

NEWS RELEASE

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Superior Court Announces New Court Commissioners

San Diego Superior Court judges have selected attorneys Donald F. Armento and Darlene A. Dornan to serve as Court Commissioners.

Experienced in civil, public litigation and military law, Armento began his legal career in 1983 as a Judge Advocate in the U.S. Marine Corps and was deployed to Iraq during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom (2003). He has most recently served as litigation counsel for the California Department of Transportation (2006-present) and has worked in civil litigation for Richardson, Bambrick, Cermak & Fair (1995-2006) and Neil, Dymott, Perkins, Brown & Frank (1987-1994). Armento received his J.D. from Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1982) and holds a B.A. in Government from Hamilton College, Clinton, New York (1978).

A graduate of California Western School of Law (1996), University of San Diego (1991) and San Diego State University (1987), Dornan has most recently served as the Director of the Superior Court's Legal Services Department (2003-Present). Dornan began her legal career as a paralegal and upon passing the bar, began working as a staff attorney in Superior Court's Criminal Division (1995). In 1999, she was promoted to the court's Lead Criminal Attorney. Four years later, court management named Dornan Director of Legal Services.

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Dornan currently serves on the State Bar's Public Law Executive Committee (2005 to present) as Co-Secretary and as Chair of the Public Lawyer of the Year Subcommittee. She is also active in San Diego Lawyer's Club (1997 to present).

Commissioners are attorneys who are selected by the judges of the Superior Court. The Commissioners are given powers to hear and make decisions concerning certain legal matters such a misdemeanors and traffic cases. Both Commissioners Armento and Dornan will take the oath of office on January 5, 2009.

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