

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: Monday, March 30, 2026  
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-00081

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Rafael Montes Ferrel

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

Continued from August 11, 2025 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

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

An Ex Parte Petition for Discharge has been submitted and is pending the Court's signature.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required.

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**CASE#:** 24PR-00243

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Darryl Grant Crain

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

Continued from October 22, 2025 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

**THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE 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.

**CASE#:** 25PR-00078

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Magdalena M. Luque

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

Petition for Final Distribution of Estate on Waivers of Accounting; First and Final Report of Administrator with Will Annexed; Petition for Reimbursement of Personal Monies Advanced; Petition for Allowance of Attorney and Administrator with Will Annexed Statutory Fees and Costs

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

None.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required. The *Petition for Final Distribution of Estate on Waivers of Accounting; First and Final Report of Administrator with Will Annexed; Petition for Reimbursement of Personal Monies Advanced; Petition for Allowance of Attorney and Administrator with Will Annexed Statutory Fees and Costs* is approved. The Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate currently set for April 29, 2026 is continued to July 27, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

**CASE#:** 25PR-00192

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Karnail Singh Rai

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

Continued from January 14, 2026 re: Status on Filing of an Inventory and Appraisal

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

1. An Inventory and Appraisal has not been filed. Prob Code §8800(b)

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required. Counsel to advise the Court on the filing of an Inventory and Appraisal.

(continued on next page)

**CASE#:** 25PR-00389

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Lawrence Joseph Hernandez

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

Continued from February 13, 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. 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.

(End of Tentative Rulings)