

**Tentative Rulings for January 22, 2026, Probate Calendar**

Judge James T. Chou  
Department C

---

**APPEARANCES MAY BE MADE  
IN PERSON  
OR ON ZOOM.**

---

To Join a Zoom Meeting, please follow this link: [www.marin.courts.ca.gov](http://www.marin.courts.ca.gov)

1. Click on the “Virtual Courtrooms” icon and then on “Zoom Civil / Family / Probate Court Calendar Appearance Information”
  2. Scroll down to Department C – Probate for the connection information.
- 

Any interested party who wishes to appear for oral argument on the tentative ruling **must do the following no later than 4:00 PM** one Court day prior to the scheduled hearing date (MCR 6.2.D):

1. Notify all other parties entitled to notice of the underlying petition, including the attorneys for represented parties; and
  2. Advise the clerk’s office by leaving a message at **(415) 444-7046, option 5.**
- 

There is no need to inform the Court of your intent to appear if the tentative ruling requires an appearance.

---

**PLEASE NOTE:** Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at **(415) 444-7260**. Confidential cases include applications for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at **(415) 444-7260**.

Judge James T. Chou  
Department C  
9:00 Calendar

---

**PR0000038     IN THE MATTER OF BRADFORD E. THOMASON**

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary, filed by Lesley L. Bautista on 9/29/25.

Ruling. **Petitioner and counsel are ordered to appear** to address failure to comply with the Court's

---

**PR0000087     IN THE MATTER OF CRAIG YAMAMOTO SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST**

Fifth Special Needs Trust Account and Report of Trustee and Petition for Its Settlement, and for Allowance of Trustee's Fees and County Counsel's Fees, filed by Marin County Public Guardian on 9/22/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, the Fifth Account and Report of Trustee will be **granted without hearing. Trustee is ordered to comply with the following future dates:**

1. Trustee's Sixth Account and Report for the period 7/19/25 – 7/18/27 shall be filed by **September 30, 2027.**
2. A status hearing re filing the Sixth Account and Report shall be set on **November 4, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.**
  - a. If the Sixth Account and Report is not timely filed, an appearance will be required.
  - b. If the Sixth Account and Report is timely filed, the hearing will be set on **November 4, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.**

---

**PR0000111     IN THE MATTER OF THE MORTON H. GOTHELF TRUST DATED MAY 22, 2000, AS AMENDED AND RESTATED THEREAFTER.**

Petition to: (1) Determine Validity of 6<sup>th</sup> Restatement, (2) Preclude the Use of Trust Funds to Defend Trust Contest, and (3) Reclaim Decedent's Property, filed by Evan Gothelf on 8/7/23.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PRO2300998     IN RE THE MORTON H. GOTHELF TRUST DATED MAY 22, 2000, TRUST OF**

Status Conference – Filing a Petition to Approve Settlement.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).

---

**PRO2301051 ESTATE OF MORTON HERBERT GOTHELF**

1. Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary, filed by Carol Z. Gothelf on 4/11/23.
2. Petition by Special Administrator to Establish Estate's Ownership of Property, filed by Caron Schmierer on 12/13/23.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PR0000136 IN THE MATTER OF MANUEL A. RIVERA**

1. First and Final Account and Report of Former Temporary Special Administrator; Petition to Settle Account; and for Exoneration of Bond, filed by Elizabeth Soloway on 7/1/25.
2. Order to Show Cause regarding additional sanctions in the amount of \$25 per day for the period beginning 12/19/25 through 1/22/26, should not issue for continued failure to comply with the Court's order to file a Petition to Approve Accounting.
3. Status conference re: (1) confirmation of filing of Ms. Gibson's accounting; and (2) the Court is in receipt of the sanctions paid by Chris Gibson in the amount of \$1,050; however, she is still ordered to pay the outstanding balance of \$1,025 to the Court immediately.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PR0000238 IN THE MATTER OF ISAIAH NENGO**

1. Petition for Final Distribution on Waiver of Accounting and for Payment of Statutory Attorney's Fees, filed by Ann Nengo on 5/21/25.
2. Motion to Enforce Lien Against Beneficiary's Interest in Estate, filed by Paquita Marie Rendon on 5/29/25.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PR0001377 IN THE MATTER OF THE NENGO TRUST DATED MARCH 14, 2005**

1. Petition by Judgment Creditor to Apply Trust Assets to Debt Owed by Settlor/Beneficiary of Trust, filed by Paquita Marie Rendon on 6/30/25.
2. Status Conference.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).**

---

**PR0000469     IN THE MATTER OF THE JACK B. NEUMAN AND FLORENCE S. NEUMAN REVOCABLE TRUST, MARITAL AND EXEMPTION SUBTRUSTS**

Petition to Compel Settlement and for Surcharge Against Trustee, filed by Zachery Neuman on 10/9/25.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PR0000769     IN THE MATTER OF JEROME WALTER**

1. Status Conference – Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.
2. Status Conference – Filing of Report of Status of Administration or Petition for Final Distribution.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PR0000908     IN THE MATTER OF DAMIANO TAMBURRINO**

Report of Administration, filed by Felicia Flores on 12/11/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, the Report of Status of Administration is **accepted and approved**. Personal Representative is ordered to comply with the following future dates:

1. Status on Closing Estate.
  - a. Either: (1) a Petition for Final Distribution; or (2) a Report of Status of Administration shall be filed by March 31, 2026, as required by Probate Code sections 12200-12201.
  - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **April 16, 2026**, at 10:00 a.m.
    - i. If neither document has been timely filed, an appearance will be required.
    - ii. If the Petition or Report is timely filed, the hearing will be set on **April 16, 2026**, at 9:00 a.m.

---

**PR0000949     IN THE MATTER OF BONNIE FRANK**

Petition for First and Final Account and Report of Practice Administrator; Allowance of Compensation of Attorneys Fees and Costs; Exoneration of Bond; Case Closure, filed by Thomas S. Engel on 11/14/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing**.

**PLEASE NOTE: Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).**

---

**PR0001061     IN THE MATTER OF KATHLEEN M. EVERS**

Petition for: (1) Final Distribution; (2) Approval of Report of Administrator; (3) Approval of Waiver of Account; (4) Allowance of Attorney Statutory Compensation; and (5) Allowance of Administrator Statutory Compensation, filed by Sarah Evers on 11/17/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing.**

---

**PR0001289     IN THE MATTER OF THOMAS RANDOLPH**

Report of Administrator; Petition for Order: (1) Approving Report of Administrator; and (2) for Final Distribution, filed by Jeffrey Randolph on 11/17/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing.**

---

**PR0001379     IN THE MATTER OF THE MARK AGUIRRE IRREVOCABLE TRUST FBO DAWLSON RIVER  
AGUIRRE**

Petition for Modification of Trust Terms and Appointment of Successor Trustee, filed by Chris Gaddini on 7/25/25.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PR0001465     IN THE MATTER OF DONALD E. JENSEN AND BILLIE B. JENSEN REVOCABLE LIVING  
TRUST DATED JUNE 20, 2011**

Petition for Order Confirming Trust Assets and for Instructions, filed by Mark Jensen and Andrea Guarino-Slemmons on 9/12/25.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to April 23, 2026, at 9:00**, pursuant to the Supplement filed 1/8/26.

---

**PR0001476     IN RE THE SWARTZ LIVING TRUST DATED 9/6/2001, VIRGIL D. SWARTZ, DECEASED**

Application for Order Confirming Trust Assets, filed by Peter D. Swartz and Tanya N. Vawter on 10/8/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).**

---

**PR0001494     IN THE MATTER OF ROXANNE MARIE WRIGHT HANEDA**

1. Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Dennis Haneda on 10/14/25.
2. Order to Show Cause as to why this matter should not be dismissed for failure to comply with the Court's prior order.

**Ruling.** Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing**. The Order to Show Cause is **discharged**. Petitioner is ordered to comply with the following future dates:

1. Final Inventory and Appraisal.
  - a. A status hearing for the filing of the Final Inventory and Appraisal shall be set on **May 28, 2026**, at 10:00 a.m. (Prob. Code, § 8800.)
  - b. An appearance will be required on that date if the Final Inventory and Appraisal is not filed at least five court days prior to hearing. (Super. Ct. Marin County, Local Rules, rule 6.2(b), Filing, Hearing, and Continuance Procedures.)
2. Status on Closing Estate.
  - a. Either: (1) a Petition for Final Distribution; or (2) a Report on Status of Administration shall be filed by **January 28, 2027**, as required by Probate Code sections 12200 and 12201.
  - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **February 18, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.**
    - i. If neither document has been timely filed, an appearance will be required.
    - ii. If the Petition or Report is timely filed, the hearing will be set on **February 18, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.**

---

**PR0001523     IN RE AMENDED AND RESTATED REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST OF BARRY BRUKOFF U/D/T AUGUST 22, 2016**

Petition for Order Approving Modification of Irrevocable Trust Terms with Consent of All Beneficiaries and Due to Changed Circumstances, filed by Valerie Jacobs on 10/17/25.

**Ruling.** Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing**.

---

**PR0001524     EVELYN M. FOSTER REVOCABLE TRUST DATED JANUARY 16, 1993**

Petition for Order Confirming Trust Asset, filed by Michael H. Foster on 10/20/25.

**Ruling.** Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing**.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).

---

**PR0001546     IN THE MATTER OF MARYELLEN MCCLURE**

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters of Administration with Will Annexed, filed by Shamus M. McClure on 11/17/25.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to May 28, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** pursuant to the Declaration filed 1/6/26.

---

**PR0001562     IN THE MATTER OF SHASHIKANT SINGAPURI**

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary, filed by Smeeta Newell and Anil Singapuri on 12/2/25.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to February 19, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** Petitioner is ordered to address the following:

1. File a Supplement to Petition, signed and verified by Petitioners, that provides:
  - a. The name of the Trustee(s) of the Shashikant Pranolal Singapuri Revocable Trust.
  - b. If Petitioners are Trustees, the names of all beneficiaries of the Trust.
2. File Proof of Service showing that all interested parties received at least fifteen days' notice of the Petition on the mandatory form "Notice of Petition to Administer Estate." (Judicial Council Forms, form DE-121; Prob. Code, § 8110.)

---

**PR0001589     IN THE MATTER OF URSULA E. LEFFINGWELL**

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary, filed by Laura Leffingwell Sturino on 12/17/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing.** Petitioner is ordered to comply with the following future dates:

1. Final Inventory and Appraisal.
  - a. A status hearing for the filing of the Final Inventory and Appraisal shall be set on **May 28, 2026**, at 10:00 a.m. (Prob. Code, § 8800.)
  - b. An appearance will be required on that date if the Final Inventory and Appraisal is not filed at least five court days prior to hearing. (Super. Ct. Marin County, Local Rules, rule 6.2(b), Filing, Hearing, and Continuance Procedures.)
2. Status on Closing Estate.
  - c. Either: (1) a Petition for Final Distribution; or (2) a Report on Status of Administration shall be filed by **January 28, 2027**, as required by Probate Code sections 12200 and 12201.
  - d. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **February 18, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.**
    - i. If neither document has been timely filed, an appearance will be required.
    - ii. If the Petition or Report is timely filed, the hearing will be set on **February 18, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).**

---

**PRO001590 IN THE MATTER OF JASON CHRISTOPHER BROWN**

Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Natanya Marracino Brown on 12/18/25.

**Ruling.** This matter is **continued to February 19, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** Petitioner is ordered to address the following:

1. File a Supplement to Petition, signed and verified by Petitioners, that states whether decedent was survived by issue of a predeceased child. (Item 5a(7)-(8) of the Petition.)
2. File Proof of Service showing that any parties named above received at least fifteen days' notice of the Petition on the mandatory form "Notice of Petition to Administer Estate." (Judicial Council Forms, form DE-121; Prob. Code, § 8110.)

---

**PRO2001545 EDWARD HALL NEWBEGIN II, ESTATE OF**

Eighth Report of Status of Administration, filed by Edward H. Newbegin on 12/18/25.

**Ruling.** Absent objections, the Eighth Report of Status of Administration is **accepted and approved.** Personal Representative is ordered to comply with the following future dates:

1. **Status on Closing Estate.**
  - a. **Either:** (1) a Petition for Final Distribution; **or** (2) a Ninth Report of Status of Administration shall be filed by March 31, 2026, as required by Probate Code sections 12200-12201.
  - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **April 16, 2026**, at 10:00 a.m.
    - i. If neither document has been timely filed, an appearance will be required.
    - ii. If the Petition or Report is timely filed, the hearing will be set on **April 16, 2026**, at 9:00 a.m.

---

**PRO2300022 CONNIE E. JACOBSON, ESTATE OF**

1. First and Final Account/Waiver of Account and Report of Executor; Petition for Final Distribution, filed by Mickey Greer on 10/16/25.
2. Status conference re update re Sonoma County litigation.

**Ruling.** **The parties are ordered to appear.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).**

---

**PR0001557     IN THE MATTER OF JEFFREY SCOTT KEISER**

Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Jonathan B. Keiser on 11/25/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing**. Petitioner is ordered to comply with the following future dates:

1. Final Inventory and Appraisal.
  - a. A status hearing for the filing of the Final Inventory and Appraisal shall be set on **May 28, 2026**, at 10:00 a.m. (Prob. Code, § 8800.)
  - b. An appearance will be required on that date if the Final Inventory and Appraisal is not filed at least five court days prior to hearing. (Super. Ct. Marin County, Local Rules, rule 6.2(b), Filing, Hearing, and Continuance Procedures.)
2. Status on Closing Estate.
  - e. Either: (1) a Petition for Final Distribution; or (2) a Report on Status of Administration shall be filed by **January 28, 2027**, as required by Probate Code sections 12200 and 12201.
  - f. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **February 18, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.**
    - i. If neither document has been timely filed, an appearance will be required.
    - ii. If the Petition or Report is timely filed, the hearing will be set on **February 18, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.**

---

**PR0001484     IN THE MATTER OF CELESTE WILSON**

Petition - Letters of Administration with Will Annexed

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).

Petition - Letters Testamentary

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing**. Petitioner is ordered to comply with the following future dates:

1. Final Inventory and Appraisal.
  - a. A status hearing for the filing of the Final Inventory and Appraisal shall be set on **May 28, 2026**, at 10:00 a.m. (Prob. Code, § 8800.)
  - b. An appearance will be required on that date if the Final Inventory and Appraisal is not filed at least five court days prior to hearing. (Super. Ct. Marin County, Local Rules, rule 6.2(b), Filing, Hearing, and Continuance Procedures.)
2. Status on Closing Estate.
  - g. Either: (1) a Petition for Final Distribution; or (2) a Report on Status of Administration shall be filed by **January 28, 2027**, as required by Probate Code sections 12200 and 12201.
  - h. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **February 18, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.**
    - i. If neither document has been timely filed, an appearance will be required.
    - ii. If the Petition or Report is timely filed, the hearing will be set on **February 18, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.**

# Judge James T. Chou

## Department C 10:00 Calendar

---

**PR000724    IN THE MATTER OF ALI NAZARI**

1. Status Conference – Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.
2. Status Conference – Filing of Report of Status of Administration or Petition for Final Distribution.

Ruling. **Personal representative and counsel are ordered to appear.** The Court notes that the Final Inventory and Appraisal has now been filed.

---

**PR001256    IN THE MATTER OF DANIEL JUDAH GARE**

Status Conference – Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to March 5, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.** Personal representative is **ordered to file** the Final Inventory and Appraisal at five court days prior to hearing.

---

**PR001322    IN THE MATTER OF NOBUKO NIN**

Status Conference – Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.

Ruling. The matter is ordered **off calendar**; the Final Inventory and Appraisal has been filed.

---

**PLEASE NOTE:** Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).

Judge James T. Chou  
Department C  
1:30 Calendar

---

**PR0001468     IN THE MATTER OF THE DAX PHILIPS REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST DATED SEPTEMBER 25, 2020.**

Trust – Bringing under court supervision; reforming and restating; removing trustee; directing conveyance of all assets; authorizing and directing guardian to convey all assets.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PRO1704652     IN THE MATTER OF DAXTON WEST PHILIPS**

- 1) Petition – Trust.
- 2) Petition – Transfer Proceedings.
- 3) Petition – Second Account and Report of Guardian
- 4) Petition – Third and Final Account and Report of Former Guardian
- 5) Petition – Authorize and direct guardian to assume sole management and control of real property; direct filing of accounting; authorize guardian to resign.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PR0001470     CONSERVATORSHIP OF JOSIAH W. KERR**

Status Conference – Petition for Transfer.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Probate cases that are designated as confidential by California law will not be posted online. For tentative rulings in those matters, please contact the judicial secretary at [\(415\) 444-7260](tel:4154447260).**

---

**PR0001487    IN THE MATTER OF ANDRE H. SWITENKI**

Petition – Appoint – Conservator - Limited.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.** If the Petition is granted, Conservator is **ordered to comply** with the following future dates:

1. Confidential Conservatorship Care Plan.
  - a. A status hearing for the filing of the Confidential Conservatorship Care Plan shall be set on **June 4, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.**
  - b. An appearance will be required on that date if the Confidential Conservatorship Care Plan is not filed at least five court days prior to the hearing.

---

**PRO2203870    IN THE MATTER OF JACOB JOHN LILLEDAHL**

Status Conference – Second Account.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear.**

---

**PR0000504    IN THE MATTER OF SIENA MARGARET TARANTINO**

Petition - Final Distribution - First Account

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing.**

---