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# Withdrawing Funds from a Blocked Account

A blocked account is a bank or other account created by court order, requiring a court order to deposit or withdraw funds. Blocked accounts are frequently created to protect judgments awarded to minors, or to protect the money of adults who cannot manage their own finances and have therefore had conservators appointed to manage their assets (“conserved adults”). A court must approve and order any withdrawal of funds from a blocked account.

The most common reason to petition a court to withdraw funds from a blocked account is to access a blocked account because the account was created for a minor who has subsequently turned 18. Occasionally, a court also grants permission to the parent, guardian, or custodian of a minor or conserved adult with a blocked account if the parent, guardian, or custodian can demonstrate that the withdrawal of funds is both necessary for and in the best interests of the minor or conserved adult.

## Step-by-Step Instructions

### 1. Gather Required Information

You will need several pieces of information:

- The name and case number of the case that created the blocked account, as well as the county in which the case was filed;
- Information about the blocked account, including:
  - The name and title in which the account is held
  - The name of the bank or other institution holding the account
  - The name and address of the bank branch holding the account
  - The account number
  - The current balance of the account;
- If there have been previous orders allowing funds to be withdrawn, you will want to know when the previous order(s) was made, and what was ordered;
- If you are asking to withdraw the funds for any reason other than because you were a minor who has subsequently turned 18 and are now entitled to the funds, you must explain why release of the funds is both necessary for and in the best interests of the minor or conserved adult.

### 2. Complete the Necessary Forms

Instructions for completing the necessary forms are included at the end of this packet. You will need at least two forms to request a withdrawal from a blocked account:

- Petition for Withdrawal of Funds from Blocked Account (MC-357)

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- Order for Withdrawal of Funds from Blocked Account (MC-358)

These two forms are generally sufficient if the account was created for a minor who is now 18 years old. In other situations, you will need to provide the court with substantial evidence about the necessity of the withdrawal, and how the best interests of the child or conserved adult will be served by the withdrawal. This explanation will likely be very lengthy, and will not fit in the small space on this form. You may attach additional page(s) to your petition, using either:

- Additional Page (MC-020)
- Attachment to Judicial Council Form (MC-025)

### 3. Copying and Assembling the Court Papers

Make three copies each of the Petition with attachments and the Order.

Staple each **copy** of the *Petition for Withdrawal of Funds from Blocked Account* (MC-357), including attachments. Leave the original Petition and Order unstapled so they can be scanned by the court.

### 4. File Your Documents

In Sacramento County, Petitions for the Withdrawal of Funds from Blocked Accounts are filed in and processed by the Probate Department, located on the second floor of the William R. Ridgeway Family Relations Courthouse at 3341 Power Inn Road, Room 214, Sacramento, CA 95826.

Be sure to file your documents with the Probate Clerk on the second floor of the Courthouse, as the Family Law Clerks on the first floor may not recognize your form.

As of the date of this Guide there is a \$60 filing fee, unless your fees were waived. Current fees are available on the [Sacramento County Superior Court'](http://www.saccourt.ca.gov/fees/docs/fee-schedule.pdf) (<http://www.saccourt.ca.gov/fees/docs/fee-schedule.pdf>)'s website.

You may file a fee waiver request with the court if your income is below certain amounts or if you receive certain government benefits. For more information, see [our Step-by-Step guide on Fee Waivers](https://www.saclaw.org/resource_library/fee-waiver/) ([https://www.saclaw.org/resource\\_library/fee-waiver/](https://www.saclaw.org/resource_library/fee-waiver/)).

### 5. Attend the Hearing

The Court will schedule a court date for your hearing when you file your papers. At that hearing, the Court will either grant or deny your request to withdraw funds, or may issue other orders, depending on the exact circumstances of your case. If you are filing in a county other than Sacramento, please be sure to check with your particular court and its local rules to see if there are any additional procedural steps that should be completed prior to your hearing.

## For Help

[SH@LL \(Self-Help at the Law Library\)](https://saclaw.org/services/civil-self-help/) (<https://saclaw.org/services/civil-self-help/>) (formerly Civil Self Help Center)

609 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento CA 95814  
(916) 476-2731 (Appointment Request Line)

*Services Provided:* SH@LL provides general information and basic assistance to self-represented litigants on a variety of civil legal issues, including name changes. All assistance is provided by telephone. Visit [“What we can help with”](https://saclaw.org/services/civil-self-help/#canhelp) (<https://saclaw.org/services/civil-self-help/#canhelp>) for a list of qualifying cases.

*Eligibility:* Must be a Sacramento County resident or have a [qualifying case](https://saclaw.org/services/civil-self-help/#who) (<https://saclaw.org/services/civil-self-help/#who>) in the Sacramento County Superior Court.

# Samples

## Petition to Withdraw Funds from Blocked Account

**ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY**  
 NAME: Paul Sample  
 FIRM NAME:  
 STREET ADDRESS: 123 Anystreet  
 CITY: Sacramento  
 TELEPHONE NO: 916-555-1212  
 EMAIL ADDRESS:  
 STATE: CA ZIP CODE: 95814  
 FAX NO.:

**PETITIONER'S INFORMATION**  
 Petitioner's name, address, and phone number. "In Pro Per" means you are representing yourself. The petitioner is either a) the minor for whom the account was created, and who is now 18 years old; or b) the parent, guardian, or custodian of a minor or conserved adult for whom the account was created.

**COURT INFORMATION**  
 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
 STREET ADDRESS: 3341 Power Inn Rd.  
 MAILING ADDRESS:  
 CITY AND ZIP CODE: Sacramento CA 95826  
 BRANCH NAME: Family Relations Courthouse

**CASE INFORMATION**  
 CASE NAME: Sample v. Example  
 CASE NUMBER: 34-2013-00123456

**PETITION TO WITHDRAW FUNDS FROM BLOCKED ACCOUNT**  
 EX PARTE

**Do not mark "Ex Parte." Ex Parte petitions are only granted in very special situations, so checking this box will only delay your case.**

**Petitioner's name.**  
 Petitioner (name): Paul Sample  
 Requests an order authorizing the withdrawal of funds belonging to the person identified in item 2.

**Information about the owner of the blocked account.**  
 Person whose funds are to be withdrawn (name): Paul Sample  
 a minor.  
 a conservatee.  
 a beneficiary.  
 other (specify): A former minor

**Additional information about the person named in item 2:**  
 Date of birth: 01/02/2003  
 Address: 123 Anystreet, Sacramento CA 95814  
 Telephone number: 916-555-1212  
 Current school (name and address): None  
 d. Email address:

**Complete Item 4 only if the person in item 2 is under the age of 18.**  
 f. Current employer (name and address):  
 Waldo's Widgets  
 321 Another St., Sacramento CA 95814

**Check the one that best describes the petitioner named in question 1.**  
 4. If the person identified in item 2 is a minor, the minor's parents are:  
 a.  (Name, address, phone number, and email):  
 b.  (Name, address, phone number, and email):

5. Petitioner brings this petition as the  parent  guardian  conservator  
 Other (specify relationship): self, former minor of the person named in item 2.

**Fill in the name, location, account number, and balance of the account.**  
 6. Account status  
 a. Name and title on account: Mary Sample, in trust for Paul Sample  
 b. Depository (name): Gollioth National Bank  
 (1) Branch (name): Downtown Sacramento  
 (2) Address: 981 Elm St., Sacramento CA 95814  
 c. Account number: 13-001234567  
 d. Current balance: \$ 25,000

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use  
 Judicial Council of California  
 MC-357 (Rev. January 1, 2012)

PETITION TO WITHDRAW FUNDS FROM BLOCKED ACCOUNT

Cal. Rules of Court, rules 1.1394, 7.354  
 www.court.ca.gov

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Petition to Withdraw Funds (MC-357) (page 1)



MC-357

CASE NAME: Sample v. Example	CASE NUMBER: 34-2013-00123456
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6. e. Previous withdrawals from this account (select one):

(1)  None.

(2)  As follows:

(a) Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Purpose of withdrawal: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional previous withdrawals from this account are detailed in Attachment 6 (withdrawal, give the information required by item 6e(2)).

f.  Additional accounts from which petitioner seeks to withdraw funds are described on Attachment 6 (account, give all the information required by item 6a-6e).

7. Amount to be disbursed under this petition:

a.  Balance of account or accounts described in item 6.

b.  Other (specify total amount to be disbursed): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

8. Reasons for disbursement of funds:

a.  Minor has reached 18 years of age, and this is a final distribution.

b.  Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

**Explain why the withdrawal is being made. If you use "other," you will likely need to attach an additional page labelled Attachment 8 with your explanation.**

9. Person(s) to whom funds will be paid:

a. Payee (name): Paul Sample

(1) Address: 123 Anystreet, Sacramento CA 95814

(2) Amount: \$ 25,000

(3) Purpose of payment: Minor has reached 18 years of age, and this is a final distribution.

b. Payee (name): \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Purpose of payment: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Payee (name): \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Purpose of payment: \_\_\_\_\_

d. Payee (name): \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Purpose of payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional payees and amounts to be distributed are listed on Attachment 9.

10. Number of pages attached: 0

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: Jan. 5, 2021

Paul Sample

(TYPE OR PRINT NAME)

(SIGNATURE OF PETITIONER)

SIGNATURE FOLLOWS LAST ATTACHMENT

MC-357 (REV. JANUARY 1, 2021) PETITION TO WITHDRAW FUNDS FROM BLOCKED ACCOUNT Page 2 of 2

Petition to Withdraw Funds (MC-357) (page 2)

## Order to Withdraw Funds from Blocked Account

<b>MC-358</b>	
<p>ATTORNEY OR PARTY WITHOUT ATTORNEY NAME: Paul Sample FIRM NAME: STREET ADDRESS: 123 Anystreet CITY: Sacramento TELEPHONE NO.: 916-555-1212 FAX NO.: EMAIL ADDRESS: ATTORNEY FOR (Name): In Pro Per</p>	<p>STATE BAR NUMBER:  STATE: CA ZIP CODE: 95814</p>
<p>SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO STREET ADDRESS: 3341 Power Inn Rd. MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: Sacramento CA 95814 BRANCH NAME: Family Relations Courthouse</p>	
<p>CASE NAME: Sample v. Example</p>	
<p><b>ORDER AUTHORIZING WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS FROM BLOCKED ACCOUNT</b></p>	
<p>CASE NUMBER: 34-2013--00123456</p>	

1. The petition of (name): Paul Sample to withdraw funds  
a.  was heard ex parte.  
b.  came on regularly for hearing in this court on (date): Your name, and check (b).

**THE COURT ORDERS**

2. Petitioner is authorized to withdraw, and the depository is ordered, on presentation of a file-stamped copy of this order, to permit the petitioner to withdraw, funds in the total amount of: \$25,000 The same amount as requested in paragraph 7 of the Petition.

3. The funds are held in the following account:  
a. Name and title on account: Mary Sample in trust for Paul Sample  
b. Depository (name): Goliath National Bank  
(1) Branch (name): Downtown Sacramento Fill in the name, location, and account number.  
(2) Address: 981 Elm St., Sacramento CA 95814  
c. Account number: 13-001234567

4. The funds are to be distributed by the depository, remittance payable as follows:  
a. Payee (name): Paul Sample  
(1) Address: 123 Anystreet, Sacramento CA 95814 Use the same information as in paragraph 9 of the Petition, however the purpose is omitted.  
(2) Amount: \$25,000  
b. Payee (name):  
(1) Address:  
(2) Amount: \$  
c. Payee (name):  
(1) Address:  
(2) Amount: \$  
 Additional payees and amounts to be distributed are listed on Attachment 4.

5.  The court further orders:

6. Number of pages attached: 0 Typically no pages are attached unless there are more than 4 payees.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDICIAL OFFICER  
 SIGNATURE FOLLOWS LAST ATTACHMENT

Page 1 of 1  
Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.1394, 7.354  
www.court.ca.gov

**ORDER AUTHORIZING WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS  
FROM BLOCKED ACCOUNT**

Form Adopted for Mandatory Use  
Judicial Council of California  
MC-358 (Rev. January 1, 2011)

Order Authorizing Withdrawal of Funds (MC-358)

Date Created  
03/30/2023