

## PSA: Estate of Scott Schaut

There have been many inquiries into the estate of Scott Schaut. This is a general address for transparency and to keep the public equally informed. Anyone that has called or come to the court with concerns regarding this estate, the response remains the same as we cannot give legal advice but we can give legal information.

The only case specific information that can be provided is if anyone is looking for items that were believed to be in the possession of Scott Schaut at the time of his death, it is recommended to contact the Soldiers and Sailors Museum or your own counsel *immediately*. A representative from the museum was granted access by the Court to all of the items and could aid in locating where an item may be. You may also contact attorney Cassandra Mayer, counsel of record hired for the estate, or you may consult with your own legal counsel.

The ONLY items that the Probate Court has authority over are items that are included in the inventory. Those are the ONLY items that are presumed to be estate assets. *If an item in question appears on any inventory, then legal advice should be sought immediately.*

Items that are NOT on any inventory filing, are NOT the jurisdiction of the Probate Court and the court does not have any authority to make any determinations on any of those items.

The court can only make decisions when proceedings are brought properly before the court. It cannot conduct its own investigations.

If you attend any hearing in the probate court where attorneys are involved, the attorneys are always given time to discuss case details prior to the proceeding and not in the presence of any party. Neither the Judge or Magistrate are in the courtroom at this time and those attorney discussions are held off the record.

Please understand that the Judge cannot speak with any individual directly regarding this or any other cases when there are other parties involved. She has ethical duties and obligations that she must follow in order to abide by the law.

You are welcome to follow the case by searching by name (Schaut, Scott) or by case number (20231351) on our online docket at [probate.richlandcountyoh.gov](http://probate.richlandcountyoh.gov). If you have any other questions, you may also contact the Court Administrator directly at (419) 774-5585 or [jpatton@richlandcountyoh.gov](mailto:jpatton@richlandcountyoh.gov).