

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

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

DATE: Friday, August 7, 2026
TIME: 8:15 AM and 8:30 AM
Courtroom 10

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.**

8:15 AM CALENDAR

CASE#: 24PR-00510

CASE NAME: Estate of Jo Ann Williams Perry

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Petition for Order Determining Amount of Expenses of Administration to Be Paid From Proceeds of Sale of Encumbered Real Property (Probate Code §10361.5)

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

1. An Inventory and Appraisal has not been filed despite Letters issued to the Executrix on June 5, 2025. Prob Code §8800(b)
2. The Petition includes a request for administration expenses that include statutory compensation for both the Executor and counsel that lacks a lawful basis to determine the fee bases.
3. Notice has not been provided to the listing agent/broker and Compu-Link Corporation who is the designated servicing agent. Prob Code §10361.6

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

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CASE#: 26PR-00191

CASE NAME: Estate of Ruth Belcher

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from June 17, 2026 re: Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary

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

1. Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit contains an incorrect hearing date (*reflects June 16, 2026). Prob Code §8100 [*Corrected](#)

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary with full IAEA Authority with no bond required is granted. The decedent's will is admitted into Probate. Probate Referee Michael Wright is appointed. A Status Hearing ensuring the filing of an Inventory and Appraisal is hereby set for January 13, 2027 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 26PR-00218

CASE NAME: Estate of Armida Soto Vasquez

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Petition to Determine Succession to Primary Residence

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

1. A proposed Order has not been lodged. MSC 100 E.

TENTATIVE RULING:

The Petition to Determine Succession to Primary Residence is approved. Counsel to submit a proposed order.

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8:30 AM CALENDAR

CASE#: 21PR-00282

CASE NAME: Conservatorship of Marlene Knipp

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from June 26, 2026 re: Fourth Account and Final Report of Conservator, Petition for Allowance of Fees to Conservator of the Person and Estate, and to the Attorney

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The Fourth and Final Report of Conservator, Petition for Allowance of Fees to Conservator of the Person and Estate, and to the Attorney is approved. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for December 11, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 22PR-00291

CASE NAME: Conservatorship of Wayne Larkin

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from June 26, 2026 re: Fourth Account and Final Report of Conservator, Petition for Allowance of Fees to Conservator of the Person and Estate and to the Attorney

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

1. A Fourth and Final Accounting does not comply with Probate Code §2620(b) which requires a separate accounting period ending on the date of the conservatee's death and a separate final accounting covering all transactions from the date of death through the proposed closing date of the conservatorship.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)