



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

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Chief Justice Appoints Sacramento Superior Court Judge and Commissioner to Judicial Council

Sacramento, CA — Sacramento Superior Court Presiding Judge Bunmi O. Awoniyi and Commissioner Ryan Davis have been appointed to the Judicial Council.

Judge Awoniyi is among four new voting members and Commissioner Davis is among four new advisory, non-voting members recently appointed to the Judicial Council by Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero. Five members were also reappointed.

“The council consists of volunteers that offer their time and expertise to help make our court system consistent, impartial, and accessible,” the Chief Justice said in a statement. “I thank our new and outgoing members for their dedication and service to the people of California.”

Judge Awoniyi was appointed to the Sacramento Superior Court in 2012 by Gov. Brown and currently serves as the presiding judge. She also served as the supervising judge for family law and probate for four years before becoming the assistant presiding judge in 2022.

Judge Awoniyi serves as Primary Orientation faculty for the Judicial Council’s Center for Judicial Education and Research and has taught numerous other CJER courses at the Family Law Institute, Domestic Violence Institute, and the Cow County Judges Institute. She is also a member of the council’s Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee and Family Law Curriculum Committee.

Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Awoniyi was a certified family law specialist and maintained a family law practice in Sacramento for 18 years.

When Commissioner Davis joined the Sacramento County bench in May 2023, he initially presided over traffic, small claims, and unlawful detainer cases. He now presides over a family law department.

Prior to joining the bench, Commissioner Davis served as a deputy attorney general at California's Department of Justice, where he represented Californians in a variety of complex legal cases, including work surrounding constitutional and statutory law, government operations, elections, state mandates, criminal law, and firearms.

Before that, Commissioner Davis spent a decade representing men and women on California's death row in postconviction proceedings, including at the Office of the State Public Defender and at the Federal Public Defender's Office for the Central District of California.

As an adjunct professor at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, Commissioner Davis teaches a course on capital punishment and related constitutional issues.

"These appointments are a great honor for Judge Awoniyi and Commissioner Davis and also a wonderful recognition of the statewide reputation of the Sacramento Superior Court," the court's Assistant Presiding Judge Lawrence G. Brown said. "Without question, the Council will be well-served by our two colleagues."

Their two-year terms on the Judicial Council start Sept. 15 for Judge Awoniyi and Commissioner Davis.