

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

OP 25-0248

IN RE ESTATE OF RICHARD BRUCE NEAL,
SR., a/k/a RICHARD B. NEAL, SR., RICHARD
NEAL SR., RICHARD B. NEAL, and/or
RICHARD NEAL:

DONALD NEAL,

Petitioner,

O R D E R

v.

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,
CASCADE COUNTY, STANDING MASTER
CHARLOTTE BEATTY, Presiding,

Respondent.

Petitioner Donald Neal, via counsel, seeks a writ of supervisory control over the Eighth Judicial District Court, Cascade County, Cause No. DP-23-281, in which Petitioner filed a petition for formal probate and appointment as personal representative of the Estate of Richard Bruce Neal. Petitioner asks this Court to vacate the Standing Master's January 28, 2025 Order on Motion for Clarification requiring that Petitioner undertake additional efforts to contact purported heirs of the Estate. Petitioner maintains he complied with the statutory notice requirements and alleges the order erroneously imposes expensive, time-consuming methods of notification beyond those required by statute, impeding the opening and administration of the Estate.

Having reviewed the Petition and the challenged order, we deem it appropriate to obtain a summary response. In accordance with M. R. App. P. 14(7),

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Eighth Judicial District Court, the Honorable John Kutzman and Standing Master Charlotte Beatty, or both, are granted 30 days from the

date of this Order to prepare, file, and serve responses to the petition for writ of supervisory control.

The Clerk is directed to provide immediate notice of this Order to counsel for Petitioner, all parties in the Eighth Judicial District Court, Cascade County, Cause No. DP-23-281, Standing Master Charlotte Beatty, and the Honorable John Kutzman, presiding.

Electronically signed by:
James Jeremiah Shea
Justice, Montana Supreme Court
April 14 2025