

**COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF CALIFORNIA’S COURT SYSTEM**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BIOGRAPHY**

**Justice Carol A. Corrigan, Chair**, was appointed associate justice of the California Supreme Court in January 2006. Before her appointment, she was an associate justice of the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, Division Three (1994–2006); a judge of the Superior Court of Alameda County (1991–1994); a judge of the Oakland Municipal Court (1987–1991); and a trial lawyer in the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office (1975–1987).

Justice Corrigan has served on many advisory bodies throughout her career, including the President’s Commission on Organized Crime, the Judicial Council of California, the Judicial Council’s Task Force on Jury Instructions, and the Governing Committee of the Center for Judicial Education and Research. She has authored published works in the areas of criminal law, trial advocacy, ethics, evidence, and constitutional law and has served as an adjunct professor of law at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law; the University of California, Hastings College of the Law; the University of San Francisco School of Law; and the University of Puget Sound School of Law. [More](#)

**Justice William R. McGuiness, Vice-Chair**, has served as administrative presiding justice of the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, since 2002. He has also served as presiding justice of the First Appellate District, Division Three since 1998. Before his elevation to the Court of Appeal in 1997, he was a judge for more than a decade at the Superior Court of Alameda County, serving as its presiding judge in 1994 and 1995.

Justice McGuiness has served on many statewide bodies throughout his career, including the Judicial Council’s Administrative Presiding Justices Advisory Committee (2002–present) and Appellate Indigent Defense Oversight Advisory Committee (1998–2002). He chaired the council’s Subordinate Judicial Officer Working Group (2001–2002) and served on the California Judges Association’s Appellate Courts Committee (1998–2002).

Before joining the bench, Justice McGuiness served in the U.S. Department of Justice (1983–1986) and in the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office (1972–1983). [More](#)

**Judge Lorna A. Alksne** was appointed to the Superior Court of San Diego County in 2005, where from 2001–2005 she served as a commissioner. Since 2008, Judge Alksne has served as the supervising family law judge in the San Diego Superior Court and has experience in both family and juvenile law. Prior to working for the court, she served as a civil counsel to the district attorney, a pro tem referee in juvenile court, and in private law practice. She is a member of the San Diego County Bar Association, the California Judges Association, and the San Diego Lawyer’s Club. Judge Alksne is a member of the Elkins Family Law Implementation Task Force and the Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee. Judge Alksne serves as faculty for the Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) and was a recipient of Distinguished Judge of

the Year in 2009 from the Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Judge Alksne is ranked first for her experience in family and juvenile law and her leadership as supervising judge and participation in family law reform efforts.

**Justice Patricia Bamattre-Manoukian** was appointed to the Court of Appeal, Sixth Appellate District, in October 1989 and served as the acting administrative presiding justice from 2001 to 2003. Her prior judicial experience includes serving as a judge of the Superior Court of Santa Clara County (1988–1989) and of the county’s former municipal court (1985–1988), as well as judge of the West Orange County Municipal Court (1983–1985). She has served on the Judicial Council of California (1990–1993) and many Judicial Council committees, chairing the Appellate Court Security Committee, the Governing Committee of the Center for Judicial Education and Research, and the Appellate Justices Education Committee. Her educational activities have included cochairing the Santa Clara County Bar Association’s Appellate Courts Committee, judging numerous moot court competitions, serving on the faculty of many continuing legal education programs, and serving as an executive committee member and past president of the Honorable William A. Ingram American Inn of Court. [More](#)

**Judge Stacy Boulware Eurie** was appointed to the Superior Court of Sacramento County in 2007 and has served as presiding judge of its juvenile court since 2010. Before her appointment to the bench, she served as senior assistant attorney general of the Government Law Section of the California Office of the Attorney General. She also served as supervising deputy attorney general in the Attorney General’s Employment, Regulation and Administration section. Before her work in the public sector, she was an associate attorney in a private criminal defense firm.

Judge Boulware Eurie is vice-chair of the Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court Initiative Steering Committee, serves on the California Child Welfare Council, and is a member of the Disproportionate Minority Contact Subcommittee of the California State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. She has previously served on the Judicial Council’s Advisory Committee on Financial Accountability and Efficiency for the Judicial Branch and California Blue Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care. In addition, she has served multiple years on the Executive Committee of the State Bar of California’s Litigation Section and the Board of Directors of the University of California, Davis, School of Law Alumni Association.

**Judge J. Richard Couzens** is a retired judge, having served on the Placer County bench for more than 37 years. He remains on full-time active assignment in the Assigned Judges Program. He has served on the Judicial Council of California and the California State-Federal Judicial Council and is currently vice-chair of the Judicial Council’s Criminal Law Advisory Committee. Judge Couzens is coauthor of *California Three Strikes Sentencing*, *Sex Crimes: California Law and Procedure*, and *Sentencing California Crimes*, published by the Rutter Group. He has been a regular member of the faculty of the B. E. Witkin Judicial College of California since 1995, primarily teaching criminal law. From 2007 to 2008, he was designated the on-site supervisor of the Chief Justice’s special criminal trial reduction program in Riverside County.

**Justice Judith L. Haller** was appointed to the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division One in 1994. Before her appointment on the appellate court, she served five years as a judge of the Superior Court of San Diego County, where she was assigned to criminal, law and motion, and civil independent calendar departments. Before her appointment to the bench, she was a deputy district attorney with the San Diego County District Attorney's office for 3 years and a civil litigator and partner in a private law firm for 11 years.

During her judicial career, Justice Haller has been actively involved in many professional organizations and commissions, including as master of the Honorable William B. Enright American Inn of Court; director of the Board of Trustees of California Western School of Law; chair of the California Appellate Court Legacy Project; and member of the San Diego Bar Association Legal Ethics Committee, the California Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics Opinions, and the California Judges Association Ethics Committee. She is a frequent speaker at continuing education programs and has received several awards recognizing her service to the legal community. [More](#)

**Justice Jim Humes** has served as presiding justice of the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, Division One since 2014. He first joined the appellate court as an associate justice in Division Four in 2012.

Before joining the appellate court, Justice Humes held various positions in the Governor's Office, as well as in the Attorney General's Offices in California and Colorado. He served two years as Governor Jerry Brown's executive secretary for legal affairs, administration, and policy and four years as chief deputy for then-Attorney General Brown. As the chief deputy, he managed the California Department of Justice. Before becoming the chief deputy, Justice Humes was the chief assistant for the Division of Civil Law and held management positions in the Health, Education & Welfare and Correctional Law Sections of the California Department of Justice. He also practiced law in private firms. [More](#)

**Judge Carolyn B. Kuhl** is a judge of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County and has served on the court since 1995. Before taking the bench, Judge Kuhl was a partner in a private law firm and served in the U.S. Department of Justice as special assistant to the Attorney General and principal deputy solicitor general (1981–1986), preparing and arguing cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Judge Kuhl has served in many statewide groups throughout her career, including on the Judicial Council of California (2006–2009) and its Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions (2001–2003). She cochairs the council's Joint Rules Working Group of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and Court Executives Advisory Committee and also serves on the Council of the American Law Institute. In addition, Justice Kuhl serves on the Board of Overseers for the Rand Institute for Civil Justice.

**Judge Patricia M. Lucas** joined the Superior Court of Santa Clara County bench in 2003, and currently serves as the presiding judge. She has served in the criminal, family, and civil divisions and has supervised the civil and family courts.

Judge Lucas has served on several statewide committees and tasks forces. She currently serves as vice-chair of the council's Court Facilities Advisory Committee. She previously served as chair of the Judicial Council's Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee and as a member of the Elkins Family Law Task Force.

In 2015, she began a four-year commitment to serve as associate dean, and then dean, of the B. E. Witkin Judicial College of California.

**Justice Louis R. Mauro** was appointed to the Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District, in 2010. Before joining the appellate court, he served as a judge of the Superior Court of Sacramento County. He has also served in the Governor's Office as chief deputy legal affairs secretary, a lawyer, and a senior staff member. Before joining the Governor's Office, he worked in the California Department of Justice, where he was eventually appointed senior assistant attorney general. Justice Mauro began his law career with a clerkship at the California Supreme Court, before working as an attorney in private practice.

Justice Mauro's public service includes participation on various Judicial Council committees, including the Appellate Advisory Committee, the Court Technology Advisory Committee, and the Appellate Court Security Committee. He chairs the Joint Appellate Technology Subcommittee and the Third Appellate District's Technology Committee and has also served on the Third Appellate District's Mediation Committee. In addition, he serves on the Executive Committee of the Anthony M. Kennedy Inn of Court and on the Executive Committee and the Executive Board of the California Judges Association. [More](#)

**Justice Douglas P. Miller** was appointed to the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division Two in 2006. Before his appointment to the appellate court, he was a judge in Riverside County from 1995 to 2006, where he served as presiding judge from 2003 to 2004.

Justice Miller has served on many state and local committees. He is a member of the Judicial Council, serving as chair of its Executive and Planning Committee. He is a member of the California Commission on Access to Justice and serves as vice-chair of the Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics Opinions. Justice Miller also serves as chair of the California State Bar Task Force on Lawyer Support for Legal Services and was a member of the Judicial Council's Science and the Law Steering Committee, the Bench-Bar Coalition, and the California Judges Association. In addition, he is a founding member of the Warren E. Slaughter American Inn of Court. [More](#)

**Justice Kathleen E. O'Leary** was appointed to the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division Three in 2000 and has served as the court's presiding justice since 2012. Before her

appointment to the appellate court, she was a judge of the Superior Court of Orange County, where she served three terms as presiding judge. She began her judicial career at the West Orange County Municipal Court in 1981, where she served as both presiding judge and assistant presiding judge.

Justice O’Leary served three years as a member of the Judicial Council and is currently cochair of the council’s Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness and chair of the council’s Advisory Committee on Financial Accountability and Efficiency for the Judicial Branch. She has previously served on and chaired various Judicial Council committees the Governing Committee of the Center for Judicial Education and Research, the Task Force on Trial Court Funding, the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, the Trial Court Budget Commission, the Community Focused Court Planning Committee, the Task Force on Self-Represented Litigants, and the Court Interpreters Advisory Panel. [More](#)

**Judge Carrie McIntyre Panetta** is a judge of the Superior Court of Monterey County. Before appointment to that court in 2013, she was a judge of the Superior Court of Alameda County from 2007 to 2013, where she served as the criminal executive judge from 2011 to 2013. Before her appointment to the bench, Judge Panetta was a deputy district attorney with the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office (1999–2007) and an associate with a public law firm (1992–1999).

Judge Panetta has been active in statewide groups and is currently a member of the B. E. Witkin Judicial College Steering Committee and the Judicial Council Advisory Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions. She has served as a seminar leader at the B. E. Witkin Judicial College and as faculty at the Center for Judiciary Education and Research’s Criminal Law Primary Assignment Orientations (2012–2014).

**Justice Steven Z. Perren** is an associate justice of the Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division Six. Before joining the appellate court in 1999, he was appointed as a judge of the Superior Court of Ventura County in 1983, where he served two years as the court’s presiding judge (1992–1993) and five years as presiding judge of its juvenile court. Before his appointment to the bench, he served in Vietnam as a captain in the Army Signal Corps and additional duty as a military prosecutor and defense attorney, and was a civil and criminal litigator for a private law practice.

In addition to his formal judicial duties, Justice Perren has served on a number of Judicial Council committees, including as chair of the Judicial Council’s Criminal Law Advisory Committee and as a member of the Jury Instructions Task Force (Criminal) that led to CALCRIM. He served as vice-president of the California Judges Association and president of the California Judges Foundation. Justice Perren has lectured at the B. E. Witkin Judicial College on sentencing practices, juvenile justice, and jurisprudence. He authored *Indeterminate Sentencing Redux: A Return to Rational Sentencing*. [More](#)

**Justice Charles S. Poochigian** was appointed to the Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District, in 2009. Before his appointment to the appellate court, he served two terms in the California State Senate (1998–2006) and two terms in the California State Assembly (1994–1998). While in the Legislature, his legislative and policy work covered a wide range of subjects, including criminal justice, education reform, workers' compensation law, taxation, agriculture, budget, environment, and natural resources. He held numerous leadership positions, including chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee, chair of the Constitutional Amendments Committee, vice-chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Public Safety, and member of the Little Hoover Commission.

Before becoming a member of the State Senate and Assembly, Justice Poochigian served as senior staff to Governor George Deukmejian and Governor Pete Wilson, for whom he also served as appointments secretary. His legal career began in 1975 with 13 years of private practice that consisted principally of representing clients on matters involving regulatory issues.

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**Justice Peter J. Siggins** has served as an associate justice of the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, Division Three since 2006. Before his appointment, he served as legal affairs secretary and counsel to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger from 2003 to 2005 and interim chief of staff in the Governor's Office from September to November 2005. Justice Siggins was a lawyer in the California Attorney General's Office from 1988 to 2003, beginning his career there as a deputy attorney general. In 1995, he became senior assistant attorney general and in 1999 was named chief deputy attorney general for Legal Affairs by Attorney General Bill Lockyer. Before joining the Attorney General's Office, Justice Siggins practiced general civil litigation and maritime law in San Francisco with public law firms and as a sole practitioner (1980–1985).

Justice Siggins serves on several Judicial Council committees and working groups, dealing with coordination of issues faced by federal and state courts, judicial compensation, judicial education, and electronic filing of legal documents. He has also been a member of the State-Federal Judicial Council. [More](#)

**Judge Marsha Slough** was appointed to the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division Two in January 2016. Previously, Justice Slough served as a judge of the Superior Court of San Bernardino County since 2003. She has served as the court's presiding judge since September 2012 and was assistant presiding judge from January 2012 to September 2012 and presiding judge of its juvenile court from October 2007 to December 2010. While on the bench, she has heard diverse case types, including adult criminal, juvenile dependency and delinquency, and civil.

Justice Slough serves as a member of the Judicial Council and is the chair of the Technology Committee. She has also worked on several Judicial Council committees, including as chair of the Judicial Council's Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, vice-chair of the Trial

Court Efficiencies Task Force, and a member of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee and the Technology Planning Task Force. [More](#)

**Judge Robert J. Trentacosta** completed his term as the Presiding Judge of the San Diego Superior Court in December 2013. Presently he is the Supervising Judge of the Juvenile Delinquency division. Formerly he held multiple leadership positions within the court including: Assistant Presiding Judge, Supervising Criminal Judge and Supervising Judge of the South County Division.

In January 2012, Judge Trentacosta was appointed to the position of Vice-Chair of the Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, comprised of presiding judges from the 58 counties in the State of California. In January 2013, he was elected by his peers to serve a second term.

In January 2013, Judge Trentacosta was appointed by the California Supreme Court to serve as a member of the Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics Opinions (CJEO) to provide ethics advice to all judicial officers in the State of California. From 2010 to 2011, Judge Trentacosta held a similar position when he served as the Chairperson of the statewide California Judges Association Judicial Ethics Committee.

Judge Trentacosta is currently a member of various statewide judicial committees with responsibilities for issues concerning the judicial branch budget, legislation, courthouse construction and judicial education.

Formerly Judge Trentacosta was the President of the Plaintiff's Trial Bar, the Consumer Attorneys of San Diego (2000) and the President of the San Diego Inn of Court, College of Advocacy (1997). He is a Master in the Louis Welch Inn of Court and Adjunct Professor of "Trial Practice" law at California Western Law School. He has been honored as "Judge of the Year" for 2012 and 2013 by various trial lawyer and bar organizations.

**Judge Emily E. Vasquez** was appointed to the Superior Court of Sacramento County in 2001. She is assigned to a general trial department, presiding over civil and criminal jury trials. Judge Vasquez serves as a member of the Judicial Council's Court Technology Advisory Committee (CTAC), is the vice-chair of the CTAC Projects Subcommittee, and is the CTAC Liaison to the Judicial Council's Criminal Law Advisory Committee. She is a faculty member for the Center for Judiciary Education and Research, providing ethics, labor, and employment law and e-business training to judges throughout California.

Locally, Judge Vasquez is a member of the Sacramento Superior Court Technology Committee and the Student Outreach Committee. She chairs the Sacramento Superior Court Peer Review Subcommittee, cochairs the Steering Committee for the Integrated Justice Information System, and is president of the Board of Directors of the Health Education Council.



**Jake Chatters** is the court executive officer for the Superior Court of Placer County. Before joining the Placer court, Mr. Chatters worked for the Superior Court of Sacramento County as the director of research and evaluation and deputy court executive officer. Before his service to California's judicial branch, he was a consultant for KPMG Consulting on state and local government business operations.

Mr. Chatters currently serves as an advisory member to the Judicial Council, as well as chair of the Court Executives Advisory Committee. Mr. Chatters recently served on the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee, Court Technology Advisory Committee, and the Workload Assessment Advisory Committee. He has also served on several key working groups, including the Judicial Branch Technology Initiative Working Group, PJ/CEO Management Program Working Group, and the CEAC Limited Court Closures Working Group.

**Michael D. Planet** is the court executive officer of the Superior Court for Ventura County. Prior to his appointment in Ventura County in 2001, he served as the Court Administrator of the King County (Seattle, WA) Superior Court, and as Deputy Court Administrator for the Maricopa County (Phoenix, AZ) Superior Court. Mr. Planet served as an advisory member to the Judicial Council from 2007 to 2010, and is currently the vice-chair of the Advisory Committee on Financial Accountability and Efficiency for the Judicial Branch. He is a member of the Court Executives' Advisory Committee, serving as its chair in 2010. He has been appointed to a variety of Judicial Council committees. Mr. Planet was awarded the Judicial Council's Leadership in Judicial Administration Award for 2011. Mr. Planet received a M.S. in the Administration of Justice from the American University, and a B.A. in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland.

**Michael M. Roddy**, Executive Officer of the Superior Court of San Diego County, has more than 30 years of court administration experience, both in the trial courts and in state court administration. Before returning to the Superior Court in San Diego in January 2006, Mr. Roddy served as the Administrative Office of the Court's Regional Administrative Director for the Northern/Central Region (2001–2006), Executive Officer of the Superior Court of Sacramento (1989–1994), Assistant Executive Officer (1988–1989) of the Superior Court of San Diego County, and in a variety of other administrative positions in the Superior Courts of San Diego and Los Angeles counties.

Mr. Roddy has been active on numerous Judicial Council committees including the Court Executives Advisory Committee, the Court Technology Advisory Committee, the Working Group on Court Security, the Emergency Response and Security Task Force, the Probation Services Task Force, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Jury System Improvement, the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee and the Center for Judicial Education and Research Governing Committee. He served on the Judicial Council from 2006 to 2011.

**David H. Yamasaki** is the court executive officer for the Superior Court of Orange County. He has more than 29 years of experience working in the judicial branch. He has also worked for



courts in Santa Clara, Los Angeles and San Diego Counties and was actively involved with case calendar management, development of automated case management systems, and court fiscal and personnel management.

Mr. Yamasaki served on the Judicial Council from 2012 to 2014 and has been a member of the council's Executive and Planning Committee, Litigation Management Committee, and Technology Committee. He also served as chair of the Court Executives Advisory Committee and the Judicial Branch Workers' Compensation Program, and as a member of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee, Trial Court Funding Workgroup, and Court Interpreters Advisory Panel.

**Charlene Ynson** is the court administrator/clerk of the Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District, and has worked for the appellate courts since 2008. She has 20 years of fiscal and management experience in the County of Fresno, the last 6 of those years as manager and director of operations with the Superior Court of Fresno County.

Ms. Ynson has been involved in several Judicial Council committees. She currently serves on the Technology Planning Task Force and previously served on the Court Executives Advisory Committee (2010–2013), the Joint CEAC/Appellate Advisory Committee Working Group on Response to Supreme Court Order re: Court Reporter Transcripts (2012–2013), the Judicial Branch Contracting Manual Working Group (2011–2012), and the Appellate E-Filing Working Group (2011).

Ms. Ynson is a member of several professional associations, including the California Appellate Court Clerk/Administrators, serving as its president from 2010 to 2013. She is also a member of the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks, the Society for Human Resource Management, and the DeVry University Industry Advisory Committee.

#### **SPECIAL ADVISOR**

**Patrick M. Kelly** is the regional managing partner of the Western Region of the law firm of Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP. He is a past president of the State Bar of California and is a veteran trial lawyer and legal advisor who has tried numerous cases to verdict and has briefed and argued numerous appeals. He was elected fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. The academy is limited to 500 trial lawyers in the United States. Among his leadership positions, Mr. Kelly has been elected to serve as president of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, was elected as president of the Professional Liability Underwriting Society, and was appointed by the Governor to serve as one of 11 members of the California Commission on Judicial Performance.