

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: Thursday, April 9, 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#:** 21PR-00144

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Bruce Gray

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

Continued from November 20, 2025 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

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

No appearance required. The Status Review Hearing is continued to June 22, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 to allow counsel additional time to file the appropriate Distributive Receipts and Ex Parte Petition for Final Discharge with the Court.

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**CASE#:** 24PR-00103

**CASE NAME:** Estate of John Ruiz

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

Report of Administrator on Waiver of Account and Petition for Its Settlement, for Allowance of Statutory Compensation to Attorneys and for Final Distribution

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

None.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required. The *Report of Administrator on Waiver of Account and Petition for Its Settlement, for Allowance of Statutory Compensation to Attorneys and for Final Distribution* is approved. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for September 16, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

**CASE#:** 24PR-00335

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Deborah Joyce Collins

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

Continued from October 30, 2025 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. The Administrators to advise the Court on the status of filing of the Final Petition for Distribution.

(continued on next page)

**CASE#:** 25PR-00434

**CASE NAME:** In the Matter of the Scholl Family Living Trust dated September 19, 2017

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

Amended Petition for Probate Code §17200 and §15642 for Instructions, Clarification of Trust Terms; Judicial Determination of Successor Trustee Authority and Trust Administration; Validity of Donative Transfers Under §§21380-21384, To Preserve Trust Assets; Compel Accounting and For Such Other Appropriate Relief and As The Court Deems Proper

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

1. Notice not been provided on all trustees and beneficiaries. Prob Code §17203
2. The Amended Petition is unclear, difficult to understand and fails to state the requested relief with sufficient specificity to permit a meaningful review.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance. The hearing is dropped for lack of appropriate service.

**CASE#:** 26PR-00093

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Stanley A. Callan

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

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary with Full IAEA Authority

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

1. Who is/are the beneficiary/beneficiaries of the decedent's trust?

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)