

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: Monday, April 20, 2026
TIME: 8:15 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.**

CASE#: 24PR-00243

CASE NAME: Estate of Darryl Grant Crain

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from March 30, 2026 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

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. Counsel to advise the Court on the current case status.

(continued on next page)

CASE#: 24PR-00258

CASE NAME: Estate of Maria Cisneros

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from December 1, 2025 re: Status of Closing of the Estate

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

1. The Petition reflects the sole beneficiary received a preliminary distribution of \$127,900.00 but Schedule F reflects a preliminary distribution of \$168,400 was distributed to the beneficiary.
2. A signed Receipt on Distribution from the sole beneficiary has not been filed.
3. The accounting Receipt - Schedule C does not reflect any net proceeds received from the sale of the real property.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to May 27, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10. for correction of deficiencies.

CASE#: 24PR-00353

CASE NAME: Estate of Sandra Barker

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from February 23, 2026 re: Status of Closing of the Estate

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. Counsel to advise the Court on the current case status.

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CASE#: 25PR-00389

CASE NAME: Estate of Lawrence Joseph Hernandez

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from March 30, 2026 re:

1. Petition for Letters of Administration filed by Marisa Hernandez and Alisa Hernandez
2. Competing Petition for Letters of Administration filed by Sofia Hernandez

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

As to the Petition for Administration filed by Marisa Hernandez and Alisa Hernandez:

1. No written waiver of bond filed by surviving Spouse. Prob Code §8481(a)(2). [*Addressed in Declaration filed on 2/11/26](#)
2. Spouse has not waived her right to priority of appointment. Prob Code §8461. [*Addressed in Declaration filed on 2/11/26](#)
3. Spouse has not nominated Petitioners to be Administrators. Prob Code §8465; (See paragraph 3.g.(2)(b) of verified Petition.) [*Addressed in Declaration filed on 2/11/26](#)
4. No IAEA Authority requested in the Petition. Prob Code §10451(c); CRC 7.102. [*Addressed in Declaration filed on 2/11/26](#)
5. Duties & Liabilities Acknowledgment signed by Marisa Hernandez has not been filed. Prob Code §8404(a) [*Corrected](#)
6. No proposed Order for Probate submitted to the Court. Prob Code §8006. [*Corrected](#)
7. No Letters lodged with the Court. Prob Code §8400. [*Corrected](#)
8. A Notice of Pendency of Action (Lis Pendens) was filed on November 24, 2025.
9. An Objection to the Petition was filed on January 6, 2026.

As to the Petition for Administration filed by Sofia Hernandez:

1. Clarification needed concerning amount of bond sought to be posted by the Petitioner and if this includes all estate property in which the decedent had an interest? The Petition reflects the request to post a \$5,000 bond and the proposed Order for Probate reflects a \$50,000 bond to be posted. Prob Code §8482
2. No Notice to all heirs, beneficiaries & executors. Proof of Service filed on February 11, 2026 is blank as to any date in which service may have been effectuated. Prob Code §8100, §8110
3. The Objection to the Petition filed by M. Hernandez and A. Hernandez does not address Probate Code §8461 which provides that a surviving spouse holds a higher statutory priority appointment over a decedent's child.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

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CASE#: 25PR-00497

CASE NAME: Estate of Jose Guadalupe Aguilera Alonso

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from February 9, 2026 re: Petition For Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary with Full IAEA Authority.

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

1. Original Will not lodged with the Court. Probate Code §8200. [*Corrected](#)
2. *Notice of Petition to Administer Estate* filed 12/23/2025 reflects the incorrect hearing time and does not reflect the Petitioner's request for IAEA Authority. Prob Code §10451(c) [*Corrected 2/13/26](#)
3. *Affidavit of Publication* filed 1/20/2026 reflects the incorrect hearing time. Probate Code §8100 [*Filed 3/26/26 – contains an incorrect case number and reflects case #25PR-004987 instead of case #25PR-00497.](#)

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. Despite the minor typo in the case number, the Proof of Publication appears to substantially comply with the mandated requirements of Probate Code §8100. Absent any Objection, the Court's intention is to grant the Petition For Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary with Full IAEA Authority with no bond required to be posted. The Decedent's will to be admitted into Probate. Probate Referee Michael Wright is appointed. A Status Hearing ensuring the filing of an Inventory and Appraisal is hereby set for October 5, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 26PR-00116

CASE NAME: Estate of Patricia Sobrevilla

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. The Petition is missing the following attachments:
 - a. The decedent died testate and a copy of the decedent's will has not been included as Attachment 5 or 12a as required in the Petition.
 - b. Missing the required Attachment 11.
 - c. Missing Attachment 14
Prob Code §13152
2. The attached Inventory and Appraisal is unsigned by the Petitioner and only includes an appraisal for the real property. The attachment reflecting the decedent's vehicles that do not appear to have been appraised by the Probate Referee Michael Wright.
3. No notice has been given to all beneficiaries. Prob Code §§13152(b), 1020
4. A proposed Order has been lodged that is blank at item #9 that should reflect the legal description of the real property.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to May 21, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for correction of the deficiencies. Any corrective pleadings to be filed and served by the close of business on May 13, 2026.

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CASE#: 24PR-00005

CASE NAME: Estate of Donald E. Green

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from January 12, 2056 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. An Ex Parte Petition for Final Discharge has been submitted to the Court and is currently pending judicial signature. Upon the Court's signature the hearing will be vacated.

(End of Tentative Rulings)