

(m) Employ for reasonable compensation auditors, investment advisors or other persons with special skills, to advise or assist the personal representative in the performance of his administrative duties;

(n) Prosecute, defend or submit to arbitration actions, claims, or proceedings in any appropriate jurisdiction for the protection or benefit of the estate, *including the commencement of any personal action which the decedent might have commenced or prosecuted*; provided, however, that (i) no personal representative may institute an action against a defendant for slander during the decedent's lifetime against the decedent, and (ii) in any action instituted by the personal representative against a tort-feasor for a wrong which resulted in the death of the decedent, the personal representative shall be entitled to recover the funeral expenses of the decedent not in excess of \$2,000 in addition to any other damages recoverable in such action;

(o) Continue any unincorporated business or venture in which the decedent was engaged at the time of his death (1) in the same business form for a period of not more than four months from the date of appointment of a personal representative where continuation is a reasonable means of preserving the value of the business including goodwill, (2) in the same business form for any additional period of time that may be approved by order of court in a proceeding to which all persons interested in the estate are parties, or (3) throughout the period of administration if the business is incorporated after the death of the decedent;

(p) Incorporate any business or venture in which the decedent was engaged at the time of his death if none of the probable distributees of the business who are competent adults objects to its incorporation and retention in the estate;

(q) Exercise any options, rights and privileges contained in any life insurance policy, annuity, or endowment contract constituting property of the estate, including the right to obtain the cash surrender value, convert any such policy to any other type of policy, revoke any mode of settlement, and pay any part or all of the premiums on any such policy or contract;

(r) Pay any valid claim and distribute the estate as provided in this article;

(s) When any assets of the estate are encumbered by mortgage, pledge, lien, or other security interest, pay the encumbrance or any part thereof, renew, or extend any obligation secured by the encumbrance, or convey or transfer the assets to the creditor in satisfaction of his security interest, in whole or in part, whether or not the holder of the encumbrance has filed a claim, if any such act appears to be in the best interests of the estate;

(t) Regardless of any contrary provision in the will, to execute, upon the written demand of the owner of a redeemable leasehold or subleasehold estate, a full and valid conveyance of the reversion or subreversion held by the estate;

(u) Release or terminate any mortgage or security interest, if the obligation secured by the mortgage or security interest was fully