

## WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §44-2-27

### **§44-2-27. When distributees and legatees may be sued on claims; extent of liability; costs.**

(a) Every creditor who has not presented his claim to the fiduciary commissioner before distribution of the surplus by the personal representative, or before that time has not instituted a civil action or suit thereon against the personal representative, may, if not barred by limitation, bring a civil action against the distributees and legatees, jointly or severally, at any time within two years after such distribution. But no distributee or legatee shall be required to pay to creditors suing by virtue of this section a greater sum than the value of what was received by him out of the decedent's estate, nor shall any distributee or legatee be required to pay to any one creditor a greater proportion of such creditor's debt than the value of what was received by such distributee or legatee bears to the total estate distributed. A creditor suing by virtue of this section shall not recover against such distributees and legatees the costs of his civil action.

(b) Any creditor of a deceased person upon whose estate there is no administration pursuant to subsection (b), section one of this article, may, if not barred by limitation, bring a civil action against the sole beneficiary at any time within two years after recordation of the appraisal.