

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, September 2, 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#: 25PR-00337

CASE NAME:

In re The Sohan Singh Sahota and Bhupinder Kaur Sahota Revocable Trust

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from January 7, 2026 re: Petition to Compel Trustee to Report Information Related to the Administration of the Trust Relevant to Beneficiaries' Interests

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#: 26PR-00080

CASE NAME: Estate of Donald M. Tallent

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from July 1, 2026 re: Spousal Property Petition

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

1. Petition does not identify the property that is the subject of this Petition. Additional information is needed to establish the community property claim. (date asset acquired, date of marriage, manner in which asset was acquired and how asset is community property, what were the decedent's assets at the time of marriage, what was the decedent's occupation, how was the down payment made for the real property? Was it made with separate property or community property? Was the real property a gift? How were the mortgage payments made?) Prob Code 13651(a)(3)-(4)
 - a. *The Declaration filed on 5/20/25 is unsigned and unverified and contains minimal information concerning the manner which the community property claim is established. Additional information is needed such as the date of marriage, manner in which the real property was acquired and how the real property is community property. The Declaration also states the decedent prior to his death added his sister Pat Kelly to the title of the property. There is a concern that there may be heirs to the estate of Pat Kelly who purportedly has an interest in the subject real property. *Noted for the 7/1/26 hearing*
2. Copy of most recent vesting deed to be submitted.
 - a. *Is the vesting deed dated 10/6/85 filed on 5/20/26 the most recent vesting deed to the subject real property? *Noted for the 7/1/26 hearing*

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

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CASE#: 26PR-00209

CASE NAME: Estate of Thomas Souza

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from July 9, 2026 re: Petition for Letters of Administration with Full IAEA Authority

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

1. Objection and Competing Petition filed by Maritza Souza.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

CASE#: 26PR-00230

CASE NAME: Estate of Thomas Souza

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

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

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

1. An Objection was filed by the decedent's sons Thomas J. Souza and Timonthy M. Souza.

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)