

STATE OF MAINE

Maine Supreme Judicial Court

Docket No.: BAR-26- 12

In re: Jesse D. Rutter, Esq.
Bar No. 006145

**ORDER FOR APPOINTMENT OF RECEIVER
PURSUANT TO M. BAR R. 32**

Upon consideration of the Board of Overseer's Expedited Petition for Appointment of Receiver, the Court GRANTS the Petition and hereby ORDERS the following:

Effective immediately, Special Counsel Mara R. H. King, is appointed as Receiver of Attorney Jesse D. Rutter's law practice. As such, the Receiver and her agents shall have the immediate and **sole** authority to:

1. Assume responsibility for Jesse D. Rutter's law practice, Hanscom Collins & Rutter PA, secure the professional files; take responsibility for and prudently manage all firm and client funds; and obtain all property owned by Rutter's law office, wherever it may be located. The Receiver shall also secure the physical law office.
2. The Receiver are granted sole signatory authority over all Rutter/Hanscom/Collins firm financial accounts, escrow accounts, and accounts used or accessed by Rutter and the firm for business and fiduciary purposes. Those accounts include IOLTA, operating/office, payroll, fiduciary, and trust accounts, credit lines,

investment, retirement, and credit card accounts. The s shall work to effectuate the return of client and or fiduciary funds and close any Rutter accounts as appropriate.

3. The Receiver shall immediately obtain sole signatory authority over all financial accounts available to and used by Rutter through each institution for the same. The Receiver shall ensure that such accounts are secured from access by any other person. The Receiver are hereby granted sole and full operational command to manage, access, and secure the financial accounts of Rutter's law practice and firm accounts and any financial accounts used for conducting business, fiduciary, or community service activities. Those accounts specifically include those fiduciary or non-profit entities for which Rutter has access as a signatory.
4. Rutter and any partners, associates, employees, family members and agents of Rutter shall be prohibited from accessing, transferring, dissipating or otherwise converting any funds in said financial accounts and any assets held by the law firm Hanscom Collins & Rutter PA.
5. Rutter and any partners, associates, employees, and agents thereof are completely divested of all authority and access over financial accounts of Hanscom Collins & Rutter PA and any accounts utilized by or on behalf of Rutter for business, real estate, or fiduciary purposes, and that anyone in possession of the Receiverhip property

(including financial institutions) must immediately turn control and access over to the Receiver.

6. The Receiver shall obtain access to and acquire Rutter's computer hardware and software used for business and fiduciary purposes, including any mobile devices. The Receiver may take physical possession of such computer and mobile devices as is necessary to perform the duties set forth herein.
7. The Receiver shall obtain access to any e-mail, cloud storage, or other accounts used by Rutter (or his agents) for all business and fiduciary purposes, including usernames and passwords.
8. The Receiver shall obtain access to any post office boxes to secure all law office, legal or fiduciary mail.
9. The Receiver shall obtain and inventory the open and closed client files.
10. The Receiver are expressly authorized to hire or retain staff if law office funds permit and to obtain volunteers to assist with this process. The Receiver must oversee, train, and delegate to non-legal and attorney administrative staff and/or volunteers the tasks necessary to effectuate the intent of this Order and the ethical obligations related thereto.
11. Where possible, the Receiver shall assist Rutter's clients with active matters, in their efforts to obtain new counsel.

12. The Receiver shall give priority to client matters that may be identified as open, active, and apparently time sensitive.
13. The Receiver shall notify former clients of the law office and provide an opportunity for any former clients to retrieve their property, if possible.
14. The Receiver shall notify all courts that they are serving as Rutter and the firm's Receiver.
15. The Receiver shall provide notice of the appointment to all courts and relevant state, federal and county agencies.
16. The Receiver shall access and utilize Rutter's law firm operating, escrow, fiduciary, and IOLTA accounts to manage the firm prudently and appropriately to wind down the practice. The Receiver may pay expenses as they deem appropriate given available funds in Rutter's accounts or anticipated receivables to the practice including payroll, utilities, insurances, rent, etc.
17. The Receiver shall receive and deposit any and all client or fiduciary payments to the law offices of Attorney Jesse D. Rutter, Hanscom Collins & Rutter PA, and Jesse D. Rutter individually, for work performed by Jesse D. Rutter for any other business or fiduciary matter. The Receiver shall take steps to ensure that no other person receives or deposits such payments.

18. The Receiver shall prudently utilize the operating accounts, escrow, and client trust accounts in the appropriate distribution of client funds and property held in trust.

19. If requested by the Receiver, Rutter and his agents shall cooperate with the Receiver to effectuate the terms of this Order.

As a service to the Bar, the Receiver shall serve on a *pro bono* basis, although if there are sufficient assets (including receivables) from Rutter's law practice, then private practitioner agents of the Receiver may be reimbursed from those assets.

Likewise, near or at the conclusion of the Receiverhip, the Receiver shall submit an itemized list of any disbursements made to effectuate the terms of this Order. Rutter's law practice or Rutter personally or his estate shall be the first choice for source of payment for those disbursements.

Special Counsel King shall serve as Receiver until discharged by the Court or otherwise in accordance with Maine Bar Rule 32. The Court is aware from the Petition filing that the Board may file a motion to amend this Order so as to add a Co-Receiver to assist with the practice wind down.

The Receiver, so appointed, shall not disclose any information contained in any file listed in the inventory without the consent of the client to whom such file relates except as may be necessary to protect that client (see M. R. Pro. Conduct 1.14) and or effectuate an order of court including any order under Maine Bar Rule 32.

The Receiver is afforded quasi-judicial immunity and thus shall be protected from liability for professional services rendered in accordance with this Order.

Within one hundred and twenty (120) days of this Order, the Receiver shall file a status report with the Supreme Judicial Court.

Dated: 8-20, 2026



Judge/Justice
Sitting as Single Justice by designation