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, November 18, 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#: 24PR-00509

CASE NAME: Estate of Thelma Snyder

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from June 24, 2026 re:
1. Status Review Hearing/Trial Setting Conference
2. 850 Petition by Administrator

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:
None.

TENTATIVE RULING:
Appearance required. Counsel to advise the Court on the current case status.

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CASE#: 25PR-00366

CASE NAME: Estate of James Brooks Griffin

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from April 22, 2026 re Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:
None.

TENTATIVE RULING:
No appearance required. A Status Report was filed on November 13, 2026. The Status Hearing ensuring the closing of the estate is continued to May 12, 2027 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 26PR-00177

CASE NAME:
In re: the Robert E. and Beatrice Joyce Ellington Family Living Trust dated June 5, 2001

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from August 21, 2026 re: Trial Setting Conference

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:
None.

TENTATIVE RULING:
Appearance required. The parties are to advise the Court of the current status of this matter, including outstanding discovery, the status of counsel for Trustee Deborah Burkhart, and readiness to proceed to an evidentiary hearing. The parties should be prepared to address appropriate dates for trial setting and any proposed trial dates.

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CASE#: 26PR-00405

CASE NAME: Estate of Michael S. Luevano

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Petition for Letters of Administration with Limited IAEA Authority

THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AND/OR DEFICIENCIES IN THE PAPERS ARE NOTED:
None.

TENTATIVE RULING:
No appearance required. Absent any Objection, the Court's intention is to approve the Petition for Letters of Administration with Limited IAEA Authority with no bond required. Any cash receipts are to be placed in a blocked account at Chase Bank located at 800 W. Olive., Ave, Merced, CA. Probate Referee Michael Wright is appointed. A Status Hearing ensuring the filing of an Inventory and Appraisal is hereby set for April 21, 2027 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 26PR-00415

CASE NAME: Estate of Phyllis L. McCabe

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. Who is the Trustee or Trustees and beneficiaries of the Phyllis L. McCabe Living Trust? Prob Code §§ 8110, 8002, 34, 1208
2. No Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit. Prob Code §8121, §8124

TENTATIVE RULING:
Appearance required.

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CASE#: 21PR-00406

CASE NAME: Estate of Edward Anthony Vanek II

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:
Continued from November 13, 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

TENTATIVE RULING:
Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)