COURTROOM J6 INSTRUCTIONS

PROBATE NOTES/TENTATIVE RULINGS. To view Probate Notes (formerly Tentative Rulings), visit https://www2.ventura.courts.ca.gov/CaseInquiry/TentativeRulings and insert the date of the hearing for which you are searching. A list of available Probate Notes will populate for the cases on calendar for the hearing date you've selected. You may select from this list the case(s) for which you are seeking to review a Probate Note. You also can access Probate Notes by going directly to the Ventura Superior Court's main webpage and clicking the Tentative Rulings hyperlink.

PROBATE PUBLICATIONS IN VENTURA COUNTY. View a current list of Adjudicated Newspaper Publications in Ventura County (https://ventura.courts.ca.gov/system/files/general/adjudicated_newspapers.pdf), together with a spreadsheet outlining additional information (such as cost, publication area, and timing) to assist you in choosing a newspaper in which to publish your new probate case notice.

VOLUNTEER SETTLEMENT OFFICER LIST. Visit https://ventura.courts.ca.gov/system/files/general/volunteer_settlement_officers.pdf for a list of attorneys with at least 10 years of experience in the probate, trust or conservatorship practice of law, who have volunteered to serve as a settlement officer for no more than 2 hours in smaller cases wherein private mediation otherwise would be impossible. Please contact the attorney directly to determine available times to schedule the settlement conference. These settlement conferences are conducted at the times and places that are solely in the discretion of the settlement officer. The settlement officer may require the pleadings and a brief from each party prior to the settlement conference. Please respect their volunteered time.

APPEARANCES. There are presently no restrictions on in-person appearances in Department J6.

If you prefer, there is almost no situation that requires a personal appearance in court other than at trial, but you are welcome in person at any time.

Appearances in Department J6 also may be made by Zoom (Video or audio) for hearings on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. A remote appearance is one of our court's many efforts to allow for flexibility in appearances and provide greater access to justice for all parties seeking relief in Department J6.

Visit https://ventura.courts.ca.gov/system/files/probate_zoom_appearance_20221010.pdf

for Zoom video links and dialing information for remote appearances. The traditional Internet Video and Audio are available. Dialing in from your phone also is available by dialing one of the numbers listed in the link above. BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN THE LINK ABOVE FOR A SUCCESSFUL REMOTE APPEARANCE.

The direct Zoom video link for Courtroom J6 is https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86408719100?pwd=U0J2ZU5IcmprMXJEVWRyRTYybDYvZz09

Or, directly on zoom.us, Join Meeting Number: 864 0871 9100, Password: 913323.

You may call the judicial secretary at 805-289-8858 or contact the public defender assigned to your case with any questions about remote appearances not addressed in the information contained in the links above.

PROPOSED ORDERS. Judge Romero has **required** that formal orders be lodged at the time of filing any new petitions, as set forth in Ventura County Superior Court Local Rule 10.00.D.1. The clerk's office has been instructed to reject all new petitions of any type unless a proposed order is submitted at the time of filing, whether you can predict what will happen at the hearing or not. (Care plans, Status reports, I&As will not require orders.) *All orders signed at a hearing will be processed on the same day.* For faster turnaround, it is suggested that you include a self-addressed stamped envelope, instruction letter, copies of the proposed order, and a check for certified copies when you submit your proposed order prior to hearing.

FILING DOCUMENTS. The clerk's office is open and available to file documents received by eFiling, U.S. Mail, by dropping documents in the "Drop Box" just outside the courthouse front doors during clerk's business hours and in-person filings (attorneys are required to use eFiling). eFiling is mandatory for all attorneys. Please check the Court's website regularly for further instructions concerning filing opportunities at https://ventura.courts.ca.gov/divisions/probate.

COURTROOM J6 EMAIL ADDRESS. Effective June 15, 2020, the Court will no longer accept any documents, other than orders AFTER hearing as requested by the judge, through the CourtroomJ6 email address, which is CourtroomJ6@ventura.courts.ca.gov.

PRIVATE MEDIATION. The Court strongly suggests you take every opportunity to set up and participate in mediation of any kind as early as practicable in your case. You know the Court's policy: as part of it's case management, you likely will be ordered to mediation in all disputed cases. These mediations can be in-person or remote, as you prefer. The Court is informed that remote mediations have been used by some for many years prior to the pandemic, and can be just as effective as in-person mediations. If there is an issue concerning mediation cost, you also know the Court's general policy on that, but can always reserve the issue for the Court to decide later.