



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

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Superior Court Judge William C. Pate Retires

Superior Court Judge William C. Pate will retire on February 23, 2006, after nearly 20 years on the San Diego bench. Appointed in 1986 by Governor George Deukmejian, Judge Pate, 62, has served in numerous departments throughout the Court, including Family Court where he handled one of the first "surrogate baby" cases and Juvenile Court where he was Presiding Judge from 1993-1995.

In recent years, Judge Pate has become well-known for his work overseeing numerous civil legal issues from all over California including claims of toxic injuries from latex gloves, claims of law violations by retailers issuing gift cards, complaints arising from the illegal sale of human body parts, injunctions against the California Department of Corrections involving claimed violations of labor laws and complaints against the City of San Diego over maintenance of the Children's Pool in La Jolla.

A native San Diegan born in Coronado, Judge Pate received his law degree from the University of San Diego in 1971. While at USD, he served as Executive Editor of the San Diego Law Review. Prior to law school, Judge Pate served as a Marine Corps Captain during the Vietnam War. In addition, he holds a Political Science degree from Whittier College in California.

Preceding his service on the Bench, Judge Pate practiced private law concentrating on civil litigation and insurance and construction law. From 1979-1986 Judge Pate was a partner at Jennings, Engstrand & Henrikson and also worked at Rentto, Pate & Tower, which became Legro, Rentto, Pate & Tower. Prior to that Judge Pate served as a Law Clerk for U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, Judge James M. Carter.

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Judge Pate has been active on several statewide commissions and recently lead efforts to transport supplies and furnishings to Courts along the Mississippi coast which were damaged by Hurricane Katrina even travelling twice to Hancock County to deliver the much-needed materials.

San Diego Superior Court Presiding Judge Janis Sammartino says Judge Pate's departure will leave a void in the Court, "Judge Pate possesses such a wealth of life and legal experience. He brings that knowledge to the bench and he will be greatly missed not only professionally but personally, as well."

Described as a "calm jurist" with "excellent knowledge of the law," Judge Pate says he has truly enjoyed his time on the bench, "I have sincerely appreciated the opportunity afforded by former Governor Deukmejian and the people of San Diego County to serve them as a Superior Court Judge for 20 years. I have thoroughly enjoyed helping our citizens resolve their differences and am pleased that I will be able to continue working in a similar capacity after retirement."

Upon retirement, Judge Pate plans to perform mediation and arbitration work.

The father of four, Judge Pate is married to Superior Court Judge Christine V. Pate.

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