

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, July 31, 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#: 26PR-00175

CASE NAME: Estate of Lilton Branch

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from June 25, 2026 re: Spousal Property Petition

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

1. The Petition is missing the referenced signed Assignments of Interest signed by the decedent's children. **Corrected*
2. The Proof of Service filed on 6/17/26 reflects service was effectuated on "Nicole Mack".
**Corrected*

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. All deficiencies have now been corrected and the Spousal Property Petition is granted.

(continued on next page)

8:30 AM CALENDAR

CASE#: 22PR-00389

CASE NAME: Conservatorship of Lois Watters

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Third Amended Second Account and 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 (**as to the Third Amended Second Account filed on 5/29/26*):

1. The accounting continues to reflect the same issue regarding the initial valuation of the conservatee's one-half interest in the real property located at 906 E. Alexander, Merced; it appears the valuation may have been based on the value of the property as a whole rather than the conservatee's fractional interest.
2. Proof of Service filed 5/29/26 reflects notice of the 6/26/26 hearing to all interested parties, but does not state the date service was effectuated.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to September 18, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for correction of the deficiencies. Any corrective pleadings to be filed and served by the close of business on September 3, 2026.

CASE#: 23PR-00142

CASE NAME: Conservatorship of John Curreri

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from May 22, 2026 re: A Fifth Amended Second Account and 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. Proof of Service filed 6/4/26 reflects notice of the 7/31/26 hearing to all interested parties, but does not state the date service was effectuated.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)