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Shelby Cnty Judge of Probate, AL  
01/10/2023 10:58:25 AM FILED/CERT

**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE**

**SANDRA K. NORRISS,**

an incapacitated person in need of protection, now deceased.)

**CASE NO. PR-2021-000847**

**ORDER ON FINAL SETTLEMENT OF CONSERVATORSHIP**

This cause came before the Court on November 1, 2022 on the Petition for Final Settlement filed by C. Burton Dunn, as Guardian and Conservator for Sandra K. Norriss; on the Motion To Assess Costs and Attorney's Fees To the Estate of Sandra Norris and the Motion to Invalidate Alleged Marriage filed by Annette O'Hara, sister of Sandra K. Norriss, by and through Ross Kinder, Esq. and Wayne Jones, Esq., her attorneys of record; and on the Objection To Motion To Assess Costs and Attorney's Fees To The Estate Of Sandra Norris and the Response To Motion To Invalidate Alleged Marriage And Objection To Fees By Annette O'Hara filed by Garry T. Hall, by and through William A. Ratliff, Esq., his attorney of record. Notice of the hearing was given as required by law. Present in open court for the hearing were: C. Burton Dunn, Esq.; Annette O'Hara, along with Ross Kinder, Esq. and Wayne Jones, Esq.; Garry Hall, along with William A. Ratliff, Esq., his attorney of record; WM. Randall May, Esq., court appointed administrator ad litem for the estate of Sandra K. Norriss. The case was called and the court proceeded to consider the filings, schedules and vouchers as well as the arguments of counsel.

It appears that C. Burton Dunn, as Conservator, is chargeable in this matter with receipts totaling \$682.56 and distributions in the amount of \$279.07, leaving a cash balance on hand of \$403.49. The only other asset of the conservatorship is real property located at 143 Twin Oaks Lane, Vincent, Alabama 35178<sup>1</sup>, with a tax assessed value of \$100,930.00 as of 2021.

The following fees are awarded and due to be paid:

Court Costs (outstanding and current balance) – court costs are inclusive of a guardian ad litem fee to WM Randall May, Esq. in the amount of \$5,451.25 and a court representative fee to Jamie Real, Esq. in the amount of \$5,110.00)	\$11,130.25
Conservator Fee to C. Burton Dunn (100 hours at standard hourly court appointed rate of \$175.00, the guardian/conservator estimated his time to be over 100 hours)	\$17,500.00
Attorney Fee and Expense Reimbursement to Wayne M. Jones, Esq. – expenses and fees related to the filing of the initial petition for guardianship	\$2,577.50

All other claims for attorney's fees and expenses against the estate of Sandra Norriss are due to be and hereby

<sup>1</sup> On August 6, 2021 and again on August 10, 2021, Ms. Norriss executed a Power of Attorney naming Annette O'Hara as her attorney in fact. On August 31, 2021, Ms. Norriss executed a Deed transferring the property to Annette and James O'Hara for the sum of Forty-Six Thousand Dollars (of which Ms. Norriss had received Six Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars by May 26, 2022). Upon appointment as Conservator, Mr. Dunn filed a Complaint Including Petition To Marshal Assets on May 26, 2022, whereupon Annette and James O'Hara executed a Deed transferring the property back to Ms. Norriss on July 6, 2022.

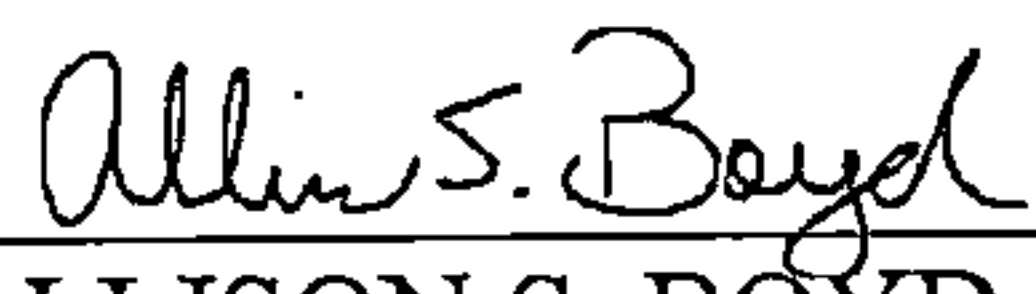


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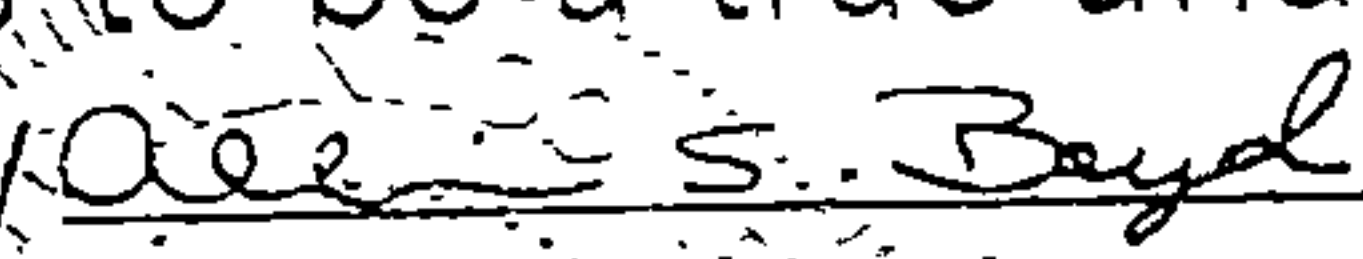
are **DENIED** as they are not for services that directly resulted in a protective order or in an order that was beneficial to the protected person's estate. This Court has not previously entered an Order on the issue of whether a common law marriage existed, as there was an agreement by the parties for the appointment of an independent third party to serve as both Guardian and Conservator. The issues of whether a common law marriage existed between Sandra Norriss and Garry T. Hall and whether the marriage of July 14, 2022 are not properly before this Court as a part of this action, all pending motions related to the validity of the marriage or the issue of whether a common law marriage exists are therefore due to be and hereby are **DISMISSED**.

Costs and fees awarded herein are taxed to the estate of Sandra Norriss, for which let execution issue. The Conservator shall apply the balance on hand to the fee awarded and owed to him in this matter. The Conservator and his surety are discharged from further duty or obligation to this Court.

**DONE and ORDERED** this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2022.

  
ALLISON S. BOYD  
JUDGE OF PROBATE

cc: C. Burton Dunn, Esq.  
William A. Ratliff, Esq.  
Wayne M. Jones, Esq.  
Ross Kinder, Esq.  
WM. Randall May, Esq.  
Jamie Real, Esq.

I certify this to be a true and correct copy 

Date 1/10/23 Probate Judge  
Shelby County

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