



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 25, 2025

MEDIA CONTACT:

Brandy Tuzon Boyd, Public Information Officer

SSCPIO@saccourt.ca.gov or (916) 591-0050

Sacramento Superior Court Executive Officer Lee Seale to Retire August 1, 2025

SACRAMENTO, CA — Sacramento Superior Court Executive Officer Lee Seale will retire on August 1, 2025, following a career dedicated to law and justice.

Presiding Judge Bunmi O. Awoniyi made the announcement today and praised Seale's leadership and contributions to the court.

"Lee Seale has been an exceptional leader — providing clear direction, meaningful support, and fostering collaboration with our justice and labor partners," said Judge Awoniyi. "Under his guidance, the court expanded its capabilities, embraced innovation, and improved access to justice for our community. It has been an honor to work alongside him, and we wish him the very best in this next chapter."

Seale was appointed Court Executive Officer in June 2021 following a unanimous vote by the court's judges. During his tenure, the Sacramento Superior Court saw both operational and service improvements, including:

- A **30% increase in the court's budget**, providing new resources for expanded operations.
- **Staffing increased by approximately 100 employees**, strengthening court services across all divisions.
- Launch of **eCourt and electronic filing** for Civil, Probate, Small Claims, and Unlawful Detainer cases.
- The introduction of **postcard jury summons** and **jury service text message updates** to improve communication with jurors.
- **Restructuring of the Probate Division** and **expanded hours at the Carol Miller Justice Center** to reduce case backlogs and improve access for the public.
- Creation of the **Guardianship Assistance Program**, in partnership with local law schools, to support self-represented litigants.

- Launch of a **civil home court model**, leading to a reduction in civil case backlogs.
- Continued delivery of **grant-funded mediation services** in Unlawful Detainer and Small Claims cases.
- Celebration of two milestones: the **10th anniversary of the court's unique One Day Divorce program** and the **5th anniversary of Civil Self-Help Services**.
- Significant progress on the construction of the new **Tani Cantil-Sakauye Sacramento County Courthouse**.

"Lee has demonstrated strong leadership in overseeing and developing the court executive team," added Awoniyi. "His steady and supportive guidance has had a lasting impact on our 700-plus court employees."

Before joining the court, Seale served as Sacramento County's Chief Probation Officer and held positions in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation under Governors Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jerry Brown. He also served as a Special Assistant Inspector General, overseeing investigations and legal staff in California's prison system, and worked as a Deputy Attorney General in the criminal division of the California Department of Justice, handling cases throughout the state and appearing before the California Courts of Appeal and Supreme Court.

"Serving as Court Executive Officer has been a rewarding role," said Seale. "I am proud of what this court has accomplished and thankful for the extraordinary judges, staff, and justice partners who have made our progress possible."

The court has begun a competitive recruitment process for its next Court Executive Office. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/SacCourtCEO>.