

Tentative Rulings for October 16, 2025, 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.

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

PR0000097 IN THE MATTER OF JOANNA NICHELINI-WATTS

Petition for Final Distribution, on Waiver of Account, First and Final Report, Waiver of Statutory Compensation, filed by Timothy Alan Watts on 7/25/25.

Ruling. **Granted in part** with respect to termination of the Estate due to lack of assets pursuant to Probate Code section 12251. The Petition is **denied** to the extent that Petitioner requests distribution of any after-discovered assets.

Should Petitioner discover assets subject to administration of this Estate, an Inventory and Appraisal and petition for distribution must be filed and approved by the Court prior to distribution of such assets. (Prob. Code, §§ 8801, 11642.) The Court notes that if the child is still a minor at that time, an accounting may may only be waived by a duly appointed Guardian ad Litem and distribution must be made pursuant to Probate Code sections 3610 et seq.

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** to address the timeframe for the filing of a response to the Reply filed by Ann Nengo and whether there is a need for an evidentiary hearing.

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** to address the timeframe for the filing of a response to the Reply filed by Ann Nengo and whether there is a need for an evidentiary 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).

PR0000371 IN THE MATTER OF HARRIET BABCOCK BROWN

Petition for Final Distribution, on Waiver of Account, Waiver of Statutory Compensation, First and Final Report, filed by Priscilla Embry on 9/25/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, this Petition will be **granted without hearing with the following modifications:**

1. Distribution of the cash on hand shall be made to the Trustee of the Harriet B. Brown Trust Agreement, as required by Decedent's Will.
2. Any other property not now known or later discovered to belong to this Estate shall be distributed to the Trustee of the Harriet B. Brown Trust Agreement, as required by Decedent's Will.

PR0000414 IN THE MATTER OF THE CHRISTOPHER LOUIS VACCARO, JR., REVOCABLE DISCRETIONARY SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST OF 2014

1. Petition to Remove Trustee; Account by Trustee; Surcharge of Trustee; Distribution of Trust; Double Damages; and Attorney's Fees and Costs, filed by Christopher Vaccaro, Jr. on 1/26/24 .
2. Status regarding *Breslin* mediation and to set further proceedings.

Ruling. **The parties are ordered to appear** for status regarding *Breslin* mediation and to set further proceedings.

PR0000431 IN THE MATTER OF LYNELL WHEELLOCK

Report of the Second Status of the Decedent's Estate Administration, filed by Forbe L. Myers on 9/22/25.

Ruling. Absent objections, the Second 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 June 11, 2026, as required by Probate Code sections 12200-12201.
 - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on **July 2, 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 **July 2, 2026**, 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).

PR0000735 IN THE MATTER OF JOSEPH SHALLECK

Petition for Final Distribution and for Allowance of Statutory Compensation to Attorney and for Approval of First and Final Report of Administrator Upon Waiver of Account, filed by Janis Oberman on 8/27/25.

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

PR0000737 IN THE MATTER OF NINA ELLEN MEISTER

First and Final Account and Report of Administrator and Petition for Its Settlement, for Allowance of Administrator's Commission and Attorney's Fees for Ordinary Services, and for Final Distribution, filed by Marin County Public Administrator on 9/29/25.

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

PR0000740 IN THE MATTER OF ALEXIS DURBIN

First and Final Account and Report of Administrator, Petition for Its Settlement, for Allowance of Administrator's Fees for Services, for Allowance of Attorney's Fees for Ordinary Services, and Petition for Final Distribution, filed by David Durbin on 8/4/25.

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

PR0000785 IN THE MATTER OF THE ARMAND AND CORRINE GREENFIELD LIVING TRUST A AND TRUST B DATED JULY 28, 2000

1. First and Final Report and Account of Trust A and Trust B of the Armand and Corrine Greenfield Living Trust and Petition for Settlement of Account and for Reimbursement, filed by Lydia Greenfield on 1/21/25.
2. Petition for Orders to: (1) Compel Report; (2) Compel Accounting; (3) Instruct Trustee; (4) Remedy Breach of Trust; (5) for Double Damages; (6) Surcharge Trustee; (7) Suspend Trustee; (8) Remove Trustee; (9) Appoint Neutral Trustee; and (10) Prohibit Payment of Pendente Lite Attorney Fees from Trust Funds, filed by Mark Greenfield on 8/15/24.
3. Status hearing re meet and confer efforts, informal discovery, possible setting of mandatory mediation and/or mediation.

Ruling. The parties are **ordered to appear** to address status of settlement discussions and to set further proceedings.

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).

PR0001075 IN THE MATTER OF CHRISTOPHER E. GRAINGER

- 1) Petition to Revoke Probate, for Declaratory Relief, and for Damages, filed by Lanie Grainger and Christopher Grainger on 7/2/25.
2) Status Conference – Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.

Ruling. The court notes that the Final I&A has been filed. The parties are **ordered to appear** to address the outstanding Petition to Revoke Probate, for Declaratory Relief, and for Damages.

PR0001374 IN THE MATTER OF ONN S. LEE TRUST DATED DECEMBER 15, 2022

Petition for Order Confirming Trust Assets, filed by Kathryn Lee Mindham on 7/7/25.

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

PR0001375 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOHN R. SIMPSON III

Petition for Order Confirming Assets of Trust Under Cal. Prob. Code § 850, filed by John R. Simpson, III on 7/18/25.

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

**PR0001379 IN THE MATTER OF 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** to address: (1) why a Guardian ad Litem should not be appointed for Dawson River Aguirre; (2) why Probate action PR0001272 should not be ordered related to this matter; and (3) to address the need for further information regarding proposed Successor Trustee Victor Delwyn Danley and why the Court should waive bond.

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).

PR0001380 IN THE MATTER OF HEATHER BYERS

Petition to Restore Minor's Separate Property Under California Uniform Transfers to Minors Act (CUTMA) and Request for Related Orders, filed by Heather Byers on 7/14/25.

Ruling. Petitioner is **ordered to:** (1) file and serve unredacted exhibits, or a declaration and proposed order as to why they should remain redacted, by October 31, 2025; and (2) file a declaration as to why this action should not be stayed pending resolution of CV0006638 by December 5, 2025.

Any response to the Petition **must be filed by** November 14, 2025 or it will be deemed waived. Any reply to a response **must be filed by** December 5, 2025 or it will be deemed waived.

PR0001401 IN THE MATTER OF SUSAN K. LOVERIDGE

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters of Administration with Will Annexed, filed by Rachael Hairston on 8/11/25.

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 February 26, 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 October 22, 2026, as required by Probate Code sections 12200 and 12201.
 - b. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on November 19, 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 November 19, 2026, 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).

PR0001424 IN THE MATTER OF ROBERT HENRY BECKER

Petition for Probate of Lost Will and for Letters Testamentary, filed by Juan Isaza on 8/27/25.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to November 20, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Petitioner is ordered to:**

1. File an “Amended Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary” (DE-111) no later than October 30, 2025, that:
 - a. Requests that the original Will be admitted to probate;
 - b. Provides the location of Decedent’s death (Item 3a);
 - c. Provides required information with regard to relatives of Decedent’s predeceased spouse (Item 7b(2)(a)-(e));
 - d. Includes the name, relationship, and address for relatives of Decedent’s predeceased spouse in Item 8.
 - e. Includes the name, relationship, and address for all beneficiaries of the Revocable Trust of Robert Henry Becker in Item 8.
2. Mail notice to all interested parties using the mandatory Judicial Council Form “Notice of Petition to Administer Estate” (DE-121).
3. File a copy of the DE-121 that was mailed, with the Proof of Service completed on page 2 showing that all interested parties received at least 15 days’ notice of the Amended Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary. (Prob. Code, § 8110.) The Proof of Service must be filed at least five court days prior to hearing. (Super. Ct. Marin County, Local Rules, rule 6.2(b), Filing, Hearing, and Continuance Procedures.)

PR0001442 IN THE MATTER OF CHRISTINE M. PORTER

Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Todd Porter on 9/10/25.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to November 20, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Petitioner is ordered to:**

1. File a Supplement to Petition for Letters of Administration, signed and verified by Petitioner, no later than October 30, 2025, that:
 - a. Does not check box 2a requesting that decedent’s will and codicils be admitted to probate;
 - b. Provides a response to Item 5a(7)-(8) regarding whether Decedent was survived by issue of any predeceased children;
 - c. If Decedent was survived by issue of predeceased children, includes their name, relationship, and address in Item 8.
2. If applicable, mail notice to all issue of predeceased children using the mandatory Judicial Council Form “Notice of Petition to Administer Estate” (DE-121).
3. File a copy of the DE-121 that was mailed, with the Proof of Service completed on page 2 showing that all interested parties received at least 15 days’ notice of the Petition for Letters of Administration. (Prob. Code, § 8110.)
4. File Proof of Publication of Notice no later than five court days prior to the hearing. (Prob. Code, § 8120 et seq.)

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).

PR0001449 IN THE MATTER OF HELEN CHARLOTTE GILDRED

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters of Administration with Will Annexed, filed by Marin County Public Administrator on 9/15/25.

Ruling. The matter is **continued to November 6, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** for further review.

PR0001450 IN THE MATTER OF EDWARD V. LATHROP

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary, filed by Carol Lathrop-Riboli on 9/17/25.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to November 20, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** **Petitioner is ordered to:**

1. File a Supplement to Petition for Letters of Administration, signed and verified by Petitioner, that:
 - a. Provides the name, relationship, and address for the Trustee(s) of the Edward V. Lathrop and Lola M. Lathrop Trust Dated June 14, 1991;
 - b. If Petitioner is the Trustee, also provide the name, relationship, and address for all beneficiaries of the Trust.
2. Mail notice to all interested parties using the mandatory Judicial Council Form “Notice of Petition to Administer Estate” (DE-121).
3. File a copy of the DE-121 that was mailed, with the Proof of Service completed on page 2 showing that all interested parties received at least 15 days’ notice of the Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary. (Prob. Code, § 8110.) The Proof of Service must be filed at least five court days prior to hearing. (Super. Ct. Marin County, Local Rules, rule 6.2(b), Filing, Hearing, and Continuance Procedures.)

PR0001451 IN THE MATTER OF ALEXANDRA SOPHIA BEELS

Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Constance C. Granger on 9/17/25.

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 February 26, 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 October 22, 2026, as required by Probate Code sections 12200 and 12201.

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).

- d. A status hearing re filing the Petition or Report shall be set on November 19, 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 November 19, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

PR0001453 IN THE MATTER OF BRIAN W. LIN

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary, filed by Kyle Wai Lin on 9/18/25.

Ruling. The matter is **continued to November 6, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** for further review.

Clerk was unable to find original Will, but it was scanned into eCourt WL0001069. Need to locate.

PR0001454 IN THE MATTER OF THOMAS ANKER FANOE

Petition for Letters of Administration, filed by Leslie Madden on 9/18/25.

Ruling. This matter is **continued to November 6, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** for further review once the Petition of Anker Fanoë has been filed and set for hearing.

PRO1701104 IN RE THE JAMES D. BRONSON, III, MARITAL TRUST, TRUST OF

Petition for Appointment of Trustee, filed by Linda Swanson on 7/28/25.

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

PRO2103412 RE THE HOLLY HYAMS POOLED SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST, TRUST OF

Petition to Approve Third and Final Account and Report of Co-Trustees from 7/1/2023 through 3/31/25; to Terminate Trust; Distribute Trust Assets; to Confirm Co-Trustees' Fees; and to Approve Attorney's Fees, filed by Stephen W. Dale and Theresa A. Dale on 8/14/25.

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).

Judge James T. Chou
Department C
10:00 Calendar

PR0000488 IN THE MATTER OF THOMAS H. SINGLETON

- 1) Status Conference - Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.
- 2) Order – Show Cause - Other

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

PR0000724 IN THE MATTER OF ALI NAZARI

Status Hearing – Filing of Report of Status of Administration or Petition for Final Distribution.

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

PR0000769 IN THE MATTER OF JEROME WALTER

Status Hearing – Filing of Report of Status of Administration or Petition for Final Distribution.

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

PR0001168 IN THE MATTER OF LARRY ALLEN COCHRAN

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).

PR0001198 IN THE MATTER OF GLORIA T. BURRESS

- 1) Status Conference - Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.
- 2) Order – Show Cause -Other

Status Hearing – Filing of Report of Status of Administration or Petition for Final Distribution.

Ruling. The matter is ordered **off calendar**; the Final Inventory and Appraisal has been filed. The Order to Show Cause is **discharged** pursuant to counsel’s declaration filed 9/18/25.

PR0001206 IN THE MATTER OF JOSEPHINE SKEWES-COX

Status Conference - Filing of Final Inventory and Appraisal.

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

PR0001217 IN THE MATTER OF JOSEPH J. GARBARINO

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

PRO015083 IN THE MATTER OF TAMARA A. EPP

Status hearing re receipt of file by Placer County Court.

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

PRO2002385 ARIEL LALEZARI, LIMITED CONSERVATORSHIP OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE

Status hearing re receipt of file by San Mateo County Court.

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

PRO2003412 PATRICIA RAISER, CONSERVATORSHIP OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE

Fifth Amended Petition for (1) Approval of the Final Account and Report; Approval to Transfer Conservatee's Assets to Probate Estate (Marin County Case Number PR0001235); (3) Termination of the Conservatorship of the Estate; and (4) Payment of the Conservator Fees and Attorney's Fees, filed by Brooke P. Halsey on 9/10/25.

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

PRO2103960 MADELEINE MORENO, CONSERVATORSHIP OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE

Third and Final Account and Report of Conservator and Petition for Its Settlement; Allowance of Conservator's Commission and Attorney Fees; Final Distribution to Trust, filed by Marin County Public Guardian on 9/11/25.

Ruling. The matter is **continued to November 6, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** for further review.

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).