



SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
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NEWS RELEASE

RIVERSIDE SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES ELECT HON. JACQUELINE C. JACKSON AS PRESIDING JUDGE AND HON. DEAN BENJAMINI AS ASSISTANT PRESIDING JUDGE FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2025 AND 2026

Release Date: January 15, 2025

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY:

Hon. Jacqueline C. Jackson was elected Presiding Judge, and Hon. Dean Benjamini Assistant Presiding Judge. Both Judge Jackson and Judge Benjamini began their two-year term on January 1, 2025.

Judge Jackson was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2011. Prior to taking the bench she had worked for the Los Angeles District Attorney's office, primarily handling child abuse and sexual assault prosecutions and the Riverside District Attorney's office primarily serving in the Writs and Appeals division, and later supervising the misdemeanor calendar departments and drug courts. Upon taking the bench, Judge Jackson initially served in our civil division for one year moving then to juvenile where she served as the Juvenile Presiding Judge for four years. She then presided over the domestic violence court, a criminal trial department, and a probate division.

Judge Jackson will become the first African American woman to serve as the Riverside Superior Court's Presiding Judge.

Judge Benjamini was appointed by Governor Brown in 2014. Prior to being appointed, he was an Assistant Public Defender with the Law Offices of the Public Defender for the County of Riverside. Judge Benjamini was responsible for the operations of that office for the eastern portion of Riverside County. Since taking the bench, Judge Benjamini has served primarily in criminal assignments including all criminal calendars, master calendar, collaborative courts, including ROC and Mental Health Court, as well as presiding over criminal trials, including capital cases.

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