

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, November 13, 2025
TIME: 8:15 AM
Courtroom 10

PROBATE CALENDAR

updated 11/12/25 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-00036

CASE NAME: Estate of Joann Croft

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from September 4, 2025 re: Status Review on Closing of the Estate

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS WERE PREVIOUSLY 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.

(continued on next page)

CASE#: 23PR-00283 (*add-on)

CASE NAME: Estate of Jorge Alberto Armenta

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from November 10, 2025 re:

1. Further Proceedings
2. First and Final Report of Administrator and for Final Distribution and Petition for Allowance of Statutory Compensation to Attorney for Ordinary Services

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

1. The proposed distribution of the real property to the minor brings some concern and questions:
 - a. It is unclear who will be in possession and control of the real property [*Addressed in Supplement filed on 8/18/25](#)
 - b. Is there any existing mortgage owed on the real property [*Addressed in Supplement filed on 8/18/25](#)
 - c. How are any tax obligations or other real property expenses to be handled [*Addressed in Supplement filed on 8/18/25](#)
 - d. How will the real property be titled/recorded [*Addressed in Supplement filed on 8/18/25](#)
2. A proposed Order has not been lodged. MSC 100 E. [*Lodged 8/18/25](#)

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

CASE#: 23PR-00286 (*add-on)

CASE NAME: Guardianship of Nubia Armenta

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from November 10, 2025 re: Review of Case Status

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

(continued on next page)

CASE#: 24PR-00283

CASE NAME: Estate of Nicholas Leyva

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from October 18, 2024 re: Filing of an Inventory and Appraisal Continued from April 2, 2025 re: Status 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#: 24PR-00284

CASE NAME: Estate of Maria Leyva

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from April 2, 2025 re: Status 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-00202

CASE NAME: Estate of Lois L. Bentley

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from June 12, 2025 re: Status Hearing ensuring the 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 July 30, 2025. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for July 13, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

(continued on next page)

CASE#: 25PR-00233

CASE NAME: Estate of Dwight Anthony Reynolds

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from October 30, 2025 re: Further Proceedings

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Case is trailing #25PR-00323 Estate of Dwight Reynolds, Sr.

CASE#: 25PR-00323

CASE NAME: Estate of Dwight Reynolds, Senior

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from October 30, 2025 re: Proof of Deposit of Funds

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

1. Proof of Deposit has not been filed as ordered by the Court on 9/18/25

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

(continued on next page)

CASE#: 25PR-00342

CASE NAME: Estate of Somrudee Abeleven

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from October 1, 2025 re: Petition for Letters of Administration with Full IAEA Authority

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

1. No Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit.
Prob Code §8121, §8124 [*Filed on 10/27/25](#)
2. If a citizen of a foreign country dies without leaving a will or leaves a will without naming an executor, or if it appears that property will pass to a citizen of a foreign country, notice shall be given to a recognized diplomatic or consular official of the foreign country maintaining an office in the United States. Prob Code §8113 [*Filed on 10/27/25](#)
3. Proposed Letters and Order for Probate has not been lodged.
Prob Code §8006, §8400 [*Proposed Order lodged on 10/27/25](#)

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required. Absent any Objection, the Court's intention is to approve the Petition for Administration with full IAEA Authority with a \$318,000.00 bond to be posted. Probate Referee Michael Wright is appointed. A Status Hearing ensuring the filing of an Inventory and Appraisal to be set for April 30, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 21PR-00406 (*updated 11/12/25)

CASE NAME: Estate of Edward Anthony Vanek II

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from March 6, 2025 re: Status Review

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 [*Status Report filed 11/7/25](#)

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The Court is in receipt of the Status Report filed by the Administrator on November 7, 2025. The Court hereby continues the hearing to November 18, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for Further Proceedings/Case Status.

(End of Tentative Rulings)