

59-6a211. Proceeding for elective share; time limit. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the election shall be made by filing in the court and mailing or delivering to the personal representative, if any, a petition for the elective share within six months after the date of the decedent's death, or within six months after the notice of the right to the elective share pursuant to K.S.A. 59-2233, and amendments thereto, whichever limitation later expires. The surviving spouse must give notice of the time and place set for hearing, in such manner as ordered by the court, to persons interested in the estate and to the distributees and recipients of portions of the augmented estate whose interests will be adversely affected by the taking of the elective share. Except as provided in subsection (b), the decedent's nonprobate transfers to others are not included within the augmented estate for the purpose of computing the elective share, if the petition is filed more than six months after the decedent's death.

(b) Within six months after the decedent's death, the surviving spouse may petition the court for an extension of time for making an election. If, within six months after the decedent's death, the spouse gives notice of the petition to all persons interested in the decedent's nonprobate transfers to others, the court for good cause shown by the surviving spouse may extend the time for election. If the court grants the spouse's petition for an extension, the decedent's nonprobate transfers to others are not excluded from the augmented estate for the purpose of computing the elective-share and supplemental elective-share amounts, if the spouse makes an election by filing in the court and mailing or delivering to the personal representative, if any, a petition for the elective share within the time allowed by the extension.

(c) The surviving spouse may withdraw the petition for an elective share at any time before entry of a final determination by the court.

(d) After notice and hearing, the court shall determine the elective-share and supplemental elective-share amounts, and shall order its payment from the assets of the augmented estate or by contribution as appears appropriate under K.S.A. 59-6a209 and 59-6a210. If it appears that a fund or property included in the augmented estate has not come into the possession of the personal representative, or has been distributed by the personal representative, the court nevertheless shall fix the liability of any person who has any interest in the fund or property or who has possession thereof, whether as trustee or otherwise. The proceeding may be maintained against fewer than all persons against whom relief could be sought, but no person is subject to contribution in any greater amount than such person would have been under K.S.A. 59-6a209 and 59-6a210 had relief been secured against all persons subject to contribution.

(e) An order or judgment of the court may be enforced by the surviving spouse, as necessary, to obtain contribution or payment in other courts of this state or other jurisdictions. The decedent's personal representative shall not be required to enforce contributions from the assets of the reclaimable estate.

History: L. 1994, ch. 132, § 11; Jan. 1, 1995.