

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: Wednesday, July 29, 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#: 23PR-00286

CASE NAME: Guardianship of Nubia Armenta

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

First and Final Account and Report of Guardian of the Person and Estate, and Petition for Allowance of Attorney Fees; Declaration of Genicis Aguilar, Esq. Re: Request for Attorney Fees

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

1. The Accounting is incomplete and does not include the required supporting schedules, including the schedule of assets on hand and any proposed-distribution schedule required by Probate Code section 1063.
2. The Petition states there were no disbursements from the blocked account during the accounting period; however, the missing funds appear to represent an amount owed by A. Lopez and are not properly identified as a loss. Please clarify the amount as an asset receivable, or otherwise explain its treatment, consistent with Probate Code section 1063.
3. The Petition further does not request an order preserving or directing collection of the debt owed by the mother. Please clarify whether the unpaid amount remains an asset receivable of the guardianship or estate, and request appropriate relief to preserve and enforce collection rather than treating the amount as a loss.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. Recommend the hearing be continued to September 21, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10. Any corrective pleadings to be filed and served by the close of business on September 11, 2026.

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CASE#: 25PR-00193

CASE NAME: Estate of Maria Angela Greco

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from July 29, 2026 re:

1. Petition for Approval of First and Final Accounting; Fees for Attorney; Waiver of Statutory Fees for Personal Representative; Reimbursement of Costs; and for Final Distribution
2. Status of Closing of the Estate

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

1. The accounting reflects cash and a vehicle that were later received and were not included in a Supplemental Inventory and Appraisal. Prob Code §8801 **Corrected*

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The *Petition for Approval of First and Final Accounting; Fees for Attorney; Waiver of Statutory Fees for Personal Representative; Reimbursement of Costs; and for Final Distribution* is approved. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for November 19, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 26PR-00103

CASE NAME: In re the 2012 Richard D. Baxter and Geraldine Baxter Revocable Trust, dated October 23, 2012

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from May 14, 2026 re: First Amended Petition for Instructions; Petition to Compel Trustee to Account

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

1. Notice of the Amended Petition filed on 6/26/26 is deficient as the Amended Petition was not been served on all interested parties 30 days before the hearing. Prob Code §17203, CRC 7.53

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to August 31, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for correction of the notice deficiency.

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CASE#: 24PR-00021

CASE NAME: Estate of Charles Gregory Reeves

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Waiver of Accounting and Report of Executor, Petition for Final Distribution and Discharge;
Status Report

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

1. Waivers of accounting have not been filed by all interested parties, so a full accounting remains required. Probate Code section 10954 and California Rule of Court 7.550 permits waiver of an accounting only when the statutory waiver requirements are met; otherwise, the fiduciary must provide the accounting.
2. Was notice given to all interested parties regarding the sale of the real property under the Independent Administration of Estates Act (IAEA), as required by Probate Code section 10580 et seq., including any notice of proposed action to all persons entitled to receive notice under Probate Code section 10581?
3. No explanation has been provided as to why the real property was sold for \$205,000 when the appraised value was \$290,000. Under Probate Code §10309, a private sale of estate real property generally must be at least 90% of the appraised value unless an exception applies.
4. The Petition does not clearly identify the assets on hand at the end of administration or the proposed distribution of those assets. Please clarify the remaining assets and corresponding proposed distribution, with reference to Probate Code §10954 and California Rules of Court rule 7.550
5. A proposed order was lodged on May 27, 2026, but it does not clearly specify the estate assets remaining on hand at the end of administration or the proposed distribution of those assets. Please provide a proposed order that clarifies the assets remaining for distribution and the corresponding distribution terms.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to September 21, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for correction of the deficiencies. Any corrective pleadings to be filed and served by the close of business on September 4, 2026.

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CASE#: 24PR-00315

CASE NAME: Estate of Jerry Wayne David

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from June 22, 2026 re: Petition for Order to Issue Citation to Answer Interrogatories Pursuant to California Probate Code Section 8870

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

CASE#: 26PR-00170

CASE NAME: Robert Dean Ashlock, Jr.

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from June 24, 2026 re: Petition for Letters of Administration with Full IAEA Authority

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

1. What is the Petitioner's relationship to the decedent?
2. The relationship of the parties named on page 4 has not been identified.
3. Is the minor named in the Petition on page 4 the decedent's son? The Court may require the appointment of a Guardian Ad Litem.
4. No Notice to all heirs, beneficiaries & executors. Prob Code §8100, §8110
5. Bond has not been waived by all beneficiaries. Prob Code §8481
 - a. *Waivers of bond were filed by Rebecca Ann Ashlock, Richard Dustin Ashlock, Robert Dean Ashlock, Rad Ronald Ashlock, and Russell Ashlock. Their relationship to the decedent and interest in the estate is unclear as they are not identified in the Petition. *Newly noted for the 7/29/26 hearing*
6. No Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit. Prob Code §8121, §8124
 - a. *The document titled "Preview for Ad Number" filed on 7/22/26 is not sufficient proof of publication. Please file the newspaper's Affidavit of Publication showing the time and place of publication, consistent with Probate Code §§1262, 8100, 8121, 8124 *Newly noted for the 7/29/26 hearing*
7. Proposed Letters and Order for Probate has not been lodged. Prob Code §8006, §8400, MSC 100 E.

TENTATIVE RULING:

No appearance required. The hearing to August 28, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for correction of the deficiencies. Any corrective pleadings are to be filed and served by the close of business on August 21, 2026. The Petitioner is urged to seek competent legal assistance.

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CASE#: PR000578

CASE NAME: Estate of Lorrie Jean Rose-Huitron

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from June 22, 2026 re: Report of Administrator on Waiver of Account and Petition for Its Settlement, For Allowance of Statutory Compensation to Attorneys and Compensation to Attorneys for Extraordinary Legal Services and for Final Distribution.

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

1. No Substitution of Attorney has been filed. CCP §284(1) *Corrected
2. The Court notes that new counsel was not counsel of record for the entirety of the administration, but seeks the full statutory compensation. The request for the entire statutory compensation remains subject to the Court's discretion.
Prob Code §10814 *Corrected

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 Compensation to Attorneys for Extraordinary Legal Services and for Final Distribution* is approved. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for November 12, 2026 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

(End of Tentative Rulings)