



NEWS RELEASE

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Superior Court Judge William H. Kennedy Retires

One of the San Diego Superior Court's senior judicial officers, William H. Kennedy, is retiring after more than 25 years on the bench. Then-Governor George Deukmejian appointed Judge Kennedy, 78, to the court in July of 1983. Judge Kennedy, who retires at the end of his judicial term on January 4, 2009, brought a diverse legal background to the court. He served as U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California (1981-82), and Chief Deputy District Attorney (1982-83), Assistant San Diego District Attorney (1971-82), and Deputy District Attorney (1958-70) for the County of San Diego.

Born in Waterbury, Connecticut, Judge Kennedy received his law degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law (1955) and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, Sociology, and Economics from Yale University (1952).

Judge Kennedy received the *Thomas Moore Society Leadership and Service to Community Award* in 1999, a San Diego Press Club *Headliner of 1982 Public Service Award* and the *San Diego Trial Lawyers' President's Award* in 1982.

" I started out fifty years ago as the sixteenth San Diego Deputy D.A. hired in that office which now has in excess of three hundred deputies serving the community. My

(More)

twenty-five years there, the last several in administration, plus the many high-profile felony criminal trials I've handled has lead to an interesting exciting career. It's time now for a little peace and quiet and leave the job to the younger judges," says Kennedy.

Presiding Judge Kenneth K. So says, "Judge Kennedy has had an exemplary career as a lawyer and judge. He is an extraordinary judge on our bench. He has made courageous and difficult decisions as a trial judge and is the model of integrity. We know he will be hard to replace."

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