



NEWS RELEASE

GOVERNOR APPOINTS TWO NEW JUDGES TO RIVERSIDE COUNTY

SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
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Riverside, CA 92501

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY:

On October 7, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the appointments of Magdalena Cohen and Gary Polk to vacant judgeships in the Superior Court of California, County of Riverside.

Magdalena Cohen, 40, of Riverside, has been appointed to serve as a Judge in the Riverside Superior Court. Ms. Cohen has served as a Deputy Public Defender at the Law Offices of the Riverside County Public Defender since 2007. She earned a Juris Doctor degree from the Southwestern Law School. Ms. Cohen fills the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Sunshine Sykes to the federal bench.

Gary Polk, 39, of Cerritos, has been appointed to serve as a Judge in the Riverside County Superior Court. Mr. Polk has served as a Senior Deputy District Attorney at the Riverside County District Attorney's Office since 2016 and has served in several roles there since 2008. He earned a Juris Doctor degree from the Chapman University School of Law. Mr. Polk fills the vacancy of a new position created on July 1, 2022.

A state Judicial Needs Assessment has found that the Riverside Superior Court is in dire need of judgeships to help process the growing caseloads in its communities. The filling of these vacancies by Magdalena Cohen and Gary Polk will greatly assist the Court's goal in continuing to provide access to justice for court litigants.

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Electronic version available at: www.riverside.courts.ca.gov under Media Center.