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, November 16, 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#: 21PR-00144

CASE NAME: Estate of Bruce Gray

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from June 22, 2026 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

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

1. Distributive Receipts and an Ex Parte Petition For Final Discharge And Order (DE-295) have not been submitted. Prob Code §§11753, 12250

TENTATIVE RULING:
Appearance required.

(continued on next page)

CASE#: 23PR-00396

CASE NAME: Estate of Antonio Vasquez Lopez

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from August 10, 2026 RE: Status Hearing re: Closing of the Estate

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

1. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed.
   Prob Code §12200-12201 *Corrected

TENTATIVE RULING:
No appearance required. The *First and Final Report of Administrator on Waiver of Accounting and Petition for Its Settlement; For Allowance of Statutory Compensation to Attorneys and Personal Representative for Ordinary Services; For Allowance of Extraordinary Compensation for Administrator's Attorney; for Reimbursement of Costs Advances and for Final Distribution* currently set for hearing on February 10, 2027 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 is confirmed.

CASE#: 24PR-00090

CASE NAME: Estate of Hazel Stultz

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from September 28, 2026 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

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

1. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed.
   Prob Code §12200-12201
2. Court's discretion concerning possible measures to be imposed for failing to file a Status Report or Petition for Final Account and Order for Distribution within the required statutory time. Prob Code §§ 11050, et seq., 12205

TENTATIVE RULING:
Appearance required. Counsel to appear and advise the Court on the current case status.

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CASE#: 24PR-00346

CASE NAME: Estate of Lisa McLean Aris

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from October 21, 2026 re: Further Proceedings

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

1. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed. Prob Code §12200-12201

TENTATIVE RULING:
This case is trailing #26PR-00315 Estate of Lisa McLean Aris.

CASE#: 26PR-00315 (COMPETING PETITION)

CASE NAME: Estate of Lisa McLean Aris

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from October 21, 2026 re: Further Proceedings

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

1. The Proof of Service filed on 8/18/26 does not show service of the Petition and Notice of Hearing on counsel of record for Sidney Keith McLean in case # 24PR-00346. Prob. Code §§ 1214, 1215
    a. *The Proof of Service filed September 22, 2026, reflects electronic service on counsel Austin Heil of the Proof of Service, Order for Probate, Affidavit of Publication, Duties and Liabilities, and Petition for Letters of Administration, but does not establish service of the mandatory Notice of Petition to Administer Estate (form DE-121).* *
2. Counsel's Declaration filed on 8/4/26 indicates the offered will was removed from a notebook for lodging at the direction of the court processing clerk. The Petitioner should make the remaining notebook available to the Court upon request and provide any additional foundation needed to establish the integrity and completeness of the lodged original. Prob. Code §§ 6111, 8200, 8222 **Issue remains pending before the Court*
3. The holographic will does not waive bond. The Petitioner should provide her own written waiver if she seeks waiver of bond. Prob. Code §§ 8480, 8481
4. The Petitioner should address the relationship between this proceeding and the existing case No. 24PR-00346. Prob. Code § 8504 (a)
5. Proposed Letters have not been lodged. MSC Rule 100 E.

TENTATIVE RULING:
Appearance required.

(continued on next page)

CASE#: 25PR-00266

CASE NAME: Estate of Mohinder Singh

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from April 13, 2026 re: Status Hearing ensuring the 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-00282

CASE NAME: Estate of Matthew Fell

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from September 14, 2026 re: Status Hearing

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

1. Additional information needed to address the notice, privacy and limits on access concerning the requested subpoenas and proposed Google order. Only a proposed order is on file, without a supporting Petition, proof of the required submission to Google, support for a § 2702 finding, or proof of notice to Mr. Conrad. The reported absence of estate assets also raises doubt that disclosure is reasonably necessary for estate administration. Prob. Code, §§ 876–877, 881; 18 U.S.C. § 2702.
2. Concern that the administrator needs an attorney to pursue disputed requests affecting the minor's interests. *Estate of Sanchez (2023) 95 Cal.App.5th 331.*
3. Additional information is needed concerning the remaining unspecified debt.
   CCP § 366.2; Prob. Code §§ 9100, 12201
4. Notice of the Status Report has not been provided to the minor's guardian. The Court may consider whether a guardian ad litem and counsel is needed to protect the minor's interests. Prob. Code §§ 1003, 1215, 1260.

TENTATIVE RULING:
Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)