

**Tentative Rulings for June 4, 2026, Probate Calendar**

Judge James T. Chou  
Department C

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

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

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**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.

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Judge James T. Chou  
Department C  
9:00 Calendar

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**PR0000324     IN THE MATTER OF TERRY ANN ARNAUD**

Report of Status of Administration, filed by Kristen Arnaud on 4/29/26.

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 **May 13, 2027**, as required by Probate Code sections 12200-12201.
  - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **June 3, 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 **June 3, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.**

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**PR0000354     IN THE MATTER OF THE STEVEN J. KAUFMAN DECLARATION OF TRUST AGREEMENT**

1. Verified Petition for (1) Order Setting Aside Trust Amendment Due to Incapacity; and (2) Declaratory Relief Regarding Incapacity of Steven Kaufman, filed by Alon Adani on 1/12/24.
2. Status conference and further setting.

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

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**PR0000414     IN THE MATTER OF THE CHRISTOPHER LOUIS VACCARO, JR., REVOCABLE DISCRETIONARY SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST**

Petition for Return of Assets Pursuant to Probate Code Section 850, filed by Christopher Vaccaro, Jr. on 10/25/25.

Ruling. Pursuant to the Court's May 29, 2026, order, this matter is **continued to August 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.**

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**PR0000901     IN THE MATTER OF EDWIN WALTER, 2nd**

Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Jennifer W. Fowler and Daphne W. Bransten on 5/4/26.

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing**. Petitioners are **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 October 15, 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 June 3, 2027, as required by Probate Code sections 12200 and 12201.
  - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on June 24, 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 June 24, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.

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**PR0001184     IN THE MATTER OF JEROME DOUGLAS EGGERS**

First and Final Report of Petitioner; Petition for Allowance of Statutory Fees to Personal Representative's Counsel of Record; Waiver of Commissions; Waiver of Account; Court Confirmation of Settlement Agreement; and for Final Distribution, filed by Erica Lynne Gumucio on 5/14/26.

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing**. Petitioner is **ordered to submit** a proposed Order to the Court, no later than five court days from the date of this hearing.

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**PR0001187     IN THE MATTER OF JOHN HOLLISTER WHEELWRIGHT**

First and Final Account and Report of Executor and Petition for Its Settlement, for Allowance of Compensation to Executor and Attorneys for Ordinary Services, and for Final Distribution, filed by Denise Rooke on 4/14/26.

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

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**PR0001232     IN THE MATTER OF PATRICIA ANN ANGLE**

Verified Report of Status of Administration and Petition for Additional Time for Estate Administration, filed by Amber Angle on 5/8/26.

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 **November 19, 2026**, as required by Probate Code sections 12200-12201.
  - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **December 10, 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 **December 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.**

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**PR0001233     IN THE MATTER OF KATHERINE LYNN FEATHERS AKA KATHERINE RIGALI FEATHERS  
AKA KATHERINE REGALI FEATHERS AKA KATHERINE R. FEATHERS**

First and Final Report as Administrator and Petition for Its Settlement, for Waiver of Account, for Allowance of Attorney’s Fees and Petition for Final Distribution and Discharge of Administrator, filed by Elizabeth Rigali on 5/18/26.

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

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**PR0001276     IN THE MATTER OF BEZHAD MOHIT-LINDA SOFIA VELA REVOCABLE TRUST**

1. Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings, filed by Linda Sofia Vela on 12/30/25.
2. Status Conference – Mediation.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear for status and further setting.** Petitioner Linda Sofia Vela’s (“Petitioner”) motion for judgment on the pleadings is **DENIED** as set forth below.

**BACKGROUND**

This is a property dispute between a former romantic couple. According to the petition, real property located at 1455 Ocean Beach Avenue, Unit 1611, South Beach, Florida (“South Beach Property”) was held in the Behzad Mohit-Linda Sofia Vela Revocable Trust, executed by her former partner Behzad Mohit (“Decedent”) on March 29, 2012 (“Trust”). Petitioner is the Trustee of said Trust. Initially, the Trust provided that upon Decedent’s death, all assets were to be distributed outright to Petitioner; with that caveat that if Petitioner were to liquidate any property held in the Trust, any net proceeds over the amount of \$1,000,000 were to be distributed to Decedent’s heirs.

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Petitioner alleges that during her relationship with Decedent she had relied on Decedent's professional advice with regard to finances, including loans against real properties. As a result, when the couple broke up and Petitioner moved back to her own home, her mortgage had increased from \$179,000 to \$500,000.

On August 1, 2017, Decedent executed a First Amendment to Trust ("Amendment") reducing the amount of distribution to Petitioner from \$1,000,000 to \$500,000. On that same day, Decedent wrote a check to Petitioner in the amount of \$500,000, allegedly to pay off the mortgage. Petitioner remained as sole Trustee of the Trust, as amended.

Petitioner alleges that Decedent also executed a will in 2018, providing that all assets "other than what is needed to fulfill the existing living trust for Linda Vela, shall be equally divided between my daughters, Maryam Sedi Mohit and Juliet Mitra Mohit."

Decedent died on November 2, 2023, survived by two daughters Maryann Mohit and Juliet Mohit ("Respondents" and "Heirs").

After Decedent's death, Petitioner learned that the South Beach Property had been sold on December 1, 2021, for \$950,000. Petitioner alleges that Respondents authorized the sale of the South Beach Property without Petitioner's consent as Trustee. Petitioner further alleges that she has not received the distribution of \$500,000 required by the Trust.

Petitioner brings this action for construction of trust, ademption of specific gift, abatement of specific gift, recovery of Trust property, and enforcement of a testamentary promise. Among other relief, Petitioner requests double damages under Probate Code section 859.

Respondents filed a response and objection ("Response") on July 7, 2025. The Court now considers Petitioner's motion for judgment on the pleadings.

#### LEGAL STANDARD

A party may bring a statutory motion for judgment on the pleadings as to the entire complaint or any cause of action stated therein. (Code Civ. Proc., § 438, subd. (c)(2)(A).) A plaintiff may move for judgment on the pleadings only after the defendant has filed an answer to the complaint and the plaintiff's time to demur to the answer has expired. (Code Civ. Proc., § 438, subd. (f)(1).) The sole ground on which a plaintiff's motion for judgment on the pleadings may be brought is that "the complaint states facts sufficient to constitute a cause or causes of action against the defendant and the answer does not state facts sufficient to constitute a defense to the complaint." (Code Civ. Proc., § 438, subd. (c)(1)(A).) Grounds for a motion for judgment on the pleadings must appear on the face of the challenged pleading or from matters properly subject to judicial notice. (See Code Civ. Proc., § 438, subd. (d).) As on a demurrer, the pleading includes matters shown in exhibits attached to it or incorporated by reference. (*Frantz v. Blackwell* (1987) 189 Cal.App.3d 91, 94; *Alameda County Waste Management Authority v. Waste Connections US, Inc.* (2021) 67 Cal.App.5th 1162, 1173-74 [rules governing demurrers apply to motions for judgment on the pleadings except to the extent provided by statute].) "[J]udgment on the pleadings must be denied where there are material factual issues that require evidentiary resolution." (*Schabarum v. California Legislature* (1998) 60 Cal.App.4th 1205, 1216.) A motion for judgment on the pleadings may be granted with or without leave to amend. (Code Civ. Proc., § 438, subd. (h).) If a demurrer is directed to the entire complaint, the entire demurrer must be overruled if any cause of action is properly stated. (Code Civ. Proc., § 430.50; *Steams Ranchos Co. v. Atchison, T & S.F.Ry.* (1971) 19 Cal.App.3d 24, 36.)

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## DISCUSSION

### Affirmative Defenses.

The Response contains multiple affirmative defenses, including (but not limited to) waiver, unclean hands, and unjust enrichment. Petitioner's brief does not acknowledge the existence of the Response's affirmative defenses. Because the Response contains affirmative defenses, Petitioner necessarily cannot establish that "the answer does not state facts sufficient to constitute a defense to the complaint" (Code Civ. Proc., § 438, subd. (c)(1)(A)) if they are completely silent as to the affirmative defenses. Because of Petitioner's failure to address the Response in its entirety, including the alleged affirmative defenses, the Court need not reach the merits of the Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings.

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### **PR0001332     IN THE MATTER OF LEANNE L. HENDRIX**

Petition for Final Distribution on Waiver of Account on First and Final Report of Executor; for Waiver of Statutory Compensation to Executor; for Allowance of Statutory Compensation to Attorney, for Reimbursement of Costs Advanced to Attorney; and, for Retention of Reserve, filed by Brad W. Pennington on 4/14/26.

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

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### **PR0001389     IN THE MATTER OF JULIANA GREVESMUHL**

Verified Petition for Order (1) Determining Claim to Trust Property (Probate Code § 850); (2) Cancellation of Void Instrument (Civil Code § 3412); (3) Imposition of Constructive Trust; (4) Financial Elder Abuse; (5) Double Damages (Probate Code § 859); (6) Accounting and Surcharge; (7) Fraud, filed by Maria L. Mandolini on 4/15/26.

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

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### **PR0001439     IN THE MATTER OF BERNICE G. REHNEN**

Petition for Final Distribution on Approval of First and Final Account and for Allowance of Executor Fee and Attorney Fee, filed by David E. Perotti on 3/4/26.

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

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**PR0001465     IN THE MATTER OF DONALD E. JENSEN AND BILLIE B. JENSEN REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST**

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

**Ruling.** **The parties are ordered to appear to address the following:** Proof that the Stifel Account and that the safe deposit box were assets in existence at the time of creation of the Trust, or why a declaration should not be filed explaining further why these assets should be transferred to the Trust. Additionally, (2) whether all interested parties received notice. (3) legal authority for request for instructions with respect to dispositive provisions.

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**PR0001547     IN THE MATTER OF JOHN MICHAEL PITMAN**

1. Petition to Revoke Probate of Purported Lost Will of John Michael Pitman, filed by Elizabeth Brooks on 4/17/26.
2. Petition for Order Granting Authorized Access to Review a Confidential Filed, filed by William Bruce Pitman on 4/29/26 .

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

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**PR0001681     IN THE MATTER OF JEAN VIA DE LA VISTA TRUST**

1. Petition for Construction of Trust and Order Voiding Co-Trustee's Authority to Unilaterally Seek Partition of Real Property Belonging to the Trust, filed by Michael Barnett on 2/25/26.
2. Petition to Remove Co-Trustee Michael Barnett, filed by Charles Barnett on 5/1/26.

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

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**PR0001734     IN THE MATTER OF BARBARA LEE MAHONEY**

Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Danielle Lacampagne on 3/25/26.

**Ruling.** **Petitioner's Counsel is ordered to appear to address why the original will has not been lodged with the Court.**

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**PR0001752     IN THE MATTER OF MICHAEL R. PARSONS**

Petition for Letters Testamentary, filed by Candace Lind on 4/6/26.

**Ruling.** This matter is **continued to August 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** Petitioner is ordered to:

1. Either lodge the original Will or file an authenticated copy of the Will. (Prob. Code, § 12521(a)(1).)
2. File an authenticated copy of the order admitting the will to probate in the Idaho Court, or other evidence of the establishment or proof of the will in accordance with the law of the State of Idaho. (Prob. Code, § 12521(a)(2).)
3. File a Supplement to Petition that provides the following information:
  - a. **Notice.** (Prob. Code, § 1208(b).):
    - i. Who is the Trustee of the Parsons Family Trust?
    - ii. If Petitioner is the sole Trustee, who are the beneficiaries, and did they receive proper notice?
    - iii. If Petitioner is not the Trustee, did Trustee receive proper notice?
  - b. Name, relationship, age, and address of each party named in response to the above. (Pet., Item 8.)
4. File Proof of Service showing that all interested parties named in response to Issue 3 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.)
5. All documents must be lodged or filed at least five court days prior to hearing. (Super. Ct. Marin County, Local Rules, rule 6.2(b), Filing, Hearing, and Continuance Procedures.)

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**PR0001754     IN THE MATTER OF RICHARD R. P. ENDY AND SHIRLEY K. ENDY REVOCABLE TRUST**

Petition for Order Confirming Trust Assets, filed by Deborah Endy-Koffler and Douglas P. Endy on 4/8/26.

**Ruling.** Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing.** Petitioner is **ordered to submit** a proposed Order to the Court, no later than five court days from the date of this hearing.

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**PR0001759     IN THE MATTER OF LISE SONNEN TRUST**

Petition for Order Modifying Trust Due to Changed Circumstances Unanticipated by the Settlor, filed by Christopher Sheron on 4/10/26.

**Ruling.** Petitioner is **directed to file** an ex parte petition for appointment of a disinterested guardian ad litem for the minor children of Emily Lameiza. This matter is continued to July 16, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. for receipt of report from the appointed GAL.

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**PRO001793 IN THE MATTER OF CATHERINE S. QUINN**

Amended Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary, filed by Mary C. Fuller on 5/27/26

**Ruling.** This matter is **continued to June 25, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** Petitioner is **ordered** to:

1. File a Supplement to Petition that provides the following information:
  - a. Notice. (Prob. Code, § 1208(b).):
    - i. Who is the Trustee of the Quinn Family Trust?
    - ii. If Petitioner is the sole Trustee, who are the beneficiaries, and did they receive proper notice?
    - iii. If Petitioner is not the Trustee, did Trustee receive proper notice?
  - b. Additional information with regard to the relationships of Decedent's grandchildren. Ex: John Doe, son of Decedent's predeceased daughter, Jane Doe.
  - c. Name, relationship, age, and address of each party named in response to the above. (Pet., Item 8.)
2. File Proof of Service showing that all interested parties named in response to Issue 1 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.)
3. All documents must be filed or submitted at least five court days prior to hearing. (Super. Ct. Marin County, Local Rules, rule 6.2(b), Filing, Hearing, and Continuance Procedures.)

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**PRO041413 BRYONY SWIFT, LIMITED CONSERVATORSHIP OF THE PERSON**

Petition for Fees of Limited Conservator of the Person and Her Attorney, filed by Sharon Duncan on 3/2/26.

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

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**PRO2301796 IN THE MATTER OF FARZAD SARABI, ESTATE OF**

Fourth Report of Status of Administration and Petition for Extension of Time to Administer the Estate, filed by Mani Mir and Ron Varasteh on 5/4/26.

**Ruling.** Absent objections, the Fourth 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 Fifth Report of Status of Administration shall be filed by **January 14, 2027**, as required by Probate Code sections 12200-12201.
  - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **February 4, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.**
    - i. If neither document has been timely filed, an appearance will be required.

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- ii. If the Petition or Report is timely filed, the hearing will be set on **February 4, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.**
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# Judge James T. Chou

## Department C 10:00 Calendar

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**PR000404    IN THE MATTER OF STEVEN CHARLES FLAHIVE**

Status Conference – Status Report of Administration or Petition for Final Distribution.

Ruling. Personal representative and counsel are **ordered to appear**.

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**PR001424    IN THE MATTER OF ROBERT HENRY BECKER**

Status Conference – Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.

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

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**PR001548    IN THE MATTER OF FRANCES H. VALDEZ**

Status Conference – Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.

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

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Judge James T. Chou  
Department C  
1:30 Calendar

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**PR000726     IN THE MATTER OF CAMERON CHARLES FLAHIVE AND ELLA MARGARET FLAHIVE**

1. Status Conference – Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.
2. Status Conference – First Account.

Ruling. **Guardian and counsel are ordered to appear.**

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**PR000885     IN THE MATTER OF JOHN ALDERETE**

Status Conference – First Account.

Ruling. **Conservator and counsel are ordered to appear.**

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**PR001006     IN THE MATTER OF PAMELA SUE NEAL**

First Account and Report of Conservator; and Petition for Order Settling and Approving Account and Report, Increasing Bond, and Allowing Fees and Costs to Attorney for Conservator, filed by Kristina Wilson on 4/22/26.

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

1. Trustee's Second Account and Report for the period 2/13/26 – 2/12/28 shall be filed by **April 27, 2028.**
2. A hearing shall be set for June 8, 2028, at 1:30 for either:
  - a. Hearing on the Second Account; or
  - b. Explanation as to why it was not timely filed.

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**PR001487     IN THE MATTER OF ANDRE H. SWITENKI**

Status Conference – Confidential Conservatorship Care Plan.

Ruling. This matter is ordered **off calendar**; the Care Plan has been filed.

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**PR0001689     IN THE MATTER OF GIA JADE GREENBERG**

Amended Petition for Appointment of Limited Conservatorship of the Person, filed by Sally G. Greenberg and Jay H. Greenberg on 5/15/26.

**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 mandatory Confidential Conservatorship Care Plan shall be set on **October 8, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.** (Judicial Council Forms, forms DE-355 and DE-356.)
  - 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.

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**PR0001690     IN THE MATTER OF JOSHUA D. MURPHY-LOWE**

Petition for Appointment of Limited Conservator of the Person, filed by David Lowe and Steven Murphy on 2/27/26.

**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 mandatory Confidential Conservatorship Care Plan shall be set on **October 8, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.** (Judicial Council Forms, forms DE-355 and DE-356.)
  - 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.

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**PR0001696     IN THE MATTER OF VIOLET MILAY WALTERS MCMANUS**

Petition for Appointment of Limited Conservator of the Person, filed by Julie Walters and Matthew McManus on 3/3/26.

**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 mandatory Confidential Conservatorship Care Plan shall be set on **October 8, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.** (Judicial Council Forms, forms DE-355 and DE-356.)
  - 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.

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**PRO1900986 DAGMAR ZIDEK, CONSERVATORSHIP OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE**

Second and Final Account and Report of Successor Conservator and Petition for Its Settlement, Allowance of Conservator's Commission and County Counsel's Fees, filed by Marin County Public Guardian on 11/13/25.

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

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