

**BOISE, MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026 AT 8:45 A.M.**

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

**In the Matter of the Estate of Victoria H. )  
Smith, Deceased. )**

----- )  
**VERNON K. SMITH, JR., individually, and )  
in his capacity as the former attorney-in-fact, )  
agent and/or fiduciary for Victoria H. Smith )  
and/or the Estate of Victoria H. Smith, and in )  
any other capacity relevant to these )  
proceedings; DOES 1-20, )**

**Plaintiff-Appellant, )**

**v. )**

**FORD ELSAESSER, Personal Representative )  
of the Estate of Victoria H. Smith, Deceased, )**

**Respondent, )**

**and, )**

**Members of the GIVENS PURSLEY, LLP )  
law firm, including, but not limited to, )  
RANDALL A. PETERMAN, and ALEX P. )  
MCLAUGHLIN, Attorneys acting on behalf )  
of the Estate, )**

**Defendants. )**

**Docket No. 50924 & 51199**

Appeal from the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District, State of Idaho, Ada County. Cheri C. Copey, District Judge.

Vernon K. Smith, Appellant *pro se*.

Givens Pursley, LLP, Boise, for Respondent.

---

This is another in a series of appeals filed by Vernon K. Smith concerning the administration of the Estate of Victoria H. Smith (“the Estate”). Victoria prepared a holographic will in 1990, leaving everything to her son, Vernon, and executed a durable power of attorney, making Vernon her attorney-in-fact. Vernon later formed a limited liability company, VHS Properties, LLC (“VHS”), and transferred all of Victoria’s personal and real property to VHS.

After Victoria's passing in 2013, the magistrate court invalidated both her will and the series of transactions transferring all of her assets to VHS after a successful challenge by Vernon's brother, Joseph.

Since 2016, Vernon has made various objections to the management of the Estate property. In the instant appeal, Smith challenges the lower court's decisions denying his motion to remove the personal representative of the Estate, denying his motion to disqualify the presiding judge, granting sanctions in relation to the motion for disqualification, and denying his motion to conduct farming on one of the Estate properties.