

Tentative Ruling:

Appearances required. (CRC 7.952.) Zoom appearance is permitted.

Petitioner's counsel must be prepared to clarify why the "medpay" amount was reported as part of this settlement. Petitioner has not requested approval of a compromise with his insurer (USAA). (See Proposed Order, ¶ 4—identifying Sylvia Johnston Connors as the only defendant with whom a claim is compromised.) Nor does it appear that MedPay coverage was used to pay any of the currently outstanding medical bills, necessitating the report for transparency in understanding the unpaid medical bills. To the extent this is not a settlement with USAA, but simply payment of an insurance claim, it doesn't appear that court approval is necessary. Explanation is needed.

The petition failed to include bookmarks for its electronic exhibits. (Calif. Rule Court, rule 3.1110(f)(4).) Bookmarks are not only required by law, they are critical to efficient navigation of electronic documents, particularly in a case such as this one, in which there were 130 pages of exhibits. The court is considering issuance of an order to petitioner's counsel on its own motion pursuant to California Rules of Court, rule 2.30, to show cause why reasonable monetary sanctions of up to \$1,500 should not be imposed for violation of the California Rules of Court. Counsel should be prepared to address this.

A new proposed order must be submitted that (1) corrects the name of the judicial officer from Michael C. Kelley to Patricia L. Kelly; and (2) fills in the gross amount of the settlement at paragraph 6.

If the petition is granted, the court intends to set a review hearing within 6-8 weeks to review whether the Receipt and Acknowledgment of Order for the Deposit of Money Into Blocked Account has been received.
