (referred to as “primary beneficiaries”) who have died before the surplus of that primary estate has been distributed, whether or not a grant of representation has been made in respect of any or all of the estates of these primary beneficiaries; and
- (c) the respective estates of all beneficiaries whose claims arise, directly or indirectly,

under or through any primary beneficiary, and who died before the surplus of that primary beneficiary's estate has been distributed, whether or not a grant of representation has been made in respect of any or all of the estates of those beneficiaries,

and there is at least one surviving beneficiary (whether or not including any minors) entitled to take as a beneficiary of the primary estate or any succeeding estate, as the case may be.”.

Insertion of new section 2A in principal Act.

3. The principal Act is amended by inserting next after section 2 the following as section 2A—

“Construction of “letters of administration” to include Instrument of Administration.

2A. Unless the context otherwise requires, a reference in this Act to letters of administration shall be construed as including an Instrument of Administration.”.

Amendment of section 9 of principal Act.

4. Section 9 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “mentioned in the Schedule” wherever they appear and substituting therefor, in each case, the words “imposed, if any, by regulations made under this Act”.

Amendment of section 12 of principal Act.

5. Section 12 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “shall be entitled to, and it shall be his duty to” and substituting therefor the words “shall be entitled to and may”.

Amendment of section 14 of principal Act.

6. Section 14 of the principal Act is amended by—

- (a) renumbering the section, as subsection (1);
- (b) inserting in subsection (1) as renumbered, immediately after the word “Administrator-General” the words “or any Instrument of Administration”; and

- (c) inserting next after subsection (1), as renumbered, the following as subsection (2)—

“ (2) Subject to this Act—

(a) an Instrument of Administration shall be issued by the Administrator-General on the payment—

First  
Schedule.

(i) for administering an estate of the appropriate category specified in column I of the First Schedule, of a stamping fee for the respective documents specified in column II of that Schedule in the respective amounts specified in relation thereto in column III thereof;

(ii) of duties in the amount prescribed and the manner required, in relation to letters of administration with any necessary modification;

(b) an Instrument of Distribution shall be issued by the Administrator-General on the payment for distributing the assets of the relevant primary estate of a stamping fee for the Instrument specified in column II of the First Schedule in the amount specified in relation thereto in column III thereof; and

(c) any fees in respect of proceedings to oppose the issuance or revocation of an Instrument of Administration, an Instrument of Distribution or otherwise in anyway relating thereto, shall be the

same as applies to letters of administration.”.

Amendment  
of section 18  
of principal  
Act.

7. Section 18 of the principal Act is amended by inserting immediately after the words “on taking out letters of administration” the words “or on the administration of any estate under section 53B or distribution of any estate under section 53C”.

Amendment  
of section 23A  
of principal  
Act.

8. Section 23A of the principal Act is amended by deleting—

(a) the marginal note and substituting therefor the following—

“Exercise of  
certain  
powers prior  
to adminis-  
tration.”; and

(b) subsection (2) and substituting therefor the following—

“ (2) Where, in relation to any estate, the Administrator-General—

(a) has the duty to apply for letters of administration; or

(b) is entitled to issue an Instrument of Administration,

the Administrator-General may exercise any of the powers specified in subsection (3) prior to the grant of letters of administration or the issue of the Instrument of Administration, as the case may be, in relation to the estate.”.

Amendment  
of section 23B  
of principal  
Act.

9. Section 23B of the principal Act is amended by deleting paragraph (a) and substituting therefor the following as paragraph (a)—

“(a) the Administrator-General has obtained letters of administration or has issued an Instrument of Administration in relation to an estate;”.

10. Section 24 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the word “infant” and substituting therefor the word “minor”.

Amendment of section 24 of principal Act.

11. Section 25 of the principal Act is amended by deleting—

Amendment of section 25 of principal Act.

(a) the marginal note and substituting therefor the following—

“Power to appoint Administrator-General as committee of a person with a mental disorder.”;

and

(b) the words “any idiot or lunatic”, wherever they appear, and the words “an idiot or lunatic”, respectively, and substituting therefor, in each case, the words “a person with a mental disorder”.

12. Section 27 of the principal Act is repealed and the following substituted therefor—

Repeal and replacement of section 27 of principal Act.

“When not bound to act as guardian or committee.

27. The Administrator-General shall not (except with his own consent) act as the guardian of any minor, or as the committee of the estate and person of any person with a mental disorder, unless—

(a) the minor or person with a mental disorder has property to the amount of not less than fifty thousand dollars or such other amount as the Minister may, by order, prescribe; and

(b) all the property of the minor or person with a mental disorder is vested in the Administrator-General as trustee for that minor or person, or the Administrator-General is invested with the entire administration of the property.”.

Amendment of section 28 of principal Act.

**13.** Section 28 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “infant, idiot, or lunatic” and substituting therefor the words “minor or a person with a mental disorder”.

Amendment of section 44 of principal Act.

**14.** Section 44 of the principal Act is amended by deleting the words “petition” and “petitions” and substituting therefor, respectively, the words “fixed date claim form” and “fixed date claim forms”.

Insertion of new sections 53B, 53C, 53D, 53E, 53F, 53G, 53H, 53I, 53J and 53K in principal Act.

**15.** The principal Act is amended by inserting next after section 53A the following as sections 53B, 53C, 53D, 53E, 53F, 53G, 53H, 53I, 53J and 53K—

“Administration of an intestate estate with minor beneficiaries.

**53B.** Notwithstanding section 12 of the Intestates’ Estates and Property Charges Act, where the Administrator-General is satisfied that there is a minor among the persons having an interest in an intestate’s estate, the Administrator-General may, in accordance with section 53D, and without a grant of representation, administer that estate for the benefit of the persons interested therein and shall otherwise comply with the procedures for the administration of that estate and distribute the property of that estate to the same extent and in the same manner, with necessary modification, as if a grant of representation had been made to him.

Distribution of assets in multi-generational estates.

**53C.—(1)** Where the Administrator-General is satisfied that—

- (a) an estate is part of a multi-generational estate; and
- (b) the Administrator-General, by virtue of the grant of letters of administration, is the duly authorized personal representative of the primary estate of that multi-generational estate,



the Administrator-General may, in accordance with section 53D, proceed to effect the distribution of the assets of that primary estate for the benefit of the surviving beneficiaries (whether or not including minors) entitled to take as beneficiaries of the primary estate or any succeeding estate, as the case may be, and the assets of the primary estate shall be distributed in such manner or held in such trust as may be required by law.

(2) Where a succeeding estate referred to in subsection (1) is without a grant of representation, the Administrator-General is entitled to proceed under subsection (1) as if a grant of representation had been made in respect of that succeeding estate.

Instrument of  
Administration;  
Instrument of  
Distribution.

53D.—(1) Where an estate is to be administered under section 53B—

(a) the Administrator-General shall issue an instrument in writing, to be known as an Instrument of Administration which shall be in the form set out in Part I of the Second Schedule and shall cause notice thereof to be published in the *Gazette*; and

Part I  
Second  
Schedule.

(b) the Instrument of Administration shall be accompanied by the Oath of the Administrator-General which shall be in the form set out in Part II of the Second Schedule.

Part II.

(2) An Instrument of Administration shall have full legal effect in all respects and for all purposes as a grant of representation made to the Administrator-General by the Court.

Part III.

(3) Where the assets of the primary estate of a multi-generational estate are to be distributed under section 53C, the Administrator-General shall issue an instrument in writing, to be known as an Instrument of Distribution, which shall be in the form set out in Part III of the Second Schedule.

(4) The Instrument of Distribution shall authorize the distribution of the assets of a primary estate of a multi-generational estate to surviving beneficiaries, including those entitled to take as beneficiaries of a succeeding estate, whether or not a grant of representation had been made by the Court in respect of any of such succeeding estate.

(5) In connection with the distribution of the assets of a primary estate to the surviving beneficiaries, in accordance with this section, an Instrument of Distribution shall have full legal effect in all respects and for all purposes as if a grant of representation had been made in each succeeding estate.

Filing with  
Supreme  
Court for  
public record.

53E.—(1) Where an Instrument of Administration has been issued, the Administrator-General shall submit to the Registrar of the Supreme Court a duplicate of the Instrument of Administration and the Oath of the Administrator-General within fourteen days of the date of issue of the Instrument of Administration.

(2) Where an Instrument of Distribution has been issued, the Administrator-General shall submit to the Registrar of the Supreme Court a duplicate of the Instrument of Distribution within fourteen days of the date of issue of the Instrument of Distribution.

Notice to the  
Supreme  
Court of  
intention to  
issue  
Instrument  
and effect  
thereof.

53F.—(1) Where the Administrator-General intends to issue an—

- (a) Instrument of Administration; or
- (b) Instrument of Distribution,

he shall give notice of his intention to do so, in writing, to the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

(2) A notice given under subsection (1) shall include, in the case of an estate administered under—

Part I  
Third  
Schedule.  
  
Part II.

- (a) section 53B, the matters specified in Part I of the Third Schedule; or
- (b) section 53C, the matters specified in Part II of the Third Schedule.

(3) Subject to section 53G, the Administrator-General shall not proceed to issue an Instrument of Administration in respect of an estate if the Registrar of the Supreme Court advises the Administrator-General, within thirty days from the date of the notice of intention given under subsection (1)(a) or such other period as the Minister may, by order, prescribe, that a grant of representation by the Court or an application for a grant of representation has been made in respect of that estate.

(4) The Administrator-General may proceed to issue an Instrument of Administration in respect of an estate, where the Registrar of the Supreme Court does not advise the Administrator-General within the time specified in subsection (3) that an application for a grant of representation or a grant of representation by the court has been made in respect of the estate.

(5) The Administrator-General may proceed to issue an Instrument of Distribution thirty days from the date of the notice of intention given under subsection (1), or such other period as the Minister may, by order, prescribe.

Where Administrator-General entitled to proceed to issue Instrument of Administration.

53G. Notwithstanding section 53F(3), the Administrator-General may proceed to issue an Instrument of Administration in respect of an estate where—

- (a) a grant of representation made by the Court is revoked; or
- (b) an application made to the Court for a grant of representation is discontinued.

Notice to public of intention to distribute assets of primary estate.

53H.—(1) Where the Administrator-General issues an Instrument of Distribution in relation to a multi-generational estate, the Administrator-General shall cause to be published a notice—

- (a) advising of his intention to distribute the assets of the primary estate thereof after the expiration of the period (which shall not be less than sixty days) specified in the notice; and
- (b) inviting persons who believe themselves to be beneficiaries of the multi-generational estate, and who have not done so previously, to make themselves known to the Administrator-General,

and the notice shall also include the matters specified in Part III of the Third Schedule.

Part III.  
Third  
Schedule.

(2) The notice referred to in subsection (1) shall be published—

- (a) in a daily newspaper circulated in Jamaica;
- (b) in the *Gazette*; and
- (c) in any other manner or medium as the Administrator-General may determine.

Restriction on distribution of assets.

53I.—(1) The Administrator-General shall not commence the distribution of the assets of a primary estate of a multi-generational estate in respect of which he has issued an Instrument of Distribution until after the expiration of the period specified in the notice issued under section 53H.

(2) Upon being notified of a claim or identifying a claimant in a multi-generational estate, the Administrator-General shall acknowledge to the claimant, in writing, the claim made.

(3) Subsection (1) does not preclude a person making known his claim and submitting documents in support of his claim prior to the publication of the notice.

(4) The Administrator-General shall not be obliged to consider any claim received by him after expiration of the period specified in the notice issued under section 53H.

Distribution with respect to claims of which there is notice.

53J.—(1) Subject to section 53I, the Administrator-General may distribute the assets of the primary estate or any part thereof of a multi-generational estate to which an Instrument of Distribution under section 53D relates, for the benefit of the persons interested therein, having

regard only to the claims, whether formal or not, of which the Administrator-General has notice.

(2) The Administrator-General shall not, as respects a primary estate so distributed, be liable to any person of whose claim the Administrator-General did not have any notice at the time of distribution, whether the distribution is effected by way of conveyance or any other lawful means, or whose claim was received by the Administrator-General after expiry of the period specified in a notice issued under section 53H.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), nothing in this section prejudices the right of any person to follow any real property or personal property that is or was a part of an estate, into the hands of any person who may have received it, other than a *bona fide* purchaser for value without notice.

53K.—(1) The Administrator-General shall keep and maintain, whether in electronic form or other form, a register of Instruments of Administration and Instruments of Distribution issued under this Act.

Administrator-General to keep registers of Instruments of Administration and Instruments of Distribution.

(2) The information contained in the register referred to in subsection (1) shall be *prima facie* evidence thereof in any proceedings.”

Insertion of new section 61 into Principal Act.

**16.** The principal Act is amended by inserting next after section 60 the following as section 61—

“Amendment of First Schedule.

First Schedule.

61.—(1) Subject to subsection (2), the Minister with responsibility for finance may, after consultation with the Administrator-General, by order, amend the fees specified in the First Schedule.

(2) The fees specified in the First Schedule shall not exceed the amount of any fees payable in respect of the Oath of an Administrator or a grant of letters of administration prescribed by the Rules Committee of the Supreme Court established under section 3 of the *Judicature (Rules of Court) Act*.”.

17. The principal Act is amended by repealing the Schedule and substituting therefor the following as the First Schedule, Second Schedule and Third Schedule, respectively—

Repeal of Schedule and insertion of new First, Second and Third Schedules into principal Act.

“ FIRST SCHEDULE (Sections 14 and 61)

*Stamping Fees Payable to the Consolidated Fund  
in respect of Administration of Estate  
under Instrument of Administration*

| Column I  | Column II                             | Column III       |
|---|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Manner of Administration</i>                                       | <i>Document to be stamped</i>         | <i>Fees (\$)</i> |
| 1. Administration of an Estate on Instrument of Administration where— | The Oath of the Administrator-General |                  |
| (a) the net value of the estate does not exceed \$3,000,000.00;       |                                       | 10.50            |
| (b) the net value of then estate exceeds \$3,000,000.00;              |                                       | 2,000.00         |

| Column I   | Column II                        | Column III       |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Manner of Administration</i>  | <i>Document to be stamped</i>    | <i>Fees (\$)</i> |
| 2. Administration of an Estate on Instrument of Administration where—                        | The Instrument of Administration |                  |
| (a) the net value of the estate does not exceed \$3,000,000.00;                              |                                  | 100.00           |
| (b) the net value of the estate does not exceed \$10,000,000.00;                             |                                  | 5,000.00         |
| (c) the net value of the estate exceeds \$10,000,000.00 but does not exceed \$20,000,000.00; |                                  | 10,000.00        |
| (d) the net value of the estate exceeds \$20,000,000.00 but does not exceed \$30,000,000.00; |                                  | 15,000.00        |
| (e) the net value of the estate exceeds \$30,000,000.00 but does not exceed \$40,000,000.00; |                                  | 20,000.00        |
| (f) the net value of the estate exceeds \$40,000,000.00;                                     |                                  | 25,000.00        |



| <u>Column I</u>   | <u>Column II</u>               | <u>Column III</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Manner of Administration</i>   | <i>Document to be stamped</i>  | <i>Fees (\$)</i>  |
| (g) notwithstanding paragraphs (b) to (f), the instrument is limited to settled land. |                                | 5,000.00          |
| 3. Distribution of Assets on Instrument of Distribution                               | The Instrument of Distribution | 100.00            |

## SECOND SCHEDULE

(Section 53D)

## PART I

## THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL'S ACT

(Section 53D)

*Instrument of Administration  
(in an Intestate Estate with Minor Beneficiary)*UNDER THE HAND OF THE  
ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL OF JAMAICA

In the Estate of *(state full name of deceased)*, late of *(state full address of deceased)*, deceased intestate.

BE IT KNOWN that \_\_\_\_\_, deceased  
*(name of deceased)*

\_\_\_\_\_, late of \_\_\_\_\_,  
*(occupation of deceased)* *(last address of deceased)*

died intestate on the \_\_\_\_\_,  
*(insert date)*

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that the Administrator-General is satisfied that there is a minor among the persons having an interest in the estate of the deceased.

AND BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that, pursuant to the Administrator-General's Act and by virtue of this Instrument of Administration, as of the \_\_\_\_\_, administration of all the real and

*(insert date)*

personal property of the estate of the said deceased which by law devolves on and vests in the personal representatives of the said deceased NOW DEVOLVES ON AND VESTS in the Administrator-General for Jamaica, the duly authorized personal representative of the abovenamed deceased.

AND BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that the Administrator-General for Jamaica, in recognition of his responsibilities under the law, hereby undertakes well and faithfully to administer the estate according to law and to render a just and true account of all the real and personal estate of the deceased whenever required by law to so do.

Signed by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator-General for Jamaica

PART II  
THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL'S ACT  
(Section 53D)

*Oath of Administrator-General  
on Issue of Instrument of Administration  
(in an Intestate Estate with Minor Beneficiary)*

In the Estate of (*state full name*), late of (*state full address*), deceased intestate.

I, (*Name of Administrator-General*), the Administrator-General for Jamaica of (*state full address*) [make oath and say] [do solemnly and sincerely affirm], that—

1. (*Full names of deceased*) late of (*state address*) deceased, died intestate on (*state date*) at (*state place of death*) domiciled in Jamaica, a (*state status of deceased, e.g., spinster, widower and, where necessary, account for any class entitled to priority to the applicants, e.g., "without issue" or "without parent"*).

2. The annexed document marked "A" is a certified copy of the death certificate of the deceased.

3. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief there was [no] land vested in the deceased which was settled previously to [his][her] death and not by [his][her] will and which remained settled land notwithstanding [his][her] death.

4. There is [no] minority and [no] life interest in the estate of the deceased.

5. I, by virtue of the functions conferred upon me by the Administrator-General's Act, on issue of an Instrument of Administration, am entitled to act on behalf of the deceased and to the best of my knowledge, information and belief there is no other person entitled in priority to his share in [his][her] estate by virtue of any enactment.

6. The annexed document marked "B" is the will of the deceased. (*Will of the deceased annexed, if applicable.*)

7. I will faithfully administer according to law the real and personal estate effects of the deceased.

8. I will render a just and true account of my administration whenever required by law to so do.

9. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief—

- (a) the gross personal estate of the deceased passing under the Instrument of Administration amounts to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and the net personal estate amounts to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; and
- (b) the deceased did not die possessed of any real estate.

OR

- (c) the gross real estate of the deceased passing under the Instrument of Administration amounts to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; and the net real estate amounts to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ; and
- (d) the gross annual value of the real estate amounts to \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn/Affirmed  
 at \_\_\_\_\_  
 on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_  
 before me—

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Justice of the Peace  
 for the parish of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Administrator-General for Jamaica

PART III  
THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL'S ACT  
(Section 53D)

*Instrument of Distribution (in a Multi-generational Estate)*

UNDER THE HAND OF THE  
ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL OF JAMAICA

In the Estate(s) of:

1. *(state full name of deceased)*, late of *(state full address of deceased)*, deceased intestate (hereinafter referred to as the primary estate);
2. *(state full name of deceased)*, late of *(state full address of deceased)*, deceased, *(state whether testate or intestate)*, being a beneficiary of the primary estate identified at item 1 (hereinafter referred to as the primary beneficiary);
3. *(state full name of deceased)*, late of *(state full address of deceased)*, deceased, *(state whether testate or intestate)*, being a beneficiary of the estate of the primary beneficiary;

*(continue as necessary, identifying all estates comprising the multi-generational estate).*

BE IT KNOWN that the Administrator-General is satisfied that the estate of each of the aforementioned deceased persons is part of a multi-generational estate.

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that \_\_\_\_\_, deceased  
*(name of deceased)*

\_\_\_\_\_, late of \_\_\_\_\_,  
*(occupation of deceased)* *(last address of deceased)*

died intestate on \_\_\_\_\_ and that the  
*(insert date)*

Administrator-General, by virtue of a grant of Letters of Administration in Suit No. \_\_\_\_\_ is the duly authorized personal representative of the deceased and that all the real and personal property of the said deceased has by law devolved on and vested in the Administrator-General for Jamaica.

AND BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that, pursuant to the Administrator-General's Act and by virtue of this Instrument of Distribution, as of \_\_\_\_\_, distribution of all assets of the  
*(insert date)*

said deceased being the assets specified in the Schedule to this Instrument by the Administrator-General to the persons (whether or not including any minors) entitled to take as surviving beneficiaries under the abovementioned multi-generational estate, is hereby authorized; however, in the case of minors, the assets shall be distributed in such manner or held in such trust as may be required by law.

Signed by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator-General for Jamaica

SCHEDULE

*Assets of Primary Estate for Distribution to  
Surviving Beneficiaries*

*[List and describe assets for distribution here]*

THIRD SCHEDULE (Sections 53F and 53H)

*Contents of Notices*

PART I

*Contents of Notice to Supreme Court of Intention  
to Issue Instrument of Administration  
(in an Intestate Estate with Minor Beneficiary)*

A notice to the Registrar of the Supreme Court under section 53F in respect of an estate involving a minor beneficiary shall—

- (a) state the fact of the death of the deceased;
- (b) request that the Registrar of the Supreme Court advise, in writing, within thirty days from the date of the notice of intention or such other period as the Minister may by order prescribe, whether—
  - (i) a grant of representation by the court; or
  - (ii) an application for a grant of representation (but not yet determined by the court),has been made in respect of that estate; and
- (c) include any other matter that the Administrator-General thinks necessary.

## PART II

*Contents of Notice to Supreme Court of Intention  
to Issue Instrument of Distribution*

A notice to the Registrar of the Supreme Court under section 53F in respect of a multi-generational estate shall—

- (a) state the fact of the original grant in the primary estate;
- (b) state that the Administrator-General intends to proceed to administer the primary estate in accordance with the provisions of the Act relating to multi-generational estates and distribute the assets thereof accordingly;
- (c) name the primary estate and any succeeding estates;
- (d) request that the Registrar of the Supreme Court advise, in writing, within thirty days from the date of the notice of intention or such other period as the Minister may by order prescribe, whether—
  - (i) a grant of representation by the court; or
  - (ii) an application for a grant of representation (but not yet determined by the court),has been made in respect of the succeeding estates of that multi-generational estate; and
- (e) include any other matter that the Administrator-General thinks necessary.



PART III

*Contents of Notice of Intention to Distribute Assets of the  
Primary Estate of a Multi-generational Estate*

A notice under section 53H shall—

- (a) identify the multi-generational estate and the relevant deceased persons of the primary estate and the succeeding estates;
- (b) state that an Instrument of Distribution has been issued in respect of that multi-generational estate and that the Administrator-General intends to distribute the assets of the primary estate thereof;
- (c) invite persons who believe themselves to be beneficiaries of the primary estate or any succeeding estate to make themselves known to the Administrator-General;
- (d) require such persons to provide the particulars of their claim in respect of any such estate and to provide documentation in support of their claim;
- (e) state the contact details and address of the office of the Administrator-General;
- (f) specify the time period, which shall not be less than sixty days, within which persons are to make their claims known;
- (g) advise that the Administrator-General is not obliged to consider any claim made after expiry of the period specified under paragraph (f); and
- (h) include any other matter that the Administrator-General thinks necessary.”.

**18.—(1)** The provisions of the enactments specified in the first column of the Schedule are amended in the manner specified respectively in relation to them in the second column of the Schedule.

Amendment  
of enact-  
ments and  
construction.  
Schedule.

**(2)** Each amendment shall be construed as one with the enactment specified in relation thereto.

## SCHEDULE

(Section 18)

*Amendment of Enactments*

| Provision   | Amendment  |
|---|--|
| <i>Intestates' Estates and Property Charges Act</i> |  |
| Section 2   | Delete the section and substitute therefor the following—  |
| “Interpretation                                     | 2.—(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—   |
|   | “child” means a person under eighteen years of age and includes—   |
|   | (a) a child adopted in pursuance of an adoption order made under the Children (Adoption of) Act or a child adopted in pursuance of any law in a country other than Jamaica where that law is recognized by the law of Jamaica as conferring upon the child in question, in relation to the child's custody, maintenance and education, the status of a child of the adopter or adopters; |
|   | (b) a child <i>en ventre sa mere</i> at the death of the intestate;  |

Provision

Amendment

“intestate” includes a person who leaves a will but dies intestate as to some beneficial interest in his real or personal estate;

“issue” includes an adopted child or a child *en ventre sa mere* at the death of the intestate;

“Instrument of Administration” has the meaning assigned to it by the Administrator-General’s Act;

“minor” means a person under the age of eighteen years;

“personal chattels” means furniture and effects—

(a) including, where relevant—

- (i) articles of household or personal use or ornament, plate, plated articles, linen, china, glass, books, pictures, prints, jewellery, musical and scientific instruments and

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apparatus,  
wines,  
liquors and  
consumable  
stores;

(ii) bicycles,  
stables,  
horses and  
domestic  
animals;  
and

(iii) motor  
vehicles  
and  
accessories  
therefor;

(b) but not in-  
cluding—

(i) furniture,  
motor  
vehicles or  
other  
effects,  
used at the  
time of the  
death of the  
intestate  
exclusively  
or princi-  
pally for  
business  
purposes;  
or

(ii) money or  
securities  
for money;

“residuary estate” means  
every beneficial interest

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(including rights of entry and reverter) of the intestate in real and personal estate, after payment of all such funeral and administration expenses, debts and other liabilities as are properly payable there out, which (otherwise than in right of a power of appointment) the intestate could, if of full age and capacity, have disposed of by his will;

“single woman” and “single man” used with reference to the definition of “spouse” include a widow or widower, as the case may be, or a divorcee;

“spouse” includes—

- (a) a single woman who has lived and cohabited with a single man as if she were in law his wife for a period of not less than five years immediately preceding the date of his death; and
- (b) a single man who has lived and cohabited with a single woman as if he were in law her

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husband for a period of not less than five years immediately preceding the date of her death.

(2) For the purposes of this Act where a person who is a single woman or single man may be regarded as a spouse of an intestate then as respects such intestate—

(a) only one such person shall be so regarded; and

(b) to be identified as the surviving spouse, that single man or woman, as the case may be, shall make an application to the Court for an order declaring that person to be the surviving spouse of the intestate.”.

Section 10 Delete from subsection (1) the word “infant” and substitute therefor the word “minor”.

Section 12 Delete section 12 and substitute therefor the following as section 12—

“Administrator- 12. The Administrator-General—  
General to be  
administrator  
of intestates’  
estate not  
exceeding  
fifty thousand  
dollars.  
(a) may apply for letters of  
administration to an  
intestate’s estate or  
where there is a minor  
entitled to a share  
thereof, issue an

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Instrument of Administration, where—

- (i) the residuary estate of the intestate does not exceed fifty thousand dollars; or
  - (ii) a testator does not appoint an executor or the executor has died before the testator or the executor renounces;
- (b) shall be under a duty to issue an Instrument of Administration in respect of an estate where the residuary estate of the intestate exceeds the sum prescribed in paragraph (a) (i) and a minor is entitled to a share thereof,

so, however, that letters of administration shall not be granted to the Administrator-General or where applicable an Instrument of Administration shall not be issued (or if already issued, shall be revoked) where the court is satisfied that letters of

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New section  
13A

Insert next after section 13 the following as section  
13A—

“Disclaimer  
of beneficial  
interest.

administration ought to be  
granted to some other  
person.”.

13A.—(1) Upon receipt of a  
notification from the administrator  
of an intestate's estate, a beneficiary  
may disclaim his interest in the  
residuary estate of the intestate by,  
no later than six months after the  
receipt of the notification from the  
administrator—

- (a) executing a deed of  
disclaimer of his interest  
which shall be in the  
form set out in the  
Schedule and  
recording the deed at  
the Records Office in  
accordance with the  
Records of Deeds, Wills  
and Letters Patent Act;
- (b) delivery of the duly  
recorded deed to the  
administrator; and
- (c) filing a certified copy of  
the duly recorded deed  
of disclaimer with—
  - (i) the Registrar  
of the Supreme  
Court; and
  - (ii) where the  
recorded deed  
concerns a  
beneficial



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interest in  
land, the  
Registrar of  
Titles,

accompanied by a  
receipt in writing or a  
certified copy thereof  
to show proof of  
delivery of the deed to  
the administrator.

(2) The affixing by the  
beneficiary of his signature to the  
deed of disclaimer shall be done in  
the presence of—

- (a) a Justice of the Peace;
- (b) a Notary Public; or
- (c) an Attorney-at-Law.

(3) Notwithstanding sub-  
section (1), a beneficiary who has  
not been notified of his interest in  
the residuary estate of the intestate  
by the administrator may, in  
accordance with subsection (1),  
disclaim the beneficial interest that  
otherwise comes to the  
beneficiary's notice.

(4) On the filing of a deed  
of disclaimer with the Registrar of  
the Supreme Court by the  
beneficiary that interest shall be  
deemed to have failed or be  
incapable of taking effect.

(5) In this section—

“beneficiary” means a person  
who, solely or jointly,  
has an interest in and is  
a person to whom the

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residuary estate of an intestate or any portion thereof may be distributed under this Act;

“certified copy” means a copy certified by a Justice of the Peace, a Notary Public or an Attorney-at-Law or the Deputy Keeper of the Records.”.

New Schedule Insert next after section 14 the following Schedule—

“ SCHEDULE (Section 13A)

THE INTESTATES ESTATES' AND  
PROPERTY CHARGES ACT  
(*section 13A*)

*Deed of Disclaimer*

In the Estate of: \_\_\_\_\_,  
(*name of deceased*)

late of, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(*address of deceased*)

deceased.

To: \_\_\_\_\_,  
(*state full name*)

of \_\_\_\_\_,  
(*state address*)

the sole administrator/  
one of the  
administrators (*select as appropriate*)

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(*name of beneficiary*)

of \_\_\_\_\_,  
(*state address*)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
*(profession/occupation/vocation)*

having had notice that I am a beneficiary in the  
aforementioned intestate estate

I WHOLLY AND ABSOLUTELY DISCLAIM  
AND RENOUNCE ALL MY RIGHT AND TITLE  
TO AND INTEREST IN:

*(State interest in residuary estate disclaimed.  
Disclaimer may be general or limited to a  
specific part of the residuary estate to which the  
beneficiary is entitled.)*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have set my hand and  
seal this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_.

Signed, sealed )  
and delivered )  
by the said:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(print name of beneficiary) (signature of beneficiary)*

In the presence of: )

\_\_\_\_\_, )  
*(print name of Justice of  
the Peace, Attorney-at-  
law or Notary Public  
under line)".*

*The  
Judicature  
(Resident  
Magistrates)  
Act*

Section 113 Delete the word "caveats" wherever it appears and  
substitute therefor, in each case, the word "cautions".

Section 118 Repeal.

| <u>Provision</u>  | <u>Amendment</u>   |
|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Section 123</p> <p><i>The<br/>Judicature<br/>(Supreme<br/>Court) Act</i></p>       | <p>Repeal.</p>   |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Section 55</p>   | <p>Delete the section and substitute therefor the following—</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">“Fees to be paid to Consolidated Fund.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">55. All fees receivable in the Supreme Court under this Act, or under any rules made pursuant to this Act, shall be paid into and shall form part of the Consolidated Fund.”.</p>  |
| <p><i>The<br/>Judicature<br/>(Supreme<br/>Court)<br/>(Additional<br/>Powers of<br/>the Registrar)<br/>Act</i></p> |  |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Section 2</p>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Insert next after the definition of “Chief Justice” the following definition— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“ “Deputy Registrar” means the Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court;”.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Delete the definition of “Registrar” and substitute therefor the following— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Registrar” means the Registrar of the Supreme Court and includes, in respect of the exercise of any jurisdiction conferred by the Chief Justice under section 3(1)(b) of this Act, the Deputy Registrar.”.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> |

| Provision | Amendment   |
|-----------|---|
| Section 3 | <p>Delete subsection (1) and substitute therefor the following—</p> <p>“ (1) The Chief Justice may, by order published in the <i>Gazette</i> as from such date as shall be specified in that order, empower—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) the registrar to exercise jurisdiction in relation to all of the matters specified in the Schedule or in relation to the matters specified in the order;</li><li>(b) a Deputy Registrar to exercise jurisdiction in relation to the matters specified in paragraph 2 of the Schedule or in relation to the matters specified in the order.”.</li></ul> |

*The Limitation of Actions Act*

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Section 8   | Repeal.  |
| New Part IV | <p>Insert next after section 55 the following heading and section as section 56—</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“ PART IV. <i>Limitation of Actions</i><br/><i>(Administration of Estates)</i></p> <p>Actions by Administrator of estate. 56. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act, the calculation of any period of limitation fixed for an action brought by an administrator or executor in respect of an estate shall not include a period of one year, commencing on the date of death of the deceased.”.</p> |

*The Probate of Deeds Act*

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Section 6 | Delete all the words appearing after the words “seal of such Notary Public”. |
|-----------|--|

| Provision                             | Amendment   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <i>The Probates Re-Sealing Act</i>    |   |
| Section 2                             | Delete the definition of “British court in a foreign country”.  |
| Section 3                             | Delete the words “in any part of the Commonwealth, or a British court in a foreign country,”.   |
| <i>The Registration of Titles Act</i> |   |
| Section 152                           | Delete— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the colon and all the words appearing between the words, “or a Notary Public” and the words “such witness” comprising the proviso; and</li> <li>(b) the words “, subject to the proviso hereinbefore contained as to any such instrument or power of attorney witnessed or certified by a Notary Public in any Foreign State or Country”.</li> </ul> |
| <i>The Transfer Tax Act</i>           |   |
| First Schedule                        | Delete from paragraph 17 (1) the words “Before obtaining representation” and substitute therefor the words “On or before ninety days after obtaining representation,”.  |
| <i>The Wills Act</i>                  |   |
| Section 10                            | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Renumber the section as subsection (1) .</li> <li>2. In subsection (1), as renumbered, delete the word “IF” and substitute therefor the words “Subject to subsections (2), (3) and (4), if”.</li> </ol>   |

Provision

Amendment

3. Insert next after subsection (1), as renumbered, the following—

“ (2) Where any beneficial devise, legacy, estate, interest, gift or appointment of or affecting any real or personal estate (other than and except charges and directions for the payment of any debt or debts), is given or made in a will to a person attesting that will, the person attesting the will, or the wife or husband of that person or any person claiming under such person or wife or husband may, notwithstanding subsection (1), make an application to the Supreme Court for an order of that court to authorize the taking effect of the devise, legacy, estate, interest, gift or appointment of or affecting such real or personal estate as if the person attesting the will had not attested the execution of the will.

(3) The court may grant an application made under subsection (2), where it is satisfied that there has been no fraud, improper dealing, duress, undue influence or other unconscionable behavior affecting the claim of the person making the application under subsection (2) and that in the circumstances of the case it would be just and equitable for the court to authorize the taking effect of the devise, legacy, estate, interest, gift or appointment of or affecting any real or personal estate as if the person attesting the will had not attested the execution of the will.

(4) An application under subsection (2) shall be made within six months of the proving of the will.”.

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New section  
20A

Insert next after section 20 the following as section  
20A—

“Disclaimer  
of beneficial  
interest.

20A.—(1) Upon receipt of a notification from an executor or administrator of an estate, a beneficiary may disclaim his beneficial interest by, no later than six months after the receipt of the notification from the executor or an administrator—

- (a) executing a deed of disclaimer of the interest which shall be in the form set out in the Schedule and recording the deed at the Records Office in accordance with the Records of Deeds, Wills and Letters Patent Act;
- (b) delivery of the duly recorded deed to the executor or administrator; and filing a certified copy of the duly recorded deed of disclaimer with the—
  - (i) Registrar of the Supreme Court; and
  - (ii) where the recorded deed concerns a beneficial interest in land,



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Registrar  
of Titles,

accompanied by a receipt in writing or a certified copy thereof to show proof of delivery of the deed to the executor or administrator.

(2) The affixing by the beneficiary of his signature to the deed of disclaimer shall be done in the presence of—

- (a) a Justice of the Peace;
- (b) a Notary Public; or
- (c) an Attorney-at-Law.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a beneficiary who has not been notified of a beneficial interest by the executor or administrator may, in accordance with subsection (1), disclaim the beneficial interest that otherwise comes to the beneficiary's notice.

(4) On the filing of a deed of disclaimer with the Registrar of the Supreme Court by the beneficiary the beneficial interest shall be deemed to have failed or be incapable of taking effect and shall be included in the residuary estate (if any) contained in the will.

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(5) In this section—

“beneficial interest” means any beneficial devise, legacy, estate, interest, gift or appointment affecting any real or personal estate (other than and except charges and directions for the payment of any debt or debts) given or made under a will;

“beneficiary” means a person who is solely or jointly entitled to a beneficial interest;

“certified copy” means a copy certified by a Justice of the Peace, a Notary Public, an Attorney-at-Law or the Deputy Keeper of the Records.”.

New Schedule Insert next after section 29 the following Schedule—

“ SCHEDULE (Section 20A)

THE WILLSACT  
(section 20A)

*Deed of Disclaimer*

In the Estate of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of testator)

late of, \_\_\_\_\_  
(address of testator)

deceased.

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
(state full name)

of \_\_\_\_\_  
(state address)

the sole executor/sole administrator/  
one of the executors/one of the  
administrators (*select as appropriate*)  
of the aforementioned estate.

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
*(name of beneficiary)*

of \_\_\_\_\_,  
*(address)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(profession/occupation/vocation)*

having had notice that I am named as a beneficiary  
in the aforementioned estate and that the testator  
has given or made a beneficial devise, legacy,  
estate, interest, gift or appointment affecting any  
real or personal estate (other than and except  
charges and directions for the payment of any  
debt or debts) under his/her will to me, I WHOLLY  
AND ABSOLUTELY DISCLAIM AND  
RENOUNCE ALL MY RIGHT AND TITLE TO  
AND INTEREST IN:

(State beneficial interest disclaimed. Disclaimer  
may be general or specific to a particular gift or  
devise, for example—

*all beneficial devise, legacy, estate,  
interest, gift or appointment of or affecting  
any real or personal estate given or made  
to me by the testator's will;*

*or the gift or devise given or made to me  
under the testator's will in respect of:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(state specific gift or devise disclaimed)*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have set my hand and  
seal this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_.

Signed, sealed )  
and delivered )  
by the said:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(print name of beneficiary) (signature of beneficiary)*

In the presence of: )

\_\_\_\_\_)  
*(print name of Justice of  
the Peace, Attorney-at-  
law or Notary Public  
under line)."*

Passed in the Senate this 10th day of April 2015 with two amendments.

FLOYD E. MORRIS  
*President.*

Passed in the House of Representatives this 26th day of May 2015.

MICHAEL A. PEART  
*Speaker.*

*This printed impression has been carefully  
compared by me with the authenticated  
impression of the foregoing Act, and has been  
found by me to be a true and correct printed  
copy of the said Act.*

*(sgd.) H. E. Cooke*  
*Clerk to the Houses of Parliament.*