



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

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PRESS RELEASE

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HONORABLE JULIE R. CULVER TO COMMENCE HER TERM AS MONTEREY COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT'S PRESIDING JUDGE

Monterey County Superior Court is pleased to announce that the Honorable Julie R. Culver will commence her term as Monterey County Superior Court's Presiding Judge effective January 1, 2020.

Judge Culver has served on the Monterey Superior Court bench since her appointment in 2010 by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Judge Culver's current assignment to both Criminal and Civil calendars has allowed her to stay well versed in all areas of the court. Locally, Judge Culver has served as chair of the Monterey County Court Technology Committee and chair of the court committee charged with updating the Monterey County Local Court Rules. At the state level, Judge Culver has been reappointed to serve on the Judicial Council of California, Information Technology Advisory Committee where she has served for the past 5 years.

Prior to her appointment to the bench in 2010, Judge Culver practiced corporate law, ultimately serving as General Counsel for Shop.com. She also served Monterey County as a Deputy District Attorney from 1985 through 1999.

Judge Culver will be replacing Judge Lydia M. Villarreal who has served as Presiding Judge since January 2018. During her term, Judge Villarreal has been responsible for directing the opening of Self-Help Services in Salinas and Greenfield and resuming traffic and small claims court for South Monterey County residents. Judge Villarreal has also served on the Executive Committee for the California Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee. In addition, Judge Villarreal has served the community in her position as Chair of the Board of the James Irvine Foundation.

Effective January 1, 2020, Judge Julie R. Culver will commence her term as Monterey County Superior Court's Presiding Judge (PJ) in 2020 – 2021.

Judge Culver is joined by Judge Pamela L. Butler who will commence her term as Assistant Presiding Judge (APJ) for the 2020 – 2021 term.

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