

Superior Court of California  
County of Merced  
Probate Department

**Probate Notes**

Probate Notes for future calendars are available from the time they are created until the morning of the scheduled hearing. The Probate Examiner's Notes typically will be posted 5 days prior to the hearing. If you are filing documents to cure a technical defect, documents should be filed a minimum of 2 court days prior to the hearing. Documents filed late will not be reviewed except on the date of the hearing at the Judge's discretion and could result in a continuance of your case.

Parties intending to appear in Court regarding their hearing must notify all other parties and call (209) 725-4111 to notify the Court of such intent by 4:00 pm on the day before the hearing.

Contacting the Probate Examiner:

Probate Examiner's email address is: [probate.examiner@mercedcourt.org](mailto:probate.examiner@mercedcourt.org)

Emails must have the case identification information and hearing date/time in the subject line. **No attachments will be opened.** The Probate Examiner can only respond to inquiries regarding the meaning of comments in the Notes. *Please do not email to request a confirmation whether documents have been received or to request the clearing of notes.* No legal or procedural advice may be given by the Examiner in response to your email.

Questions regarding fees, forms, status of orders, Zoom links or remote appearances should be directed to the Probate Unit of the Clerk's Office at (209) 725-4111 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm. and 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

The following cases are not reflected in the Probate Notes and appearances are required unless previously excused by the Court:

- Guardianships and Conservatorships of the Person
- Minor's Compromise cases before the Probate Court for approval
- Petition for Special Immigrant Juvenile Findings

*\*Questions involving Guardianships (including SIJF) and Conservatorships of the Person should be directed to the Court Investigators Office at (209) 725-4190.*

*\*\*Please note no legal or procedural advice can be provided by the Court Investigator's Office. \*\**

Superior Court of California, County of Merced  
PROBATE/CONSERVATORSHIP CALENDAR  
HONORABLE: Mark Bacciarini

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DATE: Thursday, July 31, 2025  
TIME: 8:15 AM  
Courtroom 10  
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PROBATE CALENDAR

The following tentative rulings shall become the ruling of the court unless a party gives notice of intention to appear as follows:

1. You must call (209) 725-4240 to notify the court of your intent to appear.
2. You must give notice to all other parties before 4:00 p.m. of your intent to object.

Per California Rules of Court, rule 3.1308(a)(1), failure to do both items 1 and 2 will result in no oral argument. **Parties who contest the tentative ruling or wish to appear remotely at a hearing must contact the clerk of the Court at (209) 725-4111 to provide their contact information for the remote hearing.**

**CASE#:** 22PR-00091

**CASE NAME:** In the Matter of the 1998 Smith Revocable Trust (dated March 10, 1998)

**THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:**

1. Verified Petition for Instructions for the Distribution of the Exemption Trust Bank Account Following Death of Harry A. Smith
2. (1) Petition for Approval of First Account and Report of Successor Co-Trustee (Exemption Trust, Post-Death Period); and (2) Instructions Regarding Distribution of Exemption Trust Assets Based on Prior Administration Accounting, Allocation of Expenses and Effect of Prior Orders and (3) Opposition to Petition for Instructions filed by Denise Freitas

**THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:**

Remains under review.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required.

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**CASE#:** 23PR-00362

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Beatriz Mancha Rodriguez

**THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:**

Continued from March 26, 2025 re: Closing of the Estate

**THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:**

1. Distributive Receipts and an Ex Parte Petition For Final Discharge And Order (DE-295) have not been submitted. Prob Code §§11753, 12250

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required. The Status Review Hearing is continued to October 1, 2025 at 8:15 am allowing counsel additional time to file the appropriate Distributive Receipts and Ex Parte Petition for Final Discharge with the Court.

**CASE#:** 24PR-00042

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Veronica Alma Padilla

**THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:**

Continued from June 12, 2025 re:

1. Status on Filing of an Inventory and Appraisal
2. Order to show Cause re: Failure to Appear.

**THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS WERE PREVIOUSLY NOTED:**

1. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed.  
Prob Code §12200-12201

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required. The Administrator to appear and advise the Court on the current case status.

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**CASE#:** 24PR-00060

**CASE NAME:** Estate of William Ernest

**THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:**

Continued from June 12, 2025 re:

1. Status of Filing of an Inventory and Appraisal
2. Order to show Cause re: Failure to Appear

**THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS WERE PREVIOUSLY NOTED:**

1. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed.  
Prob Code §12200-12201 \*Corrected – filed 7/9/25

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required.

**CASE#:** PR000050

**CASE NAME:** Adrian Plantillas 2009 Special Needs Trust

**THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:**

Continued from January 13, 2025 re:

Petition to Terminate Trust (Probate Code §17201)

Status Hearing

Sixth Report of Successor Trustee and Petition for Approval of Account, For Approval of Trustee's Fees and For Authorization to Pay Fees of Trustee's Attorney

**THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS WERE PREVIOUSLY NOTED:**

1. The Sixth Accounting cannot be reviewed as an accounting for the period of time from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023 has not been submitted to the Court for approval.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to September 18, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for the correction of the previously noted deficiencies.

(End of Tentative Rulings)