## The Probate Timeline\*

| DURATION    | STEP  |
|-------------|---|
| 1-2 months  | Prepare and File Petition for Probate   |
| 2-3 months  | Court hearing on the Petition for Probate   |
| 2-4 months  |   |
| (if not     | The following are issued: Letters of Administration, Orders for Probate, Duties and |
| contested)  | Liabilities, Issue Bond (if ordered), & **Letters Testamentary **                   |
| 2-4 months  | Notice to Creditors   |
| 4-8 months  | Notice to Department of Health Services Inventory & Appraisement                    |
| 6-12 months | Pay State and Federal Taxes (if necessary)  |
|             | Allow or Reject Creditor Claims   |
|             | Possible Preliminary Distributions  |
|             | Notice to Department of Health Services (if deceased received medical)              |
|             | Notice to Franchise Tax Board (if heir is out of state)                             |
| 6-15 months | Claim of Exemption (if assets transfer to a minor)                                  |
| 6-18 months | Receive Final Tax Letter from State and Federal (if appropriate)                    |
| 8-16 months | File Petition for Final Distribution and Accounting                                 |
|             | Hearing on Petition for final Distribution and Accounting                           |
|             | Order Approving Final Distribution and Accounting                                   |
| 9-17 months | Distribution of Assets to Heirs   |
| 9-18 months | Final Discharge Order (indicates close of probate case)                             |
| 9-18 months | Final Distribution of Funds   |

<sup>\*</sup> This information is based on a National Average