



**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA**  
**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Brandy Tuzon Boyd, Public Information Officer  
[SSCPIO@saccourt.ca.gov](mailto:SSCPIO@saccourt.ca.gov) or (916) 591-0050

## **Sacramento Superior Court Judge Lawrence G. Brown Appointed Chair of Statewide Collaborative Courts Advisory Committee**

Sacramento, CA — Sacramento Superior Court Judge Lawrence G. Brown is the new chair of the Judicial Council of California's Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee.

Judge Brown was appointed to the post in December by former state Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye.

"...as the Chief Justice, I had the opportunity to observe Judge Brown preside, in chambers and on the record, over the Sacramento Superior Court's mental health court," said Cantil-Sakauye, who recently retired from bench. "He was extraordinary; invested, engaged, and in solution mode! He was the perfect choice to lead and to chair the Judicial Council's Collaborative Courts Advisory Committee."

The statewide committee was created in 2002 and makes recommendations to the Judicial Council of California for developing collaborative justice courts, improving case processing, and overseeing evaluation of these courts throughout the state.

"Judge Brown's appointment as chair to the Collaborative Courts Advisory Committee is a testament to his commitment to justice and addressing challenges which lead offenders to break the law," Sacramento Superior Court President Judge Michael Bowman.

Collaborative courts are meant to improve justice system outcomes by focusing on issues such as mental health or substance abuse disorders in place of serving jail time. Examples of collaborative justice courts include drug courts, mental health courts, youth or peer courts, homeless courts, community courts, veterans' courts, parolee reentry courts and elder courts.

"Judge Brown has shown a strong commitment to our collaborative courts and has demonstrated leadership in the work of our committee at this critical time when policy

makers look to the courts for new and creative solutions that involve collaboration between the courts and our justice partners," said Santa Clara Superior Court Judge Stephen V. Manley, also a committee member.

Judge Brown was appointed to the Sacramento Superior Court bench in 2010 by former governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

In 2013, Judge Brown was assigned to preside over mental health court, reentry court, drug court and homeless court. He continued with adult collaborative justice courts and the co-occurring mental health court, while having regular jury trials.

During his time on the bench, Judge Brown presided over the first-ever reentry court graduation in 2015. Since 2020, he has served as the Supervising Judge of collaborative courts, presiding over three Mental Health Treatment Courts, Recovery Treatment and Reentry, Veterans Treatment and DUI Treatment Courts, Felony Mental Health Diversion, and the Felony Expungement Calendar.

"I am keenly aware of how fortunate I am to ply my judicial craft in Sacramento courts providing treatment and opportunities for veterans, and those suffering from serious mental illness, addiction, and housing instability," said Judge Brown of his appointment as committee chair to Sept. 14, 2023. He had served as vice chair of the committee since 2015.