



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

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## Several Sacramento Superior Court Judges to Retire from the Bench

Sacramento, CA – Several Sacramento Superior Court judges this year have, or will soon, retire from the bench.

“It’s been an honor to working alongside these esteemed colleagues,” Presiding Court Judge Michael G. Bowman said. “Their presence on the bench will surely be missed.”

**Judge Michael P. Kenny** was appointed to the bench in 2002 by former Gov. Gray Davis. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego School of Law and began his legal career in private practice in 1980. In 1996, he started a six-year stint as executive officer of the California Air Resources Board. During his time on the bench, Judge Kenny has presided over Juvenile Court Justice matters.

Gov. Davis also appointed **Judge John P. Winn** also appointed to the bench in 2002. He earned his Juris Doctor from Boston College in 1986 and began his legal career working as a deputy district attorney for the Sacramento County and Yolo County District Attorney’s offices. Judge Winn served as staff counsel at the California Dept of Corrections and Rehabilitation and chief counsel to the Board of Prison Terms. While on the bench, he was appointed to serve as the supervising judge for the Probate Division and handled matters involving trust disputes, probate administrations, conservatorships and guardianships.

**Judge Sharon A. Lueras** was appointed to the bench in 2007 by former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. She earned her Juris Doctor from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 1988. Judge Lueras worked briefly in private practice

before going on to work in the Sacramento District Attorney's Office, Yolo County District Attorney's office and the California Department of Justice's Office and later as lead corporations counsel for the Department of Business Oversight's Division of Corporations. During her time on the bench, Judge Lueras has presided over a criminal assignment calendar as well as the Folsom Prison video calendar. She has also presided over warrants, civil harassment and DUI treatment courts.

Former Gov. Jerry Brown appointed **Judge Steven R. Lapham** to the bench in 2013. He earned his Juris Doctor from the University of California, Hastings College of Law in 1979 where he served as the Articles Editor for the Hastings Law Journal. Judge Lapham started his legal career in private practice before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of California, where he was one of the attorneys on the "Unabomber" case. While on the bench, he has presided over the small claims courts as well as unlawful detainer trials.

**Judge Patrick Marlette** was originally appointed to the Sacramento County Municipal Court in 1997 by former Gov. Pete Wilson and was elevated to the Superior Court bench as a result of the court's unification. He earned his Juris Doctor from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 1978 and joined the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office a year later. He remained at the D.A.'s office until joining the bench where his assignments have included a general trial calendar as well as criminal writs. At 25 years, Judge Marlette is currently the longest serving judge on the bench.

Gov. Schwarzenegger appointed **Judge Gerrit W. Wood** to the bench in 2008. He earned his Juris Doctor from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 1979. Prior to joining the bench, Judge Wood was a managing partner at a law firm and later a senior trial attorney. He is currently Supervising Judge of Civil settlements.

The **Honorable Peter S. Helfer** was appointed as a commissioner for the bench in 2011. Prior to his appointment, he worked as a court referee for Sacramento Superior Court. He was also an attorney in private practice, handling juvenile, guardianship, conservatorship, mental health and disability law matter. Commissioner Helfer completed his Juris Doctor at the University of California, Hastings College of Law in 1978.

A private ceremony will be held to honor the retiring judges.