



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Karen Dalton
Phone: (619) 531-4484

Superior Court Judge Christine V. Pate Retires

San Diego Superior Court Judge Christine V. Pate has retired after 20 years on the bench. Judge Pate, 64, began her judicial career in 1988 after being appointed to the Superior Court by then-Governor George Deukmejian. Judge Pate's pre-court legal background is rooted in the practice of private law with 18 years of experience (Jennings, Engstrand & Henrikson and Higgs, Jennings, Fletcher & Mack).

A native San Diegan, Judge Pate received a Bachelor's degree in History and Political Science from UC Berkeley (1965) and graduated cum laude from the University of San Diego School of Law (1969).

She is a member of the California Judges Association; she served as Vice President and Secretary of the San Diego Bar Association (1985-1988) and as the District 9 representative to the Executive Committee for the Conference of Delegates of the State Bar of California (1983-1985). In 1992, Judge Pate received the "*Alumni of the Year*" award from the State Bar of California's Executive Committee of the Conference of Delegates. She has been on the Board of Visitors for University of San Diego since its inception and also sat on the original board for San Diego Volunteer Lawyers' program. Judge Pate says she is a "founding mother" for Lawyers Club of San Diego and served as its president (1982-1983). She has remained interested in the activities of each of these organizations.

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Judge Pate says her most memorable cases were in the area of family and juvenile, “I served in most of the divisions of the court or at least handled cases for those divisions and found the diversity very rewarding although Family and Juvenile were my passions. I will miss those with whom I was closest as friends and colleagues especially the bench in family law and in South Bay. Those were times of great camaraderie.”

Presiding Superior Court Judge Kenneth K. So says, “Judge Pate has served the court for twenty years in some of the most challenging departments which have tremendous impact on San Diegans: family and juvenile court. The superior court will miss her historical knowledge and expertise and wishes her well in all her future endeavors.”

In retirement, Judge Pate says she plans to organize all those closets and drawers that needed attention after twenty years of being a working mother. She plans to travel with her husband, retired Judge William C. Pate, spend time with her four boys, grandchildren and friends and possibly, at a later date, work on assignment or undertake Family Mediation. Judge Pate indicated, “My husband has been retired for almost two years and enjoys doing whatever he wants to do. I intend to do the same!”

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