



Superior Court of California County of Riverside

PUBLIC NOTICE

Riverside Superior Court Announces Judicial Mentorship Program

Posted: July 7, 2021

The Riverside Superior Court has launched a program to provide judicial mentoring to attorneys who are considering applying, or have applied, for judicial appointment. This endeavor is part of a wider [statewide effort initiated by Governor Newsom](#) to expand the pool of qualified judicial applicants. Many attorneys do not have an available network of judges who can assist them in weighing the considerations necessary before making such a decision, or to assist in navigating the complex process. A mentor judge can help take the mystery out of the process by providing guidance and advice at all stages of the process. Just as importantly, a judicial mentor can be a valuable asset to qualified applicants who otherwise may not have considered applying to the bench, especially for those who come from under represented communities and practice areas. This program is intended to expand the applicant pool to include a much more diverse group of qualified attorneys, something that is critically needed in the Inland Empire.

The judge's role as mentor is not to act as an advocate, or to endorse an attorney's application. Nor does participation guarantee appointment, or provide a "leg up," on other candidates. Rather, the program is limited to providing advice and guidance about the process.

Partnership with our local bar associations is critical to our success of attracting and assisting qualified applicants who reflect the vast diversity of Riverside County. The bars will play an essential role in actively seeking qualified individuals from among their ranks to be referred to the Court's mentorship program. We will also coordinate our efforts with the San Bernardino Superior Court as we recognize the need for qualified and diverse candidates throughout the Inland Empire. Candidates who are referred should have a minimum of 10 years of legal experience, and be in good standing with the State Bar. Riverside Superior Court inquiries should go to the Court's website (www.riverside.courts.ca.gov), go to the General Information tab, then go to the Community Outreach tab, and finally select "[Judicial Mentorship Program](#)."

As we move forward, we hope to expand our outreach beyond our local bar associations. Your ideas and assistance in this endeavor are greatly appreciated. While the Inland Empire may lag behind other legal communities in the quantity of judges we have, we excel in the quality of our legal community. Please help us tap that talent as we strive to serve all the residents of Riverside County.

Hon. John Monterosso-Presiding Judge, Riverside Superior Court
Hon. Jacqueline Jackson-Chair, Riverside Superior Court Mentorship Program