



NEWS RELEASE

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San Diego Superior Court Names New Presiding Judge *Jeffrey B. Barton Set to Lead*

Judge Jeffrey B. Barton will step into the top judicial leadership position as the San Diego Superior Court's Presiding Judge on January 1, 2016. Elected by his fellow jurists to the two-year term in November, Judge Barton has served as the Assistant Presiding Judge since 2014. He will succeed the current Presiding Judge David J. Danielsen who finishes his term of office on December 31st.

"I am honored to have been provided the opportunity of helping guide the San Diego Superior Court during the next two years. This is a Court fully committed to one of the founding principles of our democracy: that there be fair, open and timely access to justice. Despite years of significant budget decreases which resulted in noticeable service reductions, our Judicial Officers and staff will continue our tradition of providing justice for all our citizens. We will also continue our efforts to innovate and modernize our systems in order to provide faster and better service with the available resources," says Judge Barton.

Starting in 2016, Judge Barton will lead the San Diego Superior Court in the oversight and management of court operations, 154 judicial officers, more than 1,200 employees, and a court budget of more than \$172 million. In this task, Judge Barton will work closely with the

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Court's Executive Officer, the court management team along with an Executive Committee of Superior Court judges.

With nearly 15 years of judicial experience, Judge Barton has been active in various leadership roles within the court including Chair of the San Diego Court Technology Committee where he has led many of the court's efforts to improve access through technology. He also served six years as the Supervising Judge for the Civil Division. Prior to his appointment to the bench, he was a civil trial lawyer in a large law firm for twenty years and was inducted into the American Board of Trial Advocates in 1995. A graduate of UCSD, Judge Barton holds a Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego School of Law.

San Diego Judicial Officers have chosen Judge Peter C. Deddeh to serve alongside Judge Barton as Assistant Presiding Judge. Judge Deddeh was appointed to the San Diego Superior Court in 1998, and has served as the Supervising judge in Central Criminal and East County. He attended UCSB as an undergraduate, and received his Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego.

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