



# When a Family Loses Someone, We Know What's Next.

Probate: Contested & Non-Contested - Estate Administration - Heirship Determinations

SILVAS LAW

## WHAT TO DO IN THE FIRST 72 HOURS

### A Checklist for Families

- 1) Order 10+ certified death certificates**  
Banks, insurers, SSA, and the county offices each need one. The funeral home can usually order them.
- 2) Secure the home & important property**  
Lock up the residence, collect mail, and move valuables and vehicles to a safe place.
- 3) Notify close family first - not the bank**  
There's no rush on the institutions. Relationships matter first.
- 4) Pause before making big decisions**  
Do not sell the house, close accounts, or distribute money yet - even with family pressure. Acting too early can cause personal liability.
- 5) Locate the will & key documents**  
Safe deposit box, desk drawer, attorney's office. Look for deeds, policies, recent tax returns, and military discharge papers (DD-214).
- 6) Call Silvas Law for a free probate consultation**  
One conversation is often enough to know whether probate is needed and what the next steps are.

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU CALL US?

- Same-day response during business hours
- Free first consultation - no obligation
- Direct attorney conversation
- Honest answer on whether probate is required
- Clear plan, costs, and timeline before any work starts
- Regular updates so you can stay informed on your case



### ABOUT SILVAS LAW

Based in Grapevine, Silvas Law serves families throughout the greater DFW area. We offer probate, estate planning, elder law, and business planning under one roof. We give families one trusted firm for legal work - before, and especially after, a loss.

## WHAT WE HANDLE

- Probate **with a will** — guiding the process start to finish
- Probate **without a will** — intestate estates & heirship determinations
- **Contested probate** — one of few Texas firms offering both contested & non-contested matters
- Transferring or selling real estate after a loss
- Resolving title issues & clearing old paperwork
- Filing small-estate affidavits and alternatives
- Mediating family disagreements before they escalate

## What to do next 3 easy steps



- 1 Review the 72-hour checklist on the front of this guide.
- 2 Call or scan the QR code to make a free probate consultation appointment with Amber.
- 3 Have peace of mind - we handle the legal side so your family can focus on healing.



## MEET THE ATTORNEY

**Amber Cohoon**

**HEAD OF PROBATE**

Amber leads Silvas Law's new Probate Division and personally walks families through estate administration after the loss of a loved one. Amber is known for combining warmth with disciplined legal execution, so families always know what's happening and what comes next.

## CLIENTS DESCRIBE AMBER AS

Calm under pressure

Easy to Reach

Solution-focused

Honest & Direct

Provides plain-language guidance

## CREDENTIALS & BACKGROUND

- 10+ years legal experience across probate, estate planning, real estate & business law
- J.D., Texas A&M University School of Law
- B.A. Communication Studies, UT Austin
- Certified Advanced Mediator (2024)
- Former attorney, U.S. Small Business Administration
- Host of the ProBono Podcast

## Why Silvas Law is Different

Most firms handle either contested or non-contested probate. Silvas Law handles both - so even the most complicated estate disputes stay with us, start to finish.

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