**New Judicial Council Member Bios - June 2023**

**NEW MEMBERS**

**Judge Michelle Williams Court, Superior Court of Los Angeles County**

Judge Court serves on the Superior Court of Los Angeles County as the supervising judge of the Civil Division. She was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown in December 2011 and was

reelected in 2020 for a term that expires in January 2027.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Court was vice-president and general counsel at Bet Tzedek for nine years. Other previous roles include serving as a senior associate attorney at Milberg LLP, community builder fellow and civil rights specialist for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and a litigation associate at Litt and Marquez. Judge Court received her undergraduate degree from Pomona College and her juris doctor degree from Loyola Law School.

Judge Court currently serves on the Judicial Council’s Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee and is a member of the American Law Institute. She also serves as chair of the Los Angeles court’s Technology Committee, where she builds efficiencies in the day-to-day functioning of the court, while also facilitating greater access to justice for litigants and other court users. In addition, she has served on the court’s Executive Committee and several other court committees responsible for governance, access, and process, including two terms on the court’s Commissioner Selection Committee. Judge Court has also served on the court’s Local Rules Committee, Civil Bench-Bar Committee, Media Committee, Diversity Committee, and Community Outreach Committee.

**Judge Charles S. Crompton, Superior Court of San Francisco County**

Judge Crompton was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown in 2014 and currently oversees the behavioral health and mental health diversion departments of the Superior Court of San Francisco County, where he previously worked in both civil and criminal departments.

Prior to joining the court, Judge Crompton was a partner at Latham & Watkins, LLC, and chaired the firm’s global pro bono program. In that role, he created a drop-in clinic to provide free legal services at Glide Memorial. He secured funding and support, and operated the clinic, which still operates today.

Judge Crompton currently serves on the Housing Task Force for the Legal Services Corporation and the Board of Legal Link, which provides access to free legal services; the Board of Code Tenderloin, which is a workforce-development nonprofit for underserved communities; and the Advisory Board of Swords to Plowshares, which is a nonprofit helping veterans obtain housing and other benefits. He previously served as the chair of the California State Bar Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law Section and as a member of the State Bar Judicial Nomination Evaluation Commission. Additionally, Judge Crompton is one of three editors for *California Contract Litigation*, a multivolume treatise published by Matthew Bender.

**Assistant Presiding Judge Maureen F. Hallahan, Superior Court of San Diego County**

Judge Hallahan was appointed to the bench by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2007, where she has served in both family law and criminal assignments. She is currently in her second year as assistant presiding judge.

Judge Hallahan serves on the San Diego court’s Executive Committee. She was previously a member of the Judicial Council Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee and the AB 1058 Task Force. She has taught numerous Center for Judicial Education and Research courses, including Family Primary Assignment Orientation, Supervising Judges Institute, Cow County Institute, and Domestic Violence Institute. She also acted as a seminar leader at the B. E. Witkin Judicial College.

Prior to joining the bench, she was a civil business litigator for 26 years. Judge Hallahan received her undergraduate degree from San Diego State University and her juris doctor degree from the University of San Diego School of Law.

**Presiding Judge Maria D. Hernandez, Superior Court of Orange County**

Judge Hernandez was appointed to the bench as a commissioner in 2006 and appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger as a judge in 2009. She was elected as assistant presiding judge of the Superior Court of Orange County in 2021, and then elected as presiding judge in January 2023.

Judge Hernandez spent nine years with the juvenile court, serving as the presiding judge of the juvenile court from 2014 to 2018, where she created and presided over the dedicated court addressing commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) and cochaired the Orange County Committee relating to boys in the child welfare system. She recently launched a Young Adult Court, which addresses the special needs of emerging adults charged with felonies in the criminal justice system.

Judge Hernandez has served on numerous state, county, and local advisory committees, including the former Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye’s “Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court Initiative” and the Judicial Council Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness. She is a longstanding faculty member for the Center for Judicial Education and Research. Judge Hernandez received a Distinguished Service Award in 2016.

Prior to serving on the bench, she worked as a senior deputy public defender in Orange County. Judge Hernandez received her bachelor’s degree from the University of California, Irvine, and her juris doctor degree from Western State College of Law.

**Judge Erica R. Yew, Judge of the Superior Court of Santa Clara County**

Judge Yew was appointed to the Superior Court of Santa Clara County bench by Governor Gray Davis in 2001. Her judicial assignments have been in dependency drug treatment court and other collaborative problem-solving courts.

Judge Yew served a previous term on the Judicial Council from 2009 to 2012. Judge Yew has served on the Judicial Council’s Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness, the Task Force on Self-Represented Litigants, and the Judicial Recruitment and Retention Working Group. She also served as a member of California Access to Justice. Additionally, Judge Yew has taught classes on judicial ethics, the elimination of bias in the court system, language access in the legal system, and the function and work of collaborative courts for a wide group of organizations, including the Judicial Council’s Center for Judicial Education and Research. She also served on the Commission on Judicial Performance and was appointed by the California Supreme Court to the Committee on Judicial Ethics Opinions in 2019.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Yew spent many years as an attorney. She was president of the Asian Pacific Bar Association of Silicon Valley, served on the California State Bar Board of Trustees and Pro Bono Project of Silicon Valley, and provided leadership to the Asian Law Alliance, the Legal Aid Society, and the Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services. Judge Yew received her bachelor’s degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and her juris doctor degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

**Commissioner Alin D. Cintean, Superior Court of Sacramento County**

Commissioner Cintean was appointed to the Superior Court of Sacramento County bench in 2020. He has practiced law since 2005, initially as a prosecutor and subsequently as defense counsel. His expertise is in criminal law, and he was certified as a Criminal Law Specialist by the California State Bar, Board of Legal Specialization. He earned a bachelor’s degree from California State University, Sacramento, and a juris doctor degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

Commissioner Cintean is a member of the Sacramento court’s Criminal Law Committee, which is tasked with reviewing and analyzing new developments in criminal law, developing best practices for judges and court personnel, developing policies, and providing education and training. Commissioner Cintean has taken an active role in addressing the implementation of a new inmate management system. He is also a member of the Sacramento Court Temporary Judge program tasked with recruiting and training qualified attorneys to serve as temporary judges in the small claims and traffic divisions of the court. He was named Attorney of the Year by the Sacramento County Conflict Criminal Defenders organization in 2017.  
  
  
**Kate Bieker, Court Executive Officer, Superior Court of Contra Costa County**

Kate Bieker has served as the court executive officer for the Superior Court of Contra Costa County since 2018. Prior to her current role, she served the same court as the deputy executive officer from 2015 to 2018, director for court operations and finance from 2009 to 2015, and senior human resources manager from 2007 to 2009.

Bieker has more than 15 years of experience in court administration and her areas of expertise include court operations, facilities, information technology, and finance. She currently serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Judicial Council’s Court Executives Advisory Committee, the

Advisory Committee on Audits and Financial Accountability for the Judicial Branch, and the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and Court Executives Advisory Committee Joint Rules Subcommittee.

**Charles Johnson, Clerk/Executive Officer, Court of Appeal, First Appellate District**

Charles Johnson has served as the clerk/executive officer of the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District since 2018. He has been a staff member of the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District for 22 years and has expertise in supervision, project management, budgets, procurement, facilities, and security.He has a B.A. in history from the University of Pennsylvania and received a graduate certificate in judicial administration in 2010 from Sacramento State University.

Johnson served as vice-president of the California Appellate Court Clerks Association from 2019 to 2020 and as president from 2021 to 2022. He currently serves on the Judicial Council’s Advisory Committee on Audits and Financial Accountability for the Judicial Branch and the Judicial Branch Workers’ Compensation Program Advisory Committee. Johnson also served on the council’s Proposition 66 Implementation Working Group and Branchwide Information Security Roadmap Workstream.

**Darrel E. Parker, Court Executive Officer, Superior Court of Santa Barbara County**

Darrel E. Parker has served as the court executive officer of the Superior Court of Santa Barbara County since 2013. Prior to his current role, Parker served the same court as its assistant court executive officer from 1998 to 2013. He also served in various positions with the Superior Court of Los Angeles County.

Parker has more than 30 years of trial court experience. His areas of expertise include strategic planning, labor negotiations, emergency management, and data analytics. He has served on various Judicial Council committees and is currently a member of the Court Security Advisory Committee, Trial Court Facilities Modifications Advisory Committee, Executive Committee of the Court Executives Advisory Committee, and Jury Administration and Management Subcommittee (chair). He is also a certified instructor with the Center for Judicial Education and Research and National Center for State Courts’ Institute for Court Management.

Parker holds a bachelor’s degree from Drew University and a master’s degree in public administration with a specialization in court administration from the University of Southern California.