



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

NEWS RELEASE

Release date:

September 15, 2011

FROM: Public Information Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sacramento Superior Court Presiding Judge Election

Today the Judges of the Sacramento Superior Court elected Judge Laurie Earl as the next Presiding Judge. Judge Earl's term will commence on January 1, 2012 and will continue through December 31, 2013. She will replace current Presiding Judge Steve White.

As Presiding Judge, she will be the chief administrative decision-maker and spokesperson for the court. She will oversee the other 60 Superior Court judges, 7 referees and 6 commissioners who work in 7 court facilities staffed by approximately 740 court employees.

Upon election by her peers, Judge Earl stated, "I am honored to have the support and confidence of my colleagues. This is an unprecedented time for the judicial branch, on both a statewide and local level. Sacramento Superior Court has an intelligent and engaged bench, as well as hard working and innovative staff. I am confident that with our collective commitment to justice, the Sacramento Superior Court will continue as a leader among trial courts and in serving the citizens of our community."

Judge Earl was appointed to the Sacramento bench by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in February 2005. Judge Earl is currently the Assistant Presiding Judge having been elected to the position on November 19, 2009.

In addition to her duties on the bench, Judge Earl previously volunteered time instructing law enforcement officers for the Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.), and more recently, as an instructor to members of the judiciary for the California Judicial Education and Research Center (CJER). Judge Earl regularly goes to area high schools to participate in the California Office of Traffic Safety's "Real DUI Court in Schools Program".

Judge Earl's commitment to justice has also earned her several awards including the 'Lincoln Law School Outstanding Alumnus Award' in 2005 and the 'Capitol City Trial Lawyers Judge of the Year' in 2010.

At the time of her appointment to the bench in 2005, Judge Earl was working as a Senior Assistant Inspector General at the California Office of the Inspector General in Sacramento. She was also a Deputy District Attorney for the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office from 1995 to 2004 and an Assistant Public Defender for the Sacramento County Public Defender's Office from 1989 to 1995.

Judge Earl received her J.D. degree in May 1988 from Lincoln Law School in Sacramento. Her undergraduate degree in Political Science was received from the University of California, Berkeley in June 1983.