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Sacramento Superior Court Bench Selects Kelly Sullivan as Next CEO

Sacramento, CA—The Sacramento Superior Court judges have selected Kelly Sullivan, the court's Chief Deputy Executive Officer, to serve as the next Court Executive Officer (CEO), it was announced today.

"The court is fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated leader ready to step into this role," said Presiding Judge Bunmi O. Awoniyi. "Throughout her 20-year career with our court, Kelly Sullivan has demonstrated exceptional judgment, professionalism, and a deep commitment to serving the public and supporting the work of our judges and staff."

As Chief Deputy Executive Officer, Sullivan has overseen key areas of the court, including court operations, judicial services, master calendar services, jury services, and information technology. She has been instrumental in advancing the court's strategic initiatives, expanding access to justice, and strengthening operational efficiency.

"We are confident that Kelly Sullivan will continue to advance the court's mission of access to justice and operational excellence," added Judge Awoniyi. "She has earned the respect of colleagues across every division and brings both continuity and innovation to the position."

Upon accepting the CEO appointment, Kelly Sullivan expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

"It is an honor to be entrusted with this responsibility," said Sullivan. "Our court has exceptional judicial officers and an outstanding team of employees who work every day to serve our community with fairness and integrity. I look forward to continuing that work in partnership with them."

The Court Executive Officer serves as the court's highest-ranking non-judicial officer, responsible for overseeing all administrative and operational functions, including fiscal management, human resources, information technology, and court services.

The Sacramento Superior Court is the trial court for Sacramento County, handling a wide range of cases, including all civil, criminal, family law, probate, and juvenile matters. It operates out of seven locations in the county, employing 700 staff members.

Sullivan succeeds former CEO Lee Seale, who retired from court service on August 1, 2025.