



SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
4050 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501

951.777.3163

NEWS RELEASE

JUDGES ELECT HON. JOHN M. MONTEROSSO AS PRESIDING JUDGE AND HON. JUDITH C. CLARK AS ASSISTANT PRESIDING JUDGE IN UNCONTESTED ELECTION

Release Date: September 25, 2020

Contact: Marita C. Ford, Public Information Officer

RIVERSIDE COUNTY:

Hon. John M. Monterosso was elected Presiding Judge, and Hon. Judith C. Clark Assistant Presiding Judge in an uncontested election for the two top posts of the Superior Court of California, County of Riverside. Both Judge Monterosso and Judge Clark will begin their two-year terms on January 1, 2021.

Judge Monterosso is the current Assistant Presiding Judge. He was appointed by former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to the Riverside Superior Court bench in 2007. He is currently assigned to the criminal division at the Robert Presley Hall of Justice in Riverside. He has served as lead judge at the Southwest Justice Center in Murrieta, which handles criminal, civil, juvenile, unlawful detainers, traffic and small claims matters. Prior assignments have been felony trials and calendars, family law, and juvenile dependency. He also presided over the Recovery Opportunity Center (ROC) program and Mental Health Court. Judge Monterosso is currently serving on the Judicial Council's Prop 66 Working Group and the Trial Court Presiding Judge Joint Legislative Subcommittee. He has also served as Chair on the Riverside Superior Court Security Committee, Southwest Juvenile Courthouse Construction Project Advisory Group, and as a member of the Mid-County Civil Courthouse Construction Project Advisory Group and the Murrieta Public Safety & Traffic Commission. Before his appointment to the bench, he served as Supervising Deputy District Attorney with the Riverside County District Attorney's Office from 2004-2007, and as Deputy District Attorney from 1990-2004.

He graduated magna cum laude from the University of San Francisco School of Law with a juris doctorate in 1990 and cum laude from the University of San Francisco with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1987. In 2004 he was awarded the Southwest Felony Prosecutor of the Year and in 1998 the Felony Prosecutor of the Year, both with the Riverside County District Attorney's Office.

Judge Clark is currently the Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court for Riverside County. She was appointed by former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2005. She currently presides over a dependency calendar at the Southwest Juvenile Court in Murrieta. She has served as the Criminal Master Calendar Judge at the Southwest Justice Center also in Murrieta. Prior assignments include criminal trials, VCD court and family law. Before her appointment to the bench, she served as a Deputy District Attorney for the Riverside County District Attorney's Office from 1989 until her appointment in 2005, where she spent most of that time as a child abuse and sexual assault prosecutor and finished her career with the office as a Supervisor of the Training and Writs and Appeal Division.

She graduated from the University of San Diego School of Law with a juris doctorate in 1989 and the Metropolitan State College in Denver holding a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice with a minor in addictions in 1984. Prior to entering the legal field, she worked as a counselor at VisionQuest and Excelsior Youth Center, both residential treatment centers for youth.

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