



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
Post Office Box 120128 • San Diego, CA 92112-0128

Release: Immediately
Date: 8/13/10

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Superior Court Judge Charles R. Hayes Retires

San Diego Superior Court Judge Charles R. Hayes will retire on August 16, 2010 after 24 years on the bench. Appointed by then-Governor George Deukmejian, Judge Hayes began his judicial career as a Municipal Court Judge in 1986 and was elevated to Superior Court by Governor Deukmejian in 1987. During his judicial career, Judge Hayes has served in numerous assignments within the Superior Court. Judge Hayes was a civil trial judge for over fifteen years in an independent calendar department with a caseload of about 700 civil cases. He presided over hundreds of civil court and jury trials involving complex business disputes, consumer issues and personal injury cases. Prior to his current civil assignment, he presided over general civil and criminal trials including a number of death penalty cases. Judge Hayes presided over the lengthy capital murder trial of serial killer Cleophus Prince, the notorious so-called "Clairemont Killer" of the 1990s, whose death sentence was affirmed by the California Supreme Court.

Before joining the court, Judge Hayes served as the Chief Deputy District Attorney for the County of San Diego (1985-1986), a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for Southern District of California and Chief of the District Attorney's Fraud Division (1978-1985). He was appointed Chief of the Fraud Division in 1978 after five years prosecuting civil consumer fraud cases within the division and three years prosecuting street crime.

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Judge Hayes earned his J.D. from California Western School of Law (1969). He received his B.A. in Political Science from Occidental College in Los Angeles (1966).

In addition to his judicial responsibilities as a trial judge, Judge Hayes has served as the chair of the Court's Rules Committee, as Co-Chair of the Court's ADR Committee that developed the Court's highly successful Mediation Program, and on the Court's Executive Committee, the Superior Court's governing body. He has served as a member of Board of Trustees of the San Diego County Public Law Library and as a Trustee of the San Diego Law Library Justice Foundation. He also served for several years on the Board of Directors of the American Diabetes Association, San Diego Chapter, and on Board of Youth Tennis San Diego, the Barnes Tennis Center in Point Loma.

"I am proud to have served on the San Diego Superior Court and will miss working with my colleagues and our staff who I consider to be among the best in the state and the fine attorneys who appeared in my department over the years," says Judge Hayes.

Presiding Superior Court Judge Kevin A. Enright says, "Judge Hayes has had a long and distinguished career as both a criminal and civil trial judge. He is thorough and hard working with a reputation for applying the law in a fair and evenhanded manner. He is an exemplary judge who will be sorely missed."

Judge Hayes is married to the Honorable Judge Judith F. Hayes, a judge of the San Diego Superior Court. He is an award winning wine maker, a former wine judge and in his spare time presides over a small vineyard of cabernet and merlot vines.

Judge Hayes looks forward to traveling, producing a wonderful cabernet-merlot blend and working in the private sector in the mediation and arbitration of civil disputes.