

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF DEKALB COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

RE: ESTATE OF)
)
JANE BROWN,) **ESTATE NO. 2015-0001**
DECEASED.)

STATE OF GEORGIA) **ss:**
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY)

AFFIDAVIT OF HEIRSHIP, DESCENT, AND DUE DILIGENCE

Yvonne Mashburn Schmidt, CG[®], being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am a self-employed genealogist with The Georgia Genealogist, Inc. located at 1639 Fairway Drive, Vidalia, Montgomery County, Georgia, 30474. I hold the Certified Genealogist[®] credential, Certificate no. 1073, first awarded 27 May 2021, expiring 27 May 2026, with renewal pending.
2. I specialize in Georgia research and Forensic Genealogy for clients, legal professionals, government agencies, counties, municipalities, etc. I am a contract genealogist with the U.S. Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, U.S. Army in Ft. Knox, Kentucky. Additional credentials are more fully set forth in my resume, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and made a part of this affidavit.

3. On 21 November 2025, I was retained by Jane Smith, Administrator of the Estate of Jane Brown (Decedent), in DeKalb County, Georgia, to conduct genealogical research to identify and locate all potential heirs at law of the estate. I was retained on an hourly fee plus cost basis.
4. I am a disinterested third party who is not related to any of the individuals named in this report and have no interest in the outcome of this case.
5. Personal knowledge regarding the Decedent and her family was provided to me by the Administrator of the Estate, Jane Smith. Ms. Smith also provided copies of pertinent certified vital records and a copy of the probate record of Jarvis R. Brown.
6. A family tree based upon the genealogical research is marked **Exhibit B** and made a part hereof.
7. Upon oath and to the best of my knowledge and belief the foregoing statements are true and correct.
8. I have reviewed or caused to be reviewed U.S. census records, online genealogical databases, birth, marriage, divorce, death records, and indexes, social security indexes, probate records, court records, military records, newspaper archives, obituaries, property records, cemetery records, online family trees, and miscellaneous sources.
9. I have knowledge of the facts and matters hereinafter stated based on the research conducted.
10. The genealogical research in this Affidavit meets the Genealogical Proof Standard as set forth by the Board for Certification of Genealogists®.¹

¹ Board for Certification of Genealogists, Genealogy Standards, fiftieth-anniversary edition (Nashville, TN: Ancestry, 2014).

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Decedent Jane Brown died intestate on 18 October 2020 in DeKalb County, Georgia. The Decedent was never married and died without issue.

Both Decedent's parents, Dilmus Jarvis Rufus Brown and Hazel Evelyn Wesson, predeceased her. The Decedent was also predeceased by her half-sister, Gertrude Elizabeth Crowe née Brown, who was the daughter of Jarvis Brown and his first wife, Gertrude L. Brown née Whitfield. Wanda Elizabeth Crowe, the daughter of Gertrude Elizabeth Crowe, also predeceased the Decedent without issue.

Gertrude Elizabeth Crowe had one surviving son, John Crowe.

Based on the records reviewed and the family relationships documented in this report, John Crowe appears to be the nearest surviving descendant in the family line identified by this research. Any legal determination of heirship under Georgia law should be made by counsel and/or the probate court.

This affidavit summarizes the genealogical research conducted, identifies the records reviewed, and attaches certified vital records and documentation of diligent search efforts. *Based on the records reviewed, the following family relationships were identified and located using the attached Exhibit documents. No legal advice or legal conclusions regarding heirship or estate distribution were provided to family members.*

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

GENERATION 1

1. **DILMUS JARVIS RUFUS BROWN** was born 2 December 1889, in Gwinnett County, Georgia,² (**Exhibit C**) and died 29 July 1982, in DeKalb County, Georgia (**Exhibit D**).³

a. **First Marriage: GERTRUDE L. WHITFIELD** on 5 December 1923, in Fulton County, Georgia, (**Exhibit F**).⁴ Gertrude L. Whitfield was born 10 October 1908, in Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia, and died 31 July 1971, in Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia.⁵

(**Exhibit E**). Their marriage was dissolved by divorce 24 Jan 1927, in Fulton County, Georgia⁶ (**Exhibit G**).

b. **Second Marriage:** Dilmus Jarvis Brown married **HAZEL EVELYN WESSON** on 16 August 1930, in Fulton County, Georgia,⁷ (**Exhibit H**).

² Gwinnett County, Georgia, "Delayed Certificate of Birth," Jarvis R. Brown, 2 December 1889, No. 214143; citing Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta (**Exhibit C**).

³ DeKalb County, Georgia, "Certificate of Death," Jarvis R. Brown, 29 July 1982, Certificate No. 10646; citing Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta (**Exhibit D**).

⁴ Fulton County, Georgia, Marriage License, no. 1228, Jarvis R. Brown and Miss Gertrude Whitfield, 5 December 1923; Superior Court, Atlanta (**Exhibit F**).

⁵ Fulton County, Georgia, Certificate of Death and Exemplification Letter, Gertrude Lenora Brown, 10 October 1908-31 July 1971, certificate no. 022393; Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta (**Exhibit E**).

⁶ Fulton County, Georgia, Final Divorce Decree, Jarvis R. Brown vs Gertrude Brown, Book K3, no. 67132, 24 January 1927, Minutes 112, pg. 480, including Complaint, Motions, and Contempt filing, no. 75060, filed 16 Dec. 1927, Superior Court, Atlanta (**Exhibit G**).

⁷ Fulton County, Georgia, "Application for Marriage License" and Marriage License No. 15029, Jarvis R. Brown and Hazel Evelyn Wesson, 16 August 1930; Probate Court, Atlanta (**Exhibit H**).

Hazel Evelyn Wesson was born 9 September 1906, in Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia (**Exhibit J**),⁸ and died 19 February 2000, in DeKalb County, Georgia.⁹ (**Exhibit L**)

c. Children:

Dilmus Jarvis Rufus Brown and Gertrude L. Whitfield had the following issue:

- i. **GERTRUDE ELIZABETH BROWN.**¹⁰

Dilmus Jarvis Rufus Brown and Hazel Evelyn Wesson had the following child:

- ii. **JANE BROWN (DECEDENT)**¹¹

Jane Brown was born 23 November 1933, in DeKalb County, Georgia,¹² and died 18 October 2020, in DeKalb County, Georgia.¹³ Betty never married and died without issue¹⁴ (**Exhibit O**).

⁸ Fulton County, Georgia, “Delayed Certificate of Birth,” Hazel Evelyn Wesson, 9 September 1906, No. 213423; Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta (**Exhibit J**).

⁹ DeKalb County, Georgia, “Certificate of Death,” Hazel Evelyn Brown, 19 February 2000, File no. 00720; Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta (**Exhibit L**).

¹⁰ DeKalb County, Georgia, “Petition for Year’s Support,” Estate of Jarvis Rufus Brown, 4 November 1982; Probate Court, Decatur (**Exhibit K**).

¹¹ DeKalb County, Georgia, “Certificate of Birth,” Jane Brown, 23 November 1933, No. 827; Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta (**Exhibit M**).

¹² Ibid.

¹³ DeKalb County, Georgia, “Certificate of Death,” Jane Brown, 18 October 2020, No. 2020GA000079571; Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta (**Exhibit N**).

¹⁴ DeKalb County, Georgia, Affidavit of Personal Knowledge, Jane Smith, 23 January 2026, Jane Brown, Decedent, Case No. 2021-2214; affirming marital status and descendants Decedent; XYZ Law, PC, Joyful, Haralson County, Georgia, (**Exhibit O**).

Gertrude Elizabeth Brown reportedly had another unnamed illegitimate child who was not the biological child of Jarvis¹⁵ (**Exhibit G**).

No evidence found indicates the couple had any additional or adopted children.

Hereby incorporated into and made a part of this Affidavit are:

- Exhibit C** Delayed Certificate of Birth and Affidavit, Jarvis R. Brown
- Exhibit D** Certificate of Death, Jarvis Rufus Brown
- Exhibit E** Certificate of Death and Exemplification Letter, Gertrude Lenora Brown
- Exhibit F** Marriage License, Jarvis R. Brown and Gertrude Whitfield
- Exhibit G** Divorce Complaint, Motions, Final Decree, and Contempt filings, Jarvis R. Brown vs Gertrude Brown
- Exhibit H** Marriage License, Jarvis R. Brown and Hazel Evelyn Wesson
- Exhibit I** Certificate of Death and Exemplification Letter, Gertrude Elizabeth Crowe
- Exhibit J** Delayed Certificate of Birth, Hazel Evelyn Wesson
- Exhibit K** Petition for Year's Support, Hazel Wesson Brown
- Exhibit L** Certificate of Death, Hazel Evelyn Brown
- Exhibit M** Certificate of Birth, Jane Brown
- Exhibit N** Certificate of Death, Jane Brown
- Exhibit O** Affidavit of Personal Knowledge, Jane Smith, Administrator of the Estate

¹⁵ Fulton County, Georgia, Final Divorce Decree, Jarvis R. Brown vs Gertrude Brown, Book K3, no. 67132, 24 January 1927, Minutes 112, pg. 480, including Complaint, Motions, and Contempt filing, no. 75060, filed 16 Dec. 1927, Superior Court, Atlanta (**Exhibit G**).

GENERATION 2

2. **GERTRUDE ELIZABETH BROWN** was born 28 November 1924, in Fulton County, Georgia, and died 19 May 2003, in Villa Rica, Carroll County, Georgia,¹⁶ (**Exhibit I**). Gertrude Elizabeth Brown married **JAMES H. “BO” CROWE**¹⁷ (**Exhibit P**).

d. **Children:**

Gertrude Elizabeth Brown and James H. “Bo” Crowe had the following issue:

- i. **JOHN CROWE (1/2 NEPHEW OF THE DECEDENT AND HEIR AT LAW)**
- ii. **WANDA ELIZABETH CROWE, (DECEASED ½ NIECE OF THE DECEDENT)**¹⁸

No evidence found indicates the couple had any additional or adopted children.

Hereby incorporated into and made a part of this Affidavit are:

Exhibit P Affidavit and Acknowledgment of John Crowe

Exhibit Q Communications Log for John Crowe

¹⁶ Cobb County, GA., Certificate of Death and Exemplification Letter, state fileno.024963,local file no. 001310, Gertrude Elizabeth Crowe, 28 Nov. 1924-19 May 2003; citing Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

¹⁷ Haralson County, Ga, Affidavit and Acknowledgment of Service of John Crowe, sworn to and subscribed 20 February 2026, 142 Villa Court, Maryville, Blount County, Tennessee, 37780; affirming relationship to Decedent, parentage, and date of birth (**Exhibit P**).

¹⁸ Ibid.

INDEX OF EXHIBITS

1. Exhibit A Resume, Yvonne Mashburn Schmidt, CG[®]
2. Exhibit B Decedent's Family Tree with Relationship and Lineage of Heir at Law.
3. Exhibit C Delayed Certificate of Birth and Affidavit, Jarvis R. Brown
4. Exhibit D Certificate of Death, Jarvis Rufus Brown
5. Exhibit E Certificate of Death and Exemplification Letter, Gertrude Lenora Brown
6. Exhibit F Marriage License, Jarvis R. Brown and Gertrude Whitfield
7. Exhibit G Divorce Complaint, Motions, Final Decree, and Contempt filings, Jarvis R. Brown vs Gertrude Brown
8. Exhibit H Marriage License, Jarvis R. Brown and Hazel Evelyn Wesson
9. Exhibit I Certificate of Death and Exemplification Letter, Gertrude Elizabeth Crowe
10. Exhibit J Delayed Certificate of Birth, Hazel Evelyn Wesson
11. Exhibit K Petition for Year's Support, Hazel Wesson Brown
12. Exhibit L Certificate of Death, Hazel Evelyn Brown
13. Exhibit M Certificate of Birth, Jane Brown
14. Exhibit N Certificate of Death, Jane Brown
15. Exhibit O Affidavit of Personal Knowledge, Jane Smith, Administrator of the Estate
16. Exhibit P Affidavit and Acknowledgment of John Crowe
17. Exhibit Q Communications Log for John Crowe

EXHIBITS

This Affidavit with certified copies of vital records Exhibits attached were sent via priority

FedEx with tracking to:

XYZ , Attorney at Law

XYZ Law, PC

138 Main Street

Joyful, GA 30100

Exhibit A — Genealogist’s Resume, Page 1 of 3



THE GEORGIA GENEALOGIST

Yvonne Mashburn Schmidt, CG®
1639 Fairway Drive • Vidalia, Georgia 30474
Yvonne@TheGeorgiaGenealogist.com • TheGeorgiaGenealogist.com

RESUME

CERTIFICATION & CREDENTIALS

- Investigative Genetic Genealogy Certificate, Ramapo College, NJ, Dec 2023.
- Certified Genealogist® credential awarded by the Board for Certification of Genealogists® 2016, Certificate 1073; renewed, 2021, expires 27 May 2026; pending 2026 renewal.
- Boston University’s Certificate of Genealogical Research, 2013.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

- Self-employed Owner/Certified Genealogist®, 2013 - current
 - Forensic Genealogy
 - Genealogical research for probate and estate settlement
 - Genealogical research related to cemetery relocation
 - Expert Witness Testimony
-

Exhibit A — Genealogist’s Resume, Page 2 of 3

- Military repatriation for the Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, U.S.
- Army PCRB: Identify and locate next of kin and DNA-eligible relatives for DNA Family
- Reference Sampling with the goal of identifying and repatriating remains of unaccounted-for soldiers of past conflicts. Individually, I have completed 500+ cases.

EDUCATION

- Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG), 2019.
- National Genealogical Society Conference, 2018
- Institute for Genealogical and Historical Research, Samford University, Birmingham, AL, 2013.
- Multiple state and virtual genealogical conferences and webinars, annually.

COMMUNITY / RECOGNITIONS

- 2023 - Subject Matter Expert (SME), Core Competencies, Investigative Genetic Genealogy Accreditation Board, responsible for developing questions related to the certification exam.
- 2020 - Woman of the Year in History and Genealogy field for community contributions and accomplishments, Bartow History Museum and Archives, Cartersville, Georgia.
- 2019 - Assessment of historical and genealogical value of Archive’s vertical files and

Exhibit A — Genealogist’s Resume, Page 3 of 3

records, Bartow History Museum and Archives, Cartersville, Georgia. This assessment resulted in Digital Library of Georgia Grant being awarded to the Museum and Archives.

PUBLICATIONS

- “The Tangled Web.” Alabama Genealogical Society Magazine, vol 54, (Spring/Summer 2022).
- “Finding Annie: DNA Evidence Helps Resolve the Identity of An Early 19th Century Female Who Lived in Burned Alabama Counties & Provides Supporting Evidence of Her Kinships. TheGeorgiaGenealogist.com. (2016).
- “Cass Station Crime and Cover Up: Using Indirect Evidence to Identify a Discarded Deceased Baby.” Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly, 52, (Summer 2016).
- “An Honorable Mention: Using Indirect Evidence to Identify the Parents and Some Slave Siblings of Manumitted Slave Alfred Keith of Little Rock, Arkansas.” Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly, 53, (Summer 2017).
- “Review of Patriots in Georgia Revolutionary War Engagements, 1776–1782.” The National Genealogical Society Quarterly, 105 (December 2017).
- “A Mill Village Kid Learns a Few Lessons.” Georgia Backroads Magazine. (Winter, 2011).

Exhibit B — Decedent’s Family Tree with Relationships and Lineage of Heir at Law¹⁹

For Reference, the Lineage of the Administrator of the Estate is also included in Relationship to the Decedent.

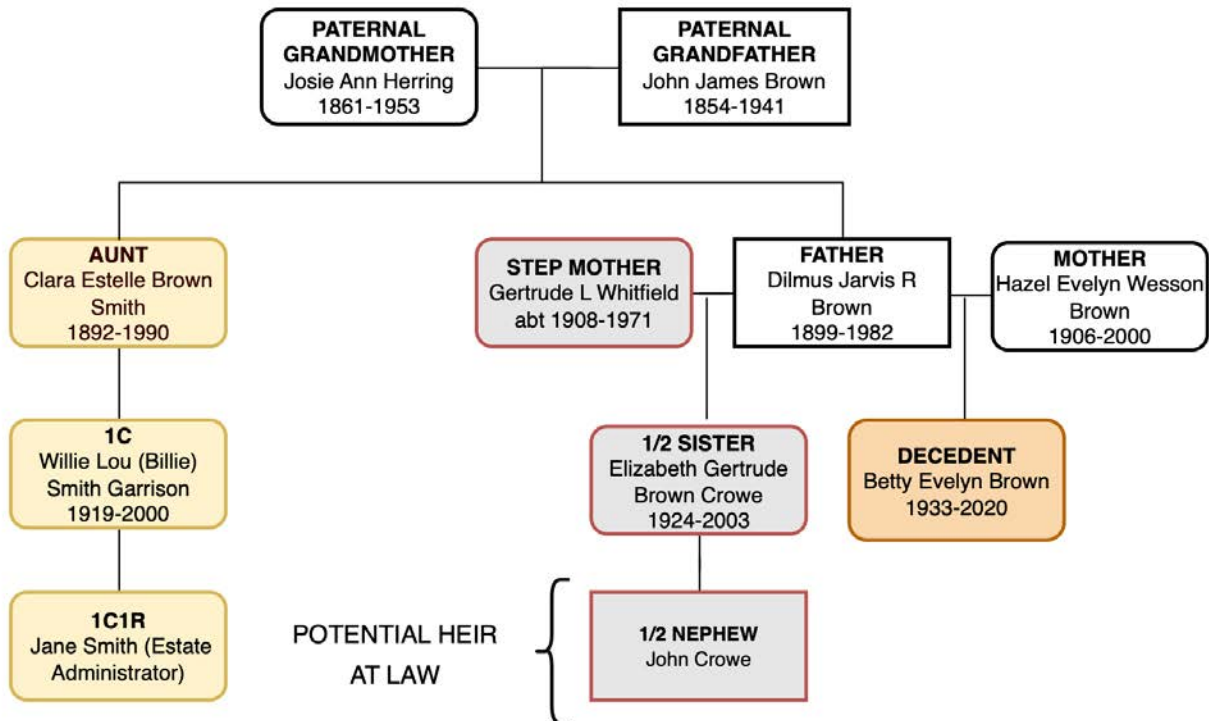


Exhibit B

¹⁹ “Jane Brown Estate” privatized and unsearchable tree, updated 23 January 2026, Ancestry.com (accessed 22 January 2026), created by The Georgia Genealogist team and Yvonne Mashburn Schmidt, CG® [Vidalia, Georgia], pursuant to the Letter of Agreement with Jane Smith, Administrator of the Estate of Evelyn Betty Brown.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit C — Delayed Certificate of Birth and Affidavit, Jarvis R. Brown²⁰

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit C

²⁰ Gwinnett County, Georgia, “Delayed Certificate of Birth,” Jarvis R. Brown, 2 December 1899, No. 214143; citing Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit D — Certificate of Death, Jarvis R. Brown²¹

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit D

²¹ DeKalb County, Georgia, “Certificate of Death,” Jarvis R. Brown, 29 July 1982, Certificate No. 10646; citing Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit E — Certificate of Death and Exemplification Letter, Gertrude Lenora Brown ²²

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit E

²² Fulton County, Georgia, Certificate of Death and Exemplification Letter, Gertrude Lenora Brown, 10 October 1908-31 July 1971, certificate no. 022393; Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit F — Marriage License, Jarvis R. Brown and Gertrude Whitfield²³

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit F

²³ Fulton County, Georgia, Marriage License, no. 1228, Jarvis R. Brown and Miss Gertrude Whitfield, 5 December 1924; 5th floor, Closed Records, unnamed ledger on shelf, Superior Court, Atlanta. (Exhibit F).

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit G — Divorce Complaint, Motions, Final Decree and Contempt Filings, Jarvis R.

Brown vs Gertrude Brown²⁴

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit G

²⁴ Fulton County, Georgia, Final Divorce Decree, Jarvis R. Brown vs Gertrude Brown, Book K3, no. 67132, 24 January 1927, Minutes 112, pg. 480, including Complaint, Motions, and Contempt filing, no. 75060, filed 16 Dec. 1927, Superior Court, Atlanta (**Exhibit G**).

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit H — Marriage License, Jarvis R. Brown and Hazel Evelyn Wesson²⁵

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Exhibit H

²⁵ Fulton County, Georgia, “Application for Marriage License,” Jarvis R. Brown and Hazel Evelyn Wesson, 11 August 1930; Probate Court, Atlanta. Also, Fulton County, Georgia, “Marriage License,” No. 15029, Mr. Jarvis R. Brown and Miss Hazel Evelyn Wesson, 16 August 1930, Book 43, p. 343, Probate Court, Atlanta.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit I — Certificate of Death and Exemplification Letter, Gertrude Elizabeth Crowe²⁶

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit I

²⁶ Cobb County, GA., Exemplification Letter and Certificate of Death, state fileno.024963, local file no. 001310, Gertrude Elizabeth Crowe, 28 Nov. 1924-19 May 2003; citing Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit J — Delayed Certificate of Birth, Hazel Evelyn Wesson²⁷

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit J

²⁷ Fulton County, GA, “Delayed Certificate of Birth,” Hazel Evelyn Wesson, 9 September 1906, No. 213423; citing Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit K — Petition for Year’s Support, Hazel Wesson Brown²⁸

Exhibit K

²⁸ DeKalb County, Georgia, “Petition for Year’s Support, Affidavit,” Estate of Jarvis Rufus Brown by Hazel Wesson Brown, 4 Nov. 1982, daughters identified as interested persons were Jane Brown and Elizabeth Brown (from a prior marriage); Probate Court, Decatur.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit L — Certificate of Death, Hazel Evelyn Brown²⁹

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit L

²⁹ DeKalb County, Georgia, “Certificate of Death,” Hazel Evelyn Brown, 19 February 2000, File no. 00720; Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit M — Certificate of Birth, Jane Brown³⁰

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit M

³⁰ DeKalb County, GA, “Certificate of Birth,” Jane Brown, No. 827, 23 Nov. 1933; citing Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit N — Certificate of Death, Jane Brown³¹

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit N

³¹ DeKalb County, GA, “Certificate of Death,” Jane Brown, No. 2020 GA000079571, 18 Oct. 2020; citing; Georgia Department of Public Health, Office of Vital Records, Atlanta.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit O — Affidavit of Personal Knowledge, Jane Smith, Administrator of the Estate³²

INSERT CERTIFIED COPY HERE

Exhibit O

³² DeKalb County, Georgia, Affidavit of Personal Knowledge, Jane Smith, 23 January 2026, Jane Brown, Decedent, Estate Case No. 2021-2214; affirming marital status and descendants Decedent; XYZ Law, PC, Joyful, Haralson County, Georgia.

Jane Brown, Estate Case 2015-0001

Exhibit P — Affidavit and Acknowledgment of John Crowe³³

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³³ DeKalb County, Ga, Affidavit and Acknowledgment of Service of John Crowe, Jane Brown, Decedent, Estate Case 2015-0001, sworn to and subscribed 20 February 2026, 142 Villa Court, Maryville, Blount County, Tennessee, 37780; affirming relationship to Decedent, parentage, and date of birth; XYZ Law, PC, Joyful, Haralson County, Georgia.

Exhibit Q — Communications Log for John Crowe

Georgia Diligent Search Communication Log

Documenting Communication Efforts for Diligent Search in the State of Georgia

DEKALB COUNTY, GA PROBATE COURT

JANE BROWN ESTATE

DECEDENT NAME: Jane Brown
HEIR NAME: John Crowe

Communication Log Table

Date	Method of Contact	Person/Organization Contacted	Notes	Result
Jan. 18, 2026	Facebook message	Charlie Crowe	https://www.facebook.com/charlie.crowe.56	No response
Jan. 19, 2026		John Crowe	Left message	No response
		John Crowe	No answer	
		Hurst, Jr.	Neighbor	No response
		Hurst, Jr.	VM not set up	
Jan. 20, 2026		Ms. Gross	Neighbor.	No response
	Facebook message	Friend		Will reach out to Jack and others she knows at Marietta PD.
		John Crowe	No answer. Left message.	
Jan. 22, 2026		Ms. Gross	Left message. Texted again. She responded and went to Mr. Crowe's apt.	No return call
Jan. 23, 2026		Ms. Gross	Followed up in a text. Mr. Crowe told her he would call me, but at 12:30pm, I had not had a call.	No return call

Summary of Efforts

Mr. Crowe would not provide his phone number. He would not speak to me. Crystal relayed the information I sent via text to him. I texted my website URL, my phone number, the attorney's contact information and website URL, pg. 1 and signature page of LOA to prove I had been hired by the Estate Administrator, provided him names of his maternal parents and grandparents that he shares with Decedent, and also texted him his grandfather's probate record naming Mr. Crowe's mother as a daughter. He did not return my call.