

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: Thursday, July 9, 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#: 16PR-00164

CASE NAME: Conservatorship of Christopher Borba

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from April 29, 2026

1. Fourth Account and Report of Co-Conservators; Petition to Approve Account, For Reimbursement of Costs and for Allowance of Fees to Attorney
2. Fifth Account and Report of Co-Conservators; Petition to Approve Account, For Reimbursement of Costs and for Allowance of Fees to Attorney

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

1. Court's discretion concerning counsel's request for fees in the 5th accounting are just and reasonable for the work completed during the conservatorship period. Prob Code §2642
2. Court Investigator Fees in the amount of \$450.00 to be assessed per Prob Code §1851.5.
3. The Supplemental Declaration of Stuart B. Spencer regarding Attorney's Fees-Fourth and Fifth Accounts and Reports has not been served on the Conservatee and Co-Conservators. Prob Code §§1460, 2621, CRC 7.53(b) **Newly noted for the 7/9/26 hearing*

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to August 13, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for service to be effectuated on the Conservatee and Co-Conservators.

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CASE#: CU110713

CASE NAME: Rivas v. County of Merced, et al. (SNT)

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from April 29, 2026 re: Petition for Approval of Fourteenth Account and Report of Co-Trustees; Fees

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

1. Notice has not been served on all trustees, beneficiary and any other interested parties. Prob Code §17203 **POS filed on 6/9/26 remains deficient as notice has only been served on the beneficiary's siblings.*
2. The request for attorney fees is not supported by any declaration (nature, benefit, time expended, detail of services provided & amount. **Declaration filed 6/9/26 – remains at the Court's discretion.*

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to August 13, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for service to be effectuated on the Co-Trustees and Trust Beneficiary.

CASE#: 21PR-00369

CASE NAME: Estate of Gary David White

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from March 5, 2026 re: Review of Case Status re: Closing of the Estate

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The Court has received and reviewed the Status Report filed on June 25, 2026. Good cause appearing, the Court will grant a final continuance. The hearing is continued to December 2, 2026, at 8:15 a.m. in Department 10. If a Petition for Final Distribution has not been filed on or before November 20, 2026 a personal appearance will be required at the December 2, 2026 hearing.

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CASE#: 25PR-00386

CASE NAME: Estate of Dennis Grant Snapp

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Report on Waiver of Account and Petition for Final Distribution, Waiver of Executor Fees; Allowance of Compensation to Attorney for Ordinary Services; and Confirmation of Reimbursement to Attorney for Costs Advanced to the Estate

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

1. Supplement to Report filed on June 9, 2026 is not signed by the Petitioner.
Prob Code §§1020, 1021, CRC 7.103

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

CASE#: 26PR-00209

CASE NAME: Estate of Thomas Souza

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Petition for Letters of Administration with Full IAEA Authority

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

1. Objection and Competing Petition filed by Maritza Souza.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance is required. In the interest of judicial economy, the Court intends to continue the hearing to July 24, 2026, at 8:15 a.m. in Department 10, to be heard concurrently with the related case #26PR-00230.

(End of Tentative Rulings)