

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 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

DATE: Tuesday, January 6, 2026
TIME: 8:30 AM & 1:30 PM
Courtroom 12

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-00317

CASE NAME: Estate of Todd Duane Rolichcheck, aka Todd D. Rolichcheck, aka Todd Rolichcheck

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from October 22, 2025 for Status of Ex Parte Petition For Final Discharge

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

1. No Distributive Receipt filed with the Court by Petitioner's sibling showing she received the main distribution from the Estate. Probate Code §12250(a).

PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Appearance required.

CASE#: 24PR-00409

CASE NAME: In the Matter of The Nancy Loretta Rolichcheck Trust, Dated April 17, 2023

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from October 22, 2025 for Petition For Order Confirming Sole Trustee And Confirming Trust Assets.

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

1. No proof of service of notice of hearing and copy of the petition served at least 30 days prior to the day of hearing. Probate Code § 850(a)(3)(b), §851, §17203.
2. The Nancy Loretta Rolichcheck Trust, Dated April 17, 2023 ("Trust") appears not to be funded by any property (e.g., missing "Schedule of Trust Assets" referred to in Paragraph 1.1 of Trust). Probate Code §850, §15202.
3. Clarification whether oral declaration(s) are the only evidence of intent to transfer accounts to the Trust. Probate Code §850, §15207, §17200.
4. No proposed Order submitted to the Court.
5. Brief in Support of Petition filed on December 9, 2025.

PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Appearance required.

CASE#: 25PR-00077

CASE NAME: Estate of Kathleen Josephine Carlson Fraser aka Kathleen Josephine Carlson aka Kathleen Josephine Fraser

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

First and Final Report of Executor and Petition for its Settlement, For Allowance of Attorneys' Statutory Fees, and for Final Distribution of Decedent's Estate on Waiver of Accounting.

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

1. The named Trustee's written acceptance of the trust is not filed with the Court. Probate Code §10954(b)(4).
2. The Estate is not in a condition to be closed, as attorney fees and costs, and Petitioner's reimbursement of costs are not adequately provided for. Probate Code §11640.
3. The Personal Representative cannot pay the requested attorney fees from the Estate. Probate Code §10831(d).

PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Appearance required.

CASE#: 25PR-00099

CASE NAME: Estate of Alfonso Puentes, Jr.

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from September 30, 2025 for Status of filing of an Inventory and Appraisal.

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

1. Inventory and Appraisal filed with the Court on October 22, 2025.
2. Clarification whether there is an Estate for Alfonso Gomez Puentes, Sr.

PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Appearance required.

CASE#: 25PR-00464

CASE NAME: Estate of Thomas Edward Horan

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Petition For Letters of Administration

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

1. No request for IAEA authority in Petition's title. CA Rules of Court, Rule 7.102.
2. No character and estimated value of property of the Estate listed in the Petition. Probate Code §8002(a)(4); See also paragraph 3 of Petition.
3. No written waiver of bond by all beneficiaries. Probate Code §8481.
4. No Proof of Service of mailing of Notice of Hearing. Probate Code §8110.
5. No Proof of Publication of Notice of Hearing. Probate Code §8120.
6. Letters submitted to the Court unsigned. Probate Code §8403.

PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Appearance required.

1:30 PM PROBATE CALENDAR

CASE#: 25PR-00473

CASE NAME: In Re: The Disputed Claim of Serenity Perez, A Minor

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Petition For Approval Of Compromise Of Claim Or Action Or Disposition Of Proceeds Of Judgment For Minor Or Person With A Disability.

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

1. None.

PROBATE EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Appearance required.

(End of Probate Notes)