



ABOUT THE REGISTER OF WILLS

The Register of Wills is a quasi-judicial officer who presides over civil matters relating to will contests, such as matters involving testamentary capacity, undue influence, and fraud. Petitions involving copies of wills, revocation of wills, citation to show cause, and more go to the Register for review and decision. When disputes arise at the time of probate, the Register is empowered to issue subpoenas, hold an evidentiary hearing, take testimony, review evidence, and render a decision on the issue presented by written order or decree. The Pennsylvania Rules of Evidence apply in all evidentiary hearings before the Register. The parties have a right to appeal the Register's decision to the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas. The Register also serves as the Clerk of the Orphans' Court and issues all marriage licenses for Delaware County.