

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, April 9, 2025
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-00137

CASE NAME: Estate of Linda Pruett Groth

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Petition for Settlement; Final Distribution and Allowance of Compensation for Statutory Services was filed by the Executrix

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

None.

TENTATIVE RULING:

The Petition for Settlement; Final Distribution and Allowance of Compensation for Statutory Services is approved. The Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate currently set for August 4, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 is confirmed.

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CASE#: 24PR-00263

CASE NAME: Estate of John Louie Villanueva

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from October 9, 2024 re: Status of Filing an Inventory and Appraisal

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

1. An Inventory and Appraisal has not been filed. Prob Code §8800(b)

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required. The Administrator to inform the Court on the filing of an Inventory and Appraisal.

CASE#: 24PR-00269

CASE NAME: Estate of Jean Gibson Willis

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from October 9, 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 February 18, 2025. A Status Hearing ensuring the closing of the estate is hereby set for November 19, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 24PR-00281

CASE NAME: Estate of Kathy Lynette Roy

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from November 22, 2024 re: Status of Filing an Inventory and Appraisal

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

1. An Inventory and Appraisal has not been filed. Prob Code §8800(b)

TENTATIVE RULING:

Appearance required. The administrator to inform the Court on the filing of an Inventory and Appraisal.

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CASE#: 24PR-00335

CASE NAME: Estate of Deborah Joyce Collins

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Continued from February 28, 2025 re: Petition for Letters of Administration with Full IAEA Authority

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

1. No Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit.
Prob Code §8121, §8124
 - Publication filed 12/30/24 is improper as it reflects notice of the previous December 6, 2024 hearing date but reflects publication effectuated on December 12, 2024, December 19, 2024 and December 26, 2024.
 - *Re-Publication filed on 1/31/25 is improper as it does not reflect the Petitioners' request for IAEA powers sought. Prob Code §10451(c) *Corrected*
2. Duties & Liabilities Acknowledgment signed by each personal representative has not been filed. Prob Code §8404(a) **Corrected*
3. Proposed Letters and Order for Probate have not been submitted.
Prob Code §8006, §8400 **Lodged on 1/2/25 – proposed Letters and Order for Probate only reflect Co-Petitioner Joseph Alan White and are missing the name of Co-Petitioner James David Buel *Corrected – lodged 1/9/25*

TENTATIVE RULING:

The Petition for Administration with full IAEA Authority with no bond required to be posted is granted. Probate Referee Michael Wright is appointed. A Status Hearing ensuring the filing of an Inventory and Appraisal is hereby set for September 10, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

CASE#: 25PR-00092

CASE NAME: Estate of Barbara Joan Gann

THIS CASE IS SET FOR HEARING ON:

Petition for Probate of Letters Testamentary with Full IAEA Authority

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

1. No Notice to all heirs, beneficiaries & executors. Prob Code §8100, §8110
2. No Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit.
Prob Code §8121, §8124

TENTATIVE RULING:

The hearing is continued to May 7, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for correction of the deficiencies.

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CASE#: 25PR-00096

CASE NAME: Estate of Randi L. Hernschall

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. Is there a current conservator the decedent's son D. Johnson?
2. No Notice to all heirs, beneficiaries & executors. Prob Code §8100, §8110
3. No Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit.
Prob Code §8121, §8124
4. Proposed Letters have not been lodged. Prob Code §8006, §8400

TENTATIVE RULING:

The hearing is continued to May 7, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 for correction of the deficiencies.

(End of Tentative Rulings)