

of the court. In the Indio court this means practically automatic approval of fees requested by fiduciaries and their attorneys in Indian estates unless objections are made.

In this regard, however, it must be noted that the volume of probate matters (which in California includes guardianships and conservatorships) coming before that court, is so great that, regardless how conscientious, the judge assigned to the weekly probate calendar could not adequately review and evaluate the services alleged in each case in support of fees requested.

We are informed that some Superior Courts in California (e.g., those for Kern, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and San Francisco counties) have probate commissioners whose primary responsibilities are to review and evaluate fees requested in probate matters. The Superior Court for Riverside County has no such commissioners.

The court in Indio, on February 11, 1964, issued a policy memorandum which, among other things, provided that a guardian or conservator would be entitled to a fee in the amount of three-fourths of one percent of the current value of his ward's estate, excluding trust property, for "ordinary" services, including filing the required annual accountings. Exhibit 10. He would, however, be permitted to claim additional fees for "extraordinary" services; but there has been no uniformity among fiduciaries and attorneys as to the types of service treated as ordinary and extraordinary.