

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 notify that documents have been filed, 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 or status of orders 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

*\*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  
Los Banos Division  
HONORABLE: Jennifer O. Trimble

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DATE: Tuesday, April 7, 2026  
TIME: 9:00 AM & 1:30 PM  
Courtroom 12  
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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-00060

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Andres Robledo Ybarra

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

Petition For Order Approving Settlement Agreement.

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

1. Clarification of Richard Gaona's role or capacity in the failed real estate sale that is the subject matter of the civil Complaint.
2. Clarification of the dollar amount Richard Gaona shares, if any, in satisfying the Settlement Payment.
3. Clarification whether Richard Gaona is insured for any acts or omissions regarding the Claims made in the civil Complaint.
4. Clarification whether there is any family or affiliate relationship between Richard Gaona and Hilda Gaona, the personal representative of the Estate.

**PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:**

Appearance required.

(continued)

**CASE#:** 23PR-00061

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Virginia Tarango Olivas

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

Petition For Order Approving Settlement Agreement.

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

1. Clarification of Richard Gaona's role or capacity in the failed real estate sale that is the subject matter of the civil Complaint.
2. Clarification of the dollar amount Richard Gaona shares, if any, in satisfying the Settlement Payment.
3. Clarification whether Richard Gaona is insured for any acts or omissions regarding the Claims made in the civil Complaint.
4. Clarification whether there is any family or affiliate relationship between Richard Gaona and Hilda Gaona, the personal representative of the Estate.

**PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:**

Appearance required.

**CASE#:** 25PR-00163

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Eva Jean Ford

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

Continued from January 8, 2026 for Status of Petition for Final Distribution.

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

1. No Petition for Final Distribution filed with the Court. Probate Code §11600.

**PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:**

Appearance required.

(continued)

## 1:30 PM PROBATE CALENDAR

**CASE#:** 26PR-00034

**CASE NAME:** In the Matter of Diana Benizer Madrigal

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

Continued from March 3, 2026 for Petition For Approval Of Compromise Of Claim Or Action Or Disposition Of Proceeds Of Judgment For Minor Or Person With A Disability.

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

1. Petition states other passengers' settlements have no bearing on this Minor's Compromise. See Attachment 11.b.(6); CA Rule of Court 7.950.
2. Discretion of the Court whether Petitioner has a conflict of interest.
3. Petition has no doctor's report with a prognosis that Minor completely recovered, (See paragraph 8.)
4. Specific medical expenses to be paid from Minor's proceeds not specified in the Petition. (See "\$0.00" entries in Paragraph 12 and related Attachment 12b(5).)
5. Proposed Order Approving Compromise of Claim for Minor is missing the name, branch, address of the bank where Minor's funds are to be deposited, along with the amount. (See para. 9.a.)
6. Proposed Order to Deposit Funds in Blocked Account is missing Minor's name as person who funds belong to. (See paragraph 2.)
7. Proposed Order to Deposit Funds in Blocked Account is missing representative capacity of Petitioner. (See paragraph 1.)
8. Proposed Order to Deposit Funds in Blocked Account is missing Minor's Date of Birth. (See paragraph 5.b.)

**PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:**

Appearances required.

(End of Probate Notes)