

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 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

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DATE: Friday, March 21, 2025  
TIME: 8:15 AM and 8:30 AM  
Courtroom 10  
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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#:** 21PR-00091

**CASE NAME:**

In re the Matter of the Laura M. Bettencourt 1999 Revocable Living Trust

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

Order to Show Cause re: Dismissal

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

1. Distributive Receipts and an Ex Parte Petition For Final Discharge And Order (DE-295) have not been submitted. Prob Code §§11753, 12250

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Absent any Objection the Court's intention is to dismiss the case without prejudice. Sanctions previously issued and stayed by the Court on July 15, 2024 to be dissolved.

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**CASE#:** 23PR-00365

**CASE NAME:** Estate of John S. Pazin

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

Continued from December 11, 2024 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

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

1. Distributive Receipts and an Ex Parte Petition For Final Discharge And Order (DE-295) have not been submitted. Prob Code §§11753, 12250

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required. Counsel to provide a status on closing of the estate.

**CASE#:** 23PR-00425

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Albert Eric Groth

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

Continued from February 7, 2025 re: Status Review Hearing

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

None.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required. A Status Hearing ensuring the filing of an Inventory and Appraisal is hereby set for August 11, 2025 at 8:15 am in Courtroom 10.

**CASE#:** 24PR-00365

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Larry Melgosa

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

Continued from January 29, 2025 re: Spousal Property Petition

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

1. A copy of the entire Trust document has not been provided as supporting documentation of the Petitioner's request. *\*Corrected*
2. Notice is to be provided to the current Trustee of the Enedina Melgosa Trust.
  - *\*Clarification as to the person who is the current Successor Trustee of the Enedina Melgosa Trust. Proof of Service filed on 1/29/25 identifies Brett Melgosa as the current trustee as opposed to Mark Melgosa who is the named alternate Successor Trustee per terms of the trust document.  
\*Newly noted for the 3/21/25 hearing*

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required.

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**CASE#:** 24PR-00377

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Anthony Joseph Santagato

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

Continued from October 21, 2024 re: Status of Filing an Inventory and Appraisal

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

None.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required. An Inventory and Appraisal was filed on January 22, 2025. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for November 20, 2025 at 8:15 am in Courtroom 10.

**CASE#:** 24PR-00507

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Walter Cecil Reynolds

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

Continued from January 24, 2025 re: Status Hearing

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

None.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required. A Stipulation and Order concerning the estate's interest in the real property located at Northwood Drive, Merced, CA was signed by Judge Jamieson on March 5, 2025. An Inventory and Appraisal was also filed on January 23, 2025. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate to be set for February 25, 2026 at 8:15 am in Courtroom 10.

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**8:30 AM CALENDAR**

**CASE#:** 16PR-00346

**CASE NAME:** In the Matter of the Isabel E. Moreno Minor's Trust

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

Amended Second Account and Report of Trustee and Petition to Approve Fees to Thomas Day in Preparation of Amended Second Account

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

Under review.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required. Former Trustee Victor Moreno to provide the Court with an update as to the status of filing an accounting in case #16PR-00347 – In Re: The Anthony C. Moreno Minor's Trust. The Probate Examiner is requesting this accounting be continued and set for the same date as the accounting in the related Anthony Moreno Trust so both accountings may be reviewed in tandem due to the complexities of the various transactions that are intertwined in both trust accountings.

**CASE#:** 19PR-00308

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Kenneth Wheaton

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

Continued from January 24, 2025 re: Status Review Hearing

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

1. A Petition for Final Account or Status Report has not been filed.  
Prob Code §12200-12201

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required.

**CASE#:** 21PR-00146

**CASE NAME:** Conservatorship of Perry Wheaton

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

Continued from January 24, 2025 re: Status Review/Trailing 19PR-00308 Estate of Kenneth Wheaton

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

This case is trailing case #19PR-308 Kenneth Wheaton.

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**CASE#:** 23PR-00024

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Joe L. Manzanedo

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

Continued from December 20, 2024 re: Status of Possible Successor Administrators or Referral to the Merced County Public Administrator's Office

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

1. Proposed Letters will need to be lodged with the Court.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required. Absent any Objection the Court's intention is to grant the Public Administrator's Successor Petition for Administration with Full IAEA Authority. The Status Hearing currently set for April 11, 2025 to be vacated and a Status Hearing on the Closing of the Estate to be set for August 22, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

**CASE#:** 24PR-00232

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Ruben Escalante

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

Continued from February 28, 2025 re: Status on Letters of Administration

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

None.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required.

(End of Tentative Rulings)