



Superior Court of California

COUNTY OF VENTURA
Hall of Justice
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Michael D. Planet
Executive Officer/Clerk
and Jury Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 4, 2020

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JUDGE KENT M. KELLEGREW RETIRES

Judge Kent M. Kellegrew retired on September 4, 2020, after more than 20 years on the Ventura Superior Court bench. He began his judicial career as a Ventura County Court Commissioner. He was appointed to the Ventura Superior Court in 1999 by Governor Gray Davis. His judicial career spanned a wide range of assignments including criminal, family law, civil, mental health, probate, conservatorship, and guardianship calendars. In 2009, Judge Kellegrew was named Judge of the Year by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association.

Most recently, Judge Kellegrew served as the Superior Court Presiding Judge. During the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, Judge Kellegrew was instrumental in instituting the County's first cyber Court hearings and trials. As a result, more than 10,000 remote hearings were conducted in the early months of the pandemic. His other leadership roles have included Civil Division Supervising Judge, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court Appellate Department, and Presiding Judge of the East County Courthouse. He also served on the California Judicial Council Appellate Advisory Committee. For the past 20 years, Judge Kellegrew was part of a small cadre of judges chosen as instructors for California's New Judge Orientation program. In this capacity, he trained hundreds of new judges throughout California.

Judge Kellegrew actively involved in the youth of Ventura County. While serving as the Ventura County Office of Education Mock Trial Coordinator (2007-2016), the program doubled the number of schools and number of students participating. His Mock Trial efforts were noted when Judge Kellegrew was awarded the Paul Harris Award (Rotary International/Ventura County) and the Knights of Columbus Public Safety Award. He served on the Board of Directors for Child Development Resources (Head Start) for more than a decade. He established the first Mental Health Court for individuals in East Ventura County and served as an Advisor for Ventura County National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

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