IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NOVA SCOTIA Citation: MacNeil Estate, Re, 2003 NSSC 50

Date: 20021230 **Docket:** 188292 **Registry:** Truro

Between:

IN THE MATTER OF the Estate of John Forward MacNeil

- and -

IN THE MATTE R OF certain real property situate at Civic Number 1835 West Branch Road, Welsford, Pictou County

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Judge: The Honourable Justice J. E. Scanlan

Heard: December 30, 2002, Truro, Nova Scotia

Oral Decision: December 30, 2002

Written Decision: March 3, 3003

Subject: Probate/Real property delivery of a deed

Summary: Deed executed by now deceased Grantor and left with his

lawyer with specific instructions to counsel not to release

the deed or do anything with the deed until further instructed by the client. The client did not give reason for the instruction not ro release the deed. He died a number of weeks later without having given instruction

to release

the deed. Grantee now asks the court to declare that this was a valid deed and to order that it be released and recorded so as to effect a transfer of the real property.

Issues: Whether a deed signed by a now deceased Grantor

effectively conveyed real property to Grantee

Result: Deceased Grantor's instructions to counsel are a clear

indication that he did not intend delivery of the deed to be effected immediately upon execution of the deed even though the deed stated "Signed Sealed and Delivered".

Court refused to grant the requested declaration.

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