

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, February 25, 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#:** 23PR-00036

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Joann Croft

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

Continued from November 13, 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#:** 24PR-00246

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Bradley Lee Lambert

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

First and Final Account and Report of Administrator and Petition for Final Distribution; Allowance of Compensation by Administrator; for Allowance of Compensation to Attorney for Ordinary Services and For Final Distribution

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

1. Notice has not been provided to all heirs. Prob Code §§11000, 1220
2. The Court has been made aware of and intends to set aside the *Order for Final Distribution* that was filed and processed in error on October 29, 2025.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required.

**CASE#:** 24PR-00355

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Mike G. Ybarra, Jr.

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

Continued from July 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 Administrator to appear and provide the Court with a current case status.

**CASE#:** 24PR-00411

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Jose J. Andrade Calderon, Jr.

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

Continued from June 25, 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 Administrator to appear and provide the Court with a current case status.

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**CASE#:** 25PR-00323

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Dwight Reynolds, Senior

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

Continued from December 17, 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 January 15, 2026. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate to be set for October 21, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

**CASE#:** 25PR-00322

**CASE NAME:**

In Re: The 2007 Beatrice I. Mercado and Mauel M. Mercado Revocable Trust

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

Continued from December 11, 2025 re:

1. Petition to Determine Omitted Spouse's Share and to Compel Distribution to the Omitted Spouse
2. Respondents' Notice of Motion and Motion to Expunge Notice of Pendency of Action [Lis Pendens] and for Fees and Costs; Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support Thereof: Declaration of Megan D. Johson

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

1. *Response and Objection* filed by the Trustees of the 2007 Beatrice I. Mercado and Manuel M. Mercado Revocable Trust and the Manuel M. Mercado 2024 Irrevocable Truste dated May 31, 2024.
2. No service on trust beneficiaries Cecelia Gallo and issue of deceased beneficiary Sylvia Magana, decedent's sons Chilo Mercado and Francisco Mercado.  
Prob Code §1220 \*Corrected
3. Notice of the *Opposition to the Motion to Expunge* has not been provided to counsel of record who represents Teresita Andam. Prob Code §1214, CRC 7.51(b)

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required. The Court has reviewed the Respondent's Motion to Expunge Notice of Pendency of Action [Lis Pendens] and for Fees and Costs, the Petitioner's Response and Respondent's Reply. The Court hereby intends to GRANT the Respondent's Motion to Expunge Lis Pendens. The Court also intends to GRANT the Respondent's request for attorney's fees in the amount of \$4,657.90 as reasonable. The Court agrees with the Respondent's argument that the Lis Pendens should be expunged as the Omitted Spouse Petition does not place title or possession to property in issue. The Petitioner is seeking a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> BENEFICIAL interest in the estate and trust property. A BENEFICIAL interest is not a right to any specific piece of real property, but a right to a 1/3<sup>RD</sup> share in the value of the trust, which, if the Omitted Spouse Petition is granted, can be paid from whatever trust assets the trustee, acting in good faith, elects to transfer.

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**CASE#:** 25PR-00468

**CASE NAME:** In re: the Manuel M. Mercado 2024 Irrevocable Trust

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

Verified Petition for:

1. Determination that the Manuel M. Mercado Irrevocable Trust is Void and to Impose a Constructive Trust – Undue Influence;
2. Determination that the Manuel M. Mercado Irrevocable Trust is Void and to Impose a Constructive Trust – Lack of Capacity;
3. Cancellation of Instrument and Quiet Title;
4. Financial Elder Abuse;
5. Suspension of Respondent as Trustee and Appointment of Petitioner as Interim Trustee

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

1. Notice has not been provided to counsel of record who represents Teresita Andam.  
Prob Code §1214, CRC 7.51(b)

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)