

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: Wednesday, April 22, 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-00401

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Da Mua

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

Continued from January 21, 2026 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

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

1. 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-00136

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Roberto Soria Sandoval

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

Continued from January 14, 2026 re: Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate

**THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS WERE PREVIOUSLY 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 5, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. to allow counsel additional time to file the appropriate Distributive Receipts and Ex Parte Petition for Final Discharge with the Court.

**CASE#:** 23PR-00228

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Silvia Esparza Vera

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

Continued from December 12, 2025 re: Status Hearing

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

1. A 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-00434

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Melinda Thornton

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

Continued from January 21, 2026 re: Status of 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. The Administrator to appear and advise the Court on the current case status.

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**CASE#:** 24PR-00456

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Chris Patrick Manshack

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

Continued from January 21, 2026 re: Status of Closing of the Estate

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

1. An Inventory and Appraisal has not been filed. Prob Code §8800(b) \*Corrected
2. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed.  
Prob Code §12200-12201

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required. An Inventory and Appraisal was filed on March 12, 2026. The Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for July 30, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

**CASE#:** 25PR-00366

**CASE NAME:** Estate of James Brooks Griffin

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

Continued from October 22, 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 March 19, 2026. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for November 18, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

**CASE#:** P26533

**CASE NAME:** In Re The Fidel Munoz Special Needs Trust

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

Petition to Settle Trustee's Seventeenth Account Current, to Allow Fees and Costs to the Trustee and its Counsel, and For Periodic Payment of Future Trustee Fees

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

None.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

The Petition to Settle Trustee's Seventeenth Account Current, to Allow Fees and Costs to the Trustee and its Counsel, and For Periodic Payment of Future Trustee Fees is approved. The trustee's bond is hereby ordered to be reduced and posted in the amount of \$2,390,000.00.

(End of Tentative Rulings)