

JUL 29 2019

BY H. A. [Signature] DEPUTY

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KERN

STO-19-0002

**IN RE: MATTERS OF PERSON(S)
WHO DIE WITHOUT AN EXECUTOR
OR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

STANDING ORDER NO.: _____

Order Permitting Kern County Public
Administrator to Take Possession or
Control of the Property of the Decedent

By Order of the Presiding Judge:

Probate Code § 7603 empowers the Public Administrator to issue a written certification that the Public Administrator is authorized to take possession of a decedent's estate. Despite this statutory authorization, the Public Administrator has encountered difficulty in seizing assets from financial institutions, government or private agencies, retirement fund administrators, insurance companies, licensed security dealers, or other persons who are unfamiliar with these laws. These entities may not recognize that receiving a written certification issued by the Public Administrator will fully discharge them from "any liability for any act or omission of the public administrator with respect to the property or the safe-deposit box" under

SCANNED

1 Probate Code § 7603, subd. (d).)

2 WHEREFORE, IT IS SO ORDERED:

3 Upon presentation of a written certification issued by the Public Administrator
4 that the Public Administrator is authorized to take possession or control of property of
5 a decedent pursuant to Article 1, Chapter 4, Part 1, Division 7, of the California
6 Probate Code, a financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund
7 administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person shall,
8 without the necessity of inquiring into the truth of the written certification, without
9 requiring a death certificate, without charge, and without court order or letters being
10 issued allow the Public Administrator to fulfill his or her statutory duties under Probate
11 Code § 7603, subd. (c). The written certification is effective for thirty (30) days after
12 the date of issuance. (Prob. Code § 7603, subd. (a).)

13 When the Public Administrator takes possession or control of property of a
14 decedent under this order, the Public Administrator shall administer the estate through
15 the statutory provisions governing the summary disposition of small estates (Prob.
16 Code § 7660, et seq.) or by filing a petition for formal probate of the estate (Prob.
17 Code § 8000, et seq.).

18
19 **IT IS ORDERED.**

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21 Dated: July 29, 2019.

22
23 
24 Judith K. Dulcich, Presiding Judge
25 Kern County Superior Court