

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: Donald Proietti

DATE: Monday, June 9, 2025
TIME: 8:15 AM
Courtroom 10

PROBATE CALENDAR

updated 6/6/25 at 12 pm

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#: 23PR-00127

CASE NAME: Estate of Waneta Cheri Gilbert

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

1. Continued from January 27, 2025 re: Status Hearing on Closing of the Estate
2. Waiver of Account and Report of Executor, Petition for Allowance of Statutory Compensation to Attorneys for Ordinary Services and Additional Compensation for Extraordinary Services by Attorneys, Costs Advanced by Attorneys, Closing Costs, Final Taxes and Accountant Fees from Funds Outside of the Estate and for Final Distribution

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

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

TENTATIVE RULING:

Recommend to approve the *Waiver of Account and Report of Executor, Petition for Allowance of Statutory Compensation to Attorneys for Ordinary Services and Additional Compensation for Extraordinary Services by Attorneys, Costs Advanced by Attorneys, Closing Costs, Final Taxes and Accountant Fees from Funds Outside of the Estate and for Final Distribution*. Counsel to submit a proposed Order. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for October 6, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

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CASE#: 24PR-00024

CASE NAME: Estate of Norwood Norton Strange, Jr.

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from March 17, 2025 re: Status on Filing of Closing of the Estate

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

The hearing is dropped from calendar and the hearing re: Closing of the Estate currently June 12, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 is confirmed.

CASE#: 24PR-00363

CASE NAME: Estate of Andrew Lopez

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from January 9, 2025 re: Status of Filing an Inventory and Appraisal

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. An Inventory and Appraisal was filed on May 27, 2025. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for February 9, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 24PR-00427

CASE NAME: Estate of Jose Jesus Maldonado Chavez

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from January 9, 2025 re: Status on Filing of an Inventory and Appraisal

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. An Inventory and Appraisal was filed on March 14, 2025. A Status Hearing ensuring the closing of the estate is hereby set for February 9, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

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CASE#: 24PR-00477

CASE NAME: Estate of Charles Albern Scoggins

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from January 9, 2025 re: Status of filing an Inventory and Appraisal

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. An Inventory and Appraisal was filed on January 23, 2025. A Status Hearing ensuring the closing of the estate is hereby set for February 9, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: PR000016

CASE NAME: Estate of Bernard Charles Gardner

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from April 10, 2025 re:

1. Order to Show Cause for Failure to Appear
2. Petition for the Personal Representative to Give a Report on the Status of Administration

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

1. An Inventory and Appraisal has not been filed by the Executor.
Prob Code §8800(b)
2. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed by the Executor.
Prob Code §12200-12201

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

CASE#: 23PR-00148 (*updated)

CASE NAME: In the Matter of the Ricarda Aguirre Martinez Living Trust

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

1. Continued from April 7, 2025 re: Status on Appointment of Successor Trustee
2. Notice of Motion for Award of Reasonable Attorney Fees and Costs

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

1. Notice of Motion for Award of Reasonable Attorney Fees and Costs filed on 5/30/25 remains under review.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)