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State Senator Noreen Evans Honored With Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award

San Francisco—The Judicial Council of California has named State Senator Noreen Evans (D-Santa Rosa) as the recipient of the Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award for her strong support of the California judicial branch of government.

The award, to be presented in December, is named after the late Justice Stanley Mosk, who spent almost six decades in public service as California Attorney General, judge, and Supreme Court justice and was well-known for his unwavering support of individual liberties.

Senator Evans was chosen as the award recipient for her strength in supporting the needs of the judicial branch and her commitment in ensuring that the importance of the judiciary in a civil society is understood. During Senator Evans' six years in the California Assembly and now as a member of the Senate, she has played a leadership role in the administration of justice and has consistently worked to improve access to justice for all Californians.

Senator Evans has been unwavering in her desire to convey the impact of legislation and budget reductions on the ability of state courts to meet their constitutional and statutory obligations and serve Californians. With her insight and acumen, she has stood firm in protecting the courts from having to take on new responsibilities at the same time the courts are being asked to take unprecedented budget reductions and do more with considerably less. She is one of two state legislators who currently serve on the Judicial Council.

Elected to the Senate in 2010, Senator Evans chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee, which handles legislation affecting the court system, and the Legislative Women's Caucus. She also serves as a member of the

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Agriculture, Budget, Governmental Organization, Natural Resources & Water Committees. In addition, she serves on the Commission on the Status of Women where she advises the Governor and Legislature on inequities in laws, practices, and conditions that affect women.

Before her election to the Senate, she served in the State Assembly from 2004 to 2010, and was previously a member of the Santa Rosa Planning Commission. She is a 1981 graduate of McGeorge School of Law, of the University of the Pacific.

The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and ensures leadership and excellence in court administration.

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