

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: Thursday, February 27, 2025  
TIME: 8:15 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-00437

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Marguerite Ellin Carey

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

Continued from November 13, 2024 re: Status Hearing Ensuring the Closing of the Estate

**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:**

Appearance required.

(continued on next page)

**CASE#:** 22PR-00081

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Rafael Montes Ferrel

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

Continued from December 19, 2024 re: Status on Closing of the Estate

**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:**

No appearance required. The Status Review Hearing is continued to June 25, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10 allowing counsel additional time to file the appropriate Distributive Receipts and Ex Parte Petition for Final Discharge with the Court.

**CASE#:** 22PR-00127

**CASE NAME:** Estate of James D. Renshaw

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

Report on Account and Petition for Final Distribution

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

None.

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

The *Report on Account and Petition for Final Distribution* is approved. A Status Hearing ensuring the Closing of the Estate is hereby set for May 12, 2025 at 8:15 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

(continued on next page)

**CASE#:** 24PR-00232

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Ruben Escalante

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

Continued from February 5, 2025 re: Second Amended Petition for Letters of Special Administration with Full IAEA Authority

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

1. Petition is not signed and verified by Co-Petitioner Gracie Gonzales.
  - a. CCP §§128.7, 2015.5, Prob Code §1021(a)(1)
2. The Petition provides an estate of the decedent's estate as consisting solely of personal property and does not include any estimate for any real property belonging to the decedent.
3. Petition does not include the following previously identified parties:
  - a. Decedent's spouse Vicky Lynn Escalante
  - b. Adult children of the decedent: Ruben Escalante, Jr. and Sandra Rodriguez.
  - c. Adult sibling Hermalinda Vasquez
  - d. Prob Code §8802(a)(3)
4. No Notice to all heirs (decedent's spouse, children and adult sibling Hermalinda Vasquez). Prob Code §8100, §8110
5. Improper Notice provided to the decedent's mother and siblings identified in the Second Amended Petition as it was effectuated by the Petitioner F. Estela Escalante who is a party to the action. CCP §1013a.
6. Duties & Liabilities Acknowledgment signed by each personal representative have not been filed. Prob Code §8404(a)
7. No Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit.
  - a. Prob Code §8121, §8124
8. Bond has not been waived by all heirs. Prob Code §8481

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

Appearance required.

**CASE#:** 25PR-00030

**CASE NAME:** Estate of Steven Lewis Griffin

**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. Bond has not been waived by all beneficiaries. Prob Code §8481
2. No Notice to Duane Brenner Davidson. Prob Code §8100, §8110
3. No Proof of Publication with the corresponding signed affidavit.  
Prob Code §8121, §8124

**TENTATIVE RULING:**

No appearance required. The hearing is continued to be heard with the competing Petition #24PR-00470 Estate of Steven Griffin currently set for February 28, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in Courtroom 10.

(End of Tentative Rulings)