



NEWS RELEASE

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JUDGE VICTORIA WOOD ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF NAPA
825 Brown Street
Napa, CA 94559
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707-299-1100

Cynthia P. Smith
Presiding Judge

Robert E. Fleshman
Court Executive Officer

NAPA, CA – Judge Victoria Wood announces her retirement from Napa Superior Court effective January 2024. Her last day on the bench will be December 22, 2023. Judge Wood was appointed by Governor Gerald Brown in 2017 and, during her tenure on the bench, served in virtually all judicial assignments. She currently sits in the Family Law and Juvenile Justice assignments. She also serves as the Court’s Assistant Presiding Judge and is one of three members of the Court’s Appellate Division. For three years, Judge Wood served as the judicial liaison to the Napa County Civil Grand Jury overseeing the grand jury’s recruitment, investigation, and reporting efforts. She has served on the Napa County Law Library Board of Trustees for 17 years and is the immediate past president.

Prior to being appointed to the bench by Governor Brown, Judge Wood served the Napa Superior Court as Court Commissioner for four years, research attorney for nine years and as a law school intern prior to that. In addition to her almost 20 years with the Napa County Superior Court, Judge Wood worked for Justice Wes Walker at the Court of Appeal and briefly in private practice.

In announcing her retirement, Judge Wood stated, “It has been the honor of a lifetime to have worked for the Court all these years and to have had the opportunity to serve the Court and the community in these roles. My decision to leave the bench has not been an easy one but personal reasons have ultimately led me to conclude that the time is ripe to take the next step in my career.”

Presiding Judge Cynthia P. Smith commented on behalf of the entire Napa Superior Court Bench that, “Judge Wood’s almost 20 years at the Court have given her a unique and valuable perspective on the administration of justice in our community. She is beloved by staff and her judicial colleagues, in large part due to her willingness to take on any assignment, large or small. She is a true ‘team player’ and will be greatly missed.”

Judge Wood received a B.S. in Sociology and a B.A. in Spanish from Pacific Union College, graduating magna cum laude. She received her J.D. from the University of California, Davis School of Law in 1997.

Upon her departure from the Court, Judge Wood plans to continue as a Napa resident and to remain active in the legal community. She also looks forward to spending more time with her family, traveling and becoming an expert pickle ball player.

Questions about this media advisory may be directed to the Napa County Superior Court Executive Office at 707-299-1110.