

Tentative Rulings for October 1, 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

- 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.

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Judge James T. Chou

Department C

9:00 Calendar

PR0000201 IN THE MATTER OF DEIDRA ANN CARSON

Report Regarding Status of Filing Petition for Final Account, filed by Christopher B. Barry on 8/13/26.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to October 22, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** The Proof of Service filed September 24, 2026, shows that only seven days' notice was provided for the hearing on the Report Regarding Status.

Petitioner is ordered to file Proof of Service showing that all interested parties received at least fifteen days' notice of the Report Regarding Status on the mandatory form "Notice of Petition to Administer Estate." (Judicial Council Forms, form DE-120; Prob. Code, § 12201(b).)

PR0000404 IN THE MATTER OF STEVEN CHARLES FLAHIVE

First Accounting and Report of Administrator, filed by Robert J. Flahive on 8/21/26.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to October 15, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.**, to be heard with the related guardianship matter.

PR0000429 IN THE MATTER OF LOIS A. MEREDITH

Third Report of Status of Administration, filed by Bernadetta Lorda on 9/16/26.

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 December 17, 2026**, as required by Probate Code sections 12200-12201.
 - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report **shall be set on January 7, 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 **January 7, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.**

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PR0000467 IN THE MATTER OF MARGARET MAJOR GRADE

1. Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters of Administration with Will Annexed, filed by Daniel DeLong on 3/21/24.
2. Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Mark J. Rice on 3/12/24.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to January 28, 2027, at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom C** for status of settlement and dismissal of all outstanding petitions.

PR0000476 IN THE MATTER OF CLARA BULLOCK

First and Final Account and Report of Personal Representative and for Allowance of Statutory Fees to Personal Representation and Attorney for Personal Representative, and for Final Distribution, filed by Bishlam Bullock on 7/9/26.

Ruling. Personal representative Bishlam Bullock and attorney Mark L. Kelly **are ordered to appear.**

PR0001100 IN THE MATTER OF JAMES BRYAN BYRNES

1. Final Account and Report of Executor and Petition for Settlement and Approval; for (1) Allowance of Statutory Attorney's Compensation and Executor's Compensation, and (2) Final Distribution, filed by Gianna Rehge on 6/30/26.
2. Petition to Compel Accounting of the Estate of James B. Byrnes, filed by Kevin Tracy on 5/6/26.

Ruling. The parties are **ordered to appear.** As indicated in the 7/16/26 tentative ruling, the Petition to Compel Accounting of the Estate of James B. Byrnes was **granted** on that date, the Court noting that Executor Gianna Rehage had filed a new petition for final distribution that includes a final account.

PR0001389 IN THE MATTER OF THE GREVESMUEHL-YOUNG REVOCABLE TRUST UDT 06/19/2009

1. First Amended Verified Petition for Orders: (1) Determining Claim to Trust Property, Probate Code § 850; (2) Cancelling Void or Voidable Instruments, Civil Code § 3412; (3) Quiet Title and Declaratory Relief; (4) Financial Elder Abuse; (5) Fraud; (6) Undue Influence; (7) Constructive Trust; (8) Accounting; (9) Negligence; and (10) Related Equitable Relief, Including a Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause Re Preliminary Injunction to Enjoin Collection, Default, Foreclosure, Assignment, Servicing Transfer, Adverse Credit Reporting, and Enforcement Activity Regarding 10 Warrens Way, Tiburon, California, filed by Maria L. Mandolini on 9/17/26.
2. 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.

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3. Amended Demurrer by Defendants Barclays Bank PLC to Petitioner's Verified Petition for Orders, filed by Barclays Bank PLC on 9/9/26.

Ruling. The hearing on the Amended Demurrer is **ordered off calendar** in light of the filing of the First Amended Verified Petition for Orders: (1) Determining Claim to Trust Property, Probate Code § 850; (2) Cancelling Void or Voidable Instruments, Civil Code § 3412; (3) Quiet Title and Declaratory Relief; (4) Financial Elder Abuse; (5) Fraud; (6) Undue Influence; (7) Constructive Trust; (8) Accounting; (9) Negligence; and (10) Related Equitable Relief, Including a Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause Re Preliminary Injunction to Enjoin Collection, Default, Foreclosure, Assignment, Servicing Transfer, Adverse Credit Reporting, and Enforcement Activity Regarding 10 Warrens Way, Tiburon, California, filed by Maria L. Mandolini on 9/17/26 (the First Amended Verified Petition).

The parties are **ordered to meet and confer** in person, via telephone conference, or video teleconference **by no later than October 16, 2026**. Any objection to the First Amended Verified Petition **shall be filed by no later than October 19, 2026**, or is deemed waived. Any reply **shall be filed by no later than November 19, 2026**, or is deemed waived. The matter is **now set for December 3, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom C**.

PR0001500 IN THE MATTER OF THE NORMAN LEIGH LIVING TRUST, DATED OCTOBER 27, 2023

Motion to Strike Portions of the Verified Petition, filed by Mandy Leigh on 6/8/26.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to October 8, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.**, to be heard with the related Demurrer.

PR0001632 IN THE MATTER OF THE RESTATEMENT OF THE MERRIAM FAMILY TRUST, DATED JULY 15, 1999

1. Verified Petition to Invalidate Purported Amendment to Merriam Trust, filed by Guillaume Jean Marie Crete on 1/21/26.
2. Status Conference

Ruling. This matter is now **continued to February 4, 2027, at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom C** for status re discovery, informal settlement discussions, and for further setting.

PR0001818 IN THE MATTER OF DONALD A. WELLS REVOCABLE TRUST DATED SEPTEMBER 19, 1988, AS RESTATED AND AMENDED APRIL 16, 1997

1. Trustee's Petition for Instructions Re (1) Notice of Proposed Action; (2) Interpretation of Terms of Trust and to Determine Distribution of Property, filed by Michael D. Robinson on 5/19/26.
2. Status Conference.

Ruling. The parties are **ordered to participate** in good faith in binding mediation pursuant to *Breslin v. Breslin* (2021) 62 Cal. App.5th 801 (*Breslin Mediation*). Petitioner's counsel is **ordered to submit** to the

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Court a proposed order re *Breslin Mediation* by no later than **October 8, 2026** and thereafter **timely serve such order** on all parties and non-parties claiming any interest in the trust property. This matter is **now continued to February 4, 2027 at 9:00 a.m. in Department C** for status re *Breslin Mediation*.

PR0001872 IN THE MATTER OF GARY ENRICO GOMES

1. Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Kimberly Gomes on 6/29/26.
2. Order to Show Cause re Denial for Failure to Comply with 8/6/26 Order.
3. Petition to Withdraw Petition for Probate, filed by Kimberly Gomes on 9/28/26.

Ruling. The Petition to Withdraw Petition for Probate, filed by Kimberly Gomes on 9/28/26 is **denied**. The Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Kimberly Gomes on 6/29/26 is **dismissed**. All orders to show cause are **discharged**.

PR0001876 IN THE MATTER OF GEORGE T. OSTERKAMP TRUST U/A/D AUGUST 28, 2025

Petition for Order Authorizing and Directing Transfer of Property to Trustee of Trust, filed by Florence Higa Taylor on 6/30/26.

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

PR0001900 IN THE MATTER OF MARC E. HOAG

Verified Petition for Breach of Fiduciary Duty and Orders Removing Trustee; Appointing Successor Trustee; and Injunctive Relief, filed by Marc E. Hoag on 7/21/26.

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

PR0001901 IN THE MATTER OF THE RESTATED JOHN P. BUCKLEY REVOCABLE TRUST UDT AUGUST 26, 2013

Petition for Order Confirming Assets as Belonging as Trust Property of the Restated John P. Buckley Revocable Trust, filed by Matthew J. Buckley on 7/17/26.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to November 5, 2026, at 9:00**. **Petitioner is ordered to file the following** at least five court days prior to hearing:

1. Supplement to Petition, signed and verified by Petitioner, providing the names and addresses of all heirs-at-law of Trustor. (Prob. Code, §§ 17203(b) and 6402 et seq.)
2. Proof of Service showing that all parties named in response to Issue 1 received at least thirty days' notice of the Petition on the mandatory form "Notice of Hearing on Petition to Determine Claim to Property." (Judicial Council Forms, form DE-115.)
3. Note that notice to anyone who is not a beneficiary of the Trust must be served in the manner set forth by CCP § 413.10, et seq. (Prob. Code, § 17203(b).)

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PR0001902 IN THE MATTER OF THE DECLARATION OF TRUST FOR THE ELMENDORF FAMILY TRUST

Petition for Order Confirming Trust Assets, filed by Stacy Elmendorf aka Stacy S. Odom on 7/20/26.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to November 5, 2026, at 9:00. Petitioner is ordered to file the following** at least five court days prior to hearing:

1. Supplement to Petition, signed and verified by Petitioner, providing the names and addresses of all heirs-at-law of Trustor. (Prob. Code, §§ 17203(b) and 6402 et seq.)
2. Proof of Service showing that all parties named in response to Issue 1 received at least thirty days' notice of the Petition on the mandatory form "Notice of Hearing on Petition to Determine Claim to Property." (Judicial Council Forms, form DE-115.)
3. Note that notice to anyone who is not a beneficiary of the Trust must be served in the manner set forth by CCP § 413.10, et seq. (Prob. Code, § 17203(b).)

PR0001903 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DIANE W. KAVANTJAS

Verified Petition for Order of Conveyance of Trust Assets, filed by Mia Kavantjas on 7/20/26.

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

PR0001906 IN THE MATTER OF HAL LAURITZEN FAMILY TRUST DATED DECEMBER 20, 2018

Petition for Order Confirming Trust Assets, filed by Kathryn Ann Lauritzen and Steven Jay Lauritzen on 7/20/26.

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

PR0001917 IN THE MATTER OF CHRISTINA M. RUSSO

Spousal Property Petition, filed by Michael B. Orr on 7/24/26.

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

PR0001953 IN THE MATTER OF GEORGE LEROY MILLEN, JR.

Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Chad Krater on 8/26/26.

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 February 11, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.** (Prob. Code, § 8800.)

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- 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 October 7, 2027**, as required by Probate Code sections 12200 and 12201.
 - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be **set on October 28, 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 October 28, 2027, at 9:00 a.m.

PR0001961 IN THE MATTER OF JAMES S. TETER

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters of Administration, filed by Caron Schmierer on 8/31/26.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to October 22, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** Petitioner is **ordered to lodge** the original Will with the Court. (Prob. Code, § 8200.)

PR0001966 IN THE MATTER OF SHARON H. SPINDEL

Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Russell J. Nadel on 9/4/26.

Ruling. This Petition is **denied without prejudice** for lack of venue. (Prob. Code. § 7051.)

PRO1801087 IN THE MATTER OF DONN R. SCHOENMANN

Ex Parte Application to Approve Settlement Agreement of Litigation in Bankruptcy and Federal Court, filed by Stuart Schoenmann on 9/21/26.

Ruling. The parties are **ordered to appear at 11:00 a.m.**

PRO1802115 ROSEMARY THERESA BOCK, ESTATE OF

Amended Petition for Order on Report of Administrator; for Waiver of Account; for Statutory Administrator's and Attorney's Compensation; for Reimbursement of Costs Advanced; and for Final Distribution, filed by Holger Siegwart on 8/26/26.

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

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1. First and Final Account and Report of Co-Executors and Petition for Orders: (1) Settling Account and Approving Report of Co-Executors; (2) Waiving Statutory Executors' Compensation; (3) Allowing Extraordinary Attorneys' Compensation; and (4) Directing Final Distribution, filed by Tracie A. Morris and Scott M. Haddad on 4/2/26.
2. Status Conference – Resolution.

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

Judge James T. Chou
Department C
10:00 Calendar

PR0001256 IN THE MATTER OF DANIEL JUDAH GARE

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

Ruling. Personal representative Jona Starr King and attorney Benjamin Gale are **ordered to appear**.

PR0001710 IN THE MATTER OF PAUL KRAUS

Status Conference - Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal

Ruling. Personal representative Anne F. Smith and attorney Nancy C. Field are **ordered to appear**. The Court notes that a Partial Inventory and Appraisal has been filed.

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Judge James T. Chou
Department C
1:30 Calendar

PR0000968 IN THE MATTER OF BIVONA MARIA KLEIN AND TAYA SALINA KLEIN

Status Conference – Filing of First Account

Ruling. Guardian Cathy Klein and attorney Barry W. Finkelstein are **ordered to appear**.

PR0001144 IN THE MATTER OF MAXWELL ASTON CADLONI AND ALEXANDER BENTLEY CADLONI

Status Conference – Filing of First Account

Ruling. Guardian Catherine Cadloni and attorney Meeghan Buckley are **ordered to appear**.

PR0001879 IN THE MATTER OF DAMARIS YARISBEL GONZALEZ CRUZ AND OLIVER RENE GONZALEZ CRUZ

Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person, filed by Astrid Lisbeth Gonzalez Cruz on 7/8/26.

Ruling. The parties, including both parents of the minors, are **ordered to appear**.

PR0001893 IN THE MATTER OF JUDITH CAROLYN SEYMOUR

Petition for Appointment of Probate Conservator of the Person and Estate, filed by Anne Seymour on 7/13/26.

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 **February 4, 2027, 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.
2. Final Inventory and Appraisal.

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- a. A status hearing for the filing of the Judicial Council Form “Final Inventory and Appraisal” shall be set on **February 4, 2027, at 1:30 p.m.** (Judicial Council Forms, form DE-160.)
 - 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.
3. First Account.
 - a. Conservator is to file the First Account for the period ending September 30, 2027, by December 9, 2027.
 - b. A hearing shall be set for January 20, 2028, at 1:30 for either:
 - i. Hearing on the First Account; or
 - ii. Explanation as to why it was not timely filed.

PRO2104179 JO ANN KERN, CONSERVATORSHIP OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE

Petition for Discharge on Final Account; Petition for Allowance of Fees to Conservator of the Estate and Person; Conservator’s Fees; and Attorney’s Fees, filed by Melissa Enlow and Alice Fishler on 7/28/26.

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

PRO2203683 ERIC EWING DAVIS, LIMITED CONSERVATORSHIP OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE

Status Conference – Filing of Second Account

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