

CONNECTICUT APPELLATE COURT

Taylor v. Taylor

Taylor · No. AC 48455 · Decided May 5, 2026

SUMMARY

The Connecticut Appellate Court affirmed the trial court’s judgment discharging a mechanic’s lien filed by Thaddeus Taylor against property associated with the estate of Charles Taylor, Jr. The court held that the defendant’s claims concerning the plaintiffs’ standing and the statutory service of the lien were without merit, including because he failed to establish probable cause that the lien had been properly served.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Connecticut Appellate Court
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Per Curiam; Cradle, C. J.; Elgo, J.; Clark, J.
JURISDICTION	Connecticut Appellate Court
DECIDED	May 5, 2026
DOCKET	AC 48455
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The defendant appealed from the Superior Court's judgment granting the plaintiffs' application to discharge a mechanic's lien.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The opinion does not expressly identify a standard of review; it states that the court reviewed the record, the defendant's brief, and the legal principles applicable to the claims.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published Connecticut Appellate Court opinion
PARTIES	Thaddeus Taylor v. Charlene Taylor, Elizabeth Taylor

TOPICS

- mechanics liens
- standing
- probate
- appellate procedure
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- mechanic's liens
- probate and estate administration
- civil procedure
- appellate procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the plaintiffs, as coadministrators of the estate and persons with authority over the subject property, had standing to apply for discharge of the mechanic's lien.
2. Whether the trial court properly discharged the mechanic's lien after finding that the defendant failed to establish probable cause that the lien had been served in the manner required by statute.

HOLDINGS

1. The plaintiffs had standing because, as coadministrators of the estate, they had statutory authority over the property and could bring the application to discharge the lien.
2. The trial court properly discharged the mechanic's lien because the defendant failed to establish probable cause that the lien had been served on the property owner within the time and manner required by statute.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Charles Taylor, Jr. died in March 2024, and Charlene Taylor and Elizabeth Taylor became coadministrators of his estate. The defendant, Charles Taylor, Jr.'s brother, filed a mechanic's lien on May 21, 2024, against property at 44 Guilford Street in Hartford. The plaintiffs sought to discharge the lien, asserting that they had not received proper notice or service. At the evidentiary hearing, the defendant offered a pre-lien demand letter addressed to the plaintiffs but did not offer evidence that the lien itself had been served within thirty days of filing.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The plaintiffs, coadministrators of Charles Taylor, Jr.'s estate, applied to the Superior Court to discharge a mechanic's lien filed by the defendant against estate property. The court denied the defendant's motion to dismiss based on lack of standing, later held an evidentiary hearing, and granted the application after finding that the defendant failed to establish probable cause that the lien had been served as required by statute. The defendant's motions to reargue and reconsider were denied, and he appealed.

DISPOSITION

affirmed