



# NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
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Release: Immediately  
Date: 12/28/16

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## **San Diego Superior Court Judge Ronald S. Prager Retires**

Judge Ronald S. Prager, a well-respected jurist who has presided over some of San Diego's most high-profile civil cases, is stepping down from the bench. He officially retires on January 6, 2017.

Appointed to the San Diego Municipal Court in 1988, Governor George Deukmejian elevated Judge Prager to the Superior Court in August of 1989. While he has presided over cases in East and North County, Judge Prager has spent the bulk of his judicial career at the downtown Civil Court. For the past year and one half, Judge Prager has been on assignment with the 4th District Court of Appeal assisting Appellate Court Justices with case workload.

"Judge Prager has had a long and distinguished career with the San Diego Superior Court. He has been a highly respected Independent Calendar Civil judge for many years and has mentored many of our civil judges, including myself. He is an innovative case manager and is well respected by his peers, the bar and the public who have appeared before him. He will be greatly missed by our court", says Presiding Judge Jeffrey B. Barton

(MORE)

Judge Prager joined the Court with a varied background: he served in the State Attorney General's Office (*Supervising Deputy Attorney General, Bureau of Medi-Cal Fraud, 1985-88, Deputy Attorney General, Criminal Division, 1980 to 1985, California Department of Justice, Sacramento and San Diego*), the California Fair Political Practices Commission (*Legal Counsel, Sacramento, 1979 to 1980*) and the San Diego District Attorney's Office (*Deputy District Attorney, 1970 to 1979*).

Judge Prager's courtroom was in the legal spotlight several times throughout his judicial career including the nationally monitored 2002 case involving the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. in which the company was accused of renegeing on a legally binding promise to target only those 18 years of age and older in its advertising.

"Serving as a judge on the Superior Court has been my great honor and privilege and has constituted the capstone of my legal career. During the entire 29 years I have served as a judge, dedicated and professional court staff and supportive colleagues have greatly enhanced my ability to serve the public and have enriched my experience as a judge," says Judge Prager.

A graduate of San Diego's Crawford High School, Judge Prager received his law degree from the University of Southern California and his undergraduate degree from Pomona College, Claremont, Calif.

Judge Prager plans on taking on new challenges in private dispute resolution as a mediator and arbitrator.

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