



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

**NEWS RELEASE**

<b>Release date:</b>  <b>October 24, 2017</b>
---

FROM: Kevin R. Culhane, Presiding Judge

CONTACT: Kim Pedersen  
Public Information Officer  
(916) 591-0050  
pedersk@saccourt.ca.gov

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Sacramento Superior Court Assistant Presiding Judge Selection

I am pleased to announce that Judge David W. Abbott was elected by the Judges of the Sacramento Superior Court as the next Assistant Presiding Judge. Judge Abbot's term will commence on January 1, 2018 and will continue through December 31, 2019.

Governor Gray Davis appointed Judge Abbott to the Sacramento Superior Court in 2001. During his 16-year tenure on the bench, his primary assignment has been presiding over criminal and civil jury trials. He previously served as the Assistant Presiding Judge for two years and four years as the supervising judge at the Carol Miller Justice Center. He has also been the chairperson of the Local Rules Committee for 12 years. Judge Abbott served in the criminal home court at the county jail, overseeing felony pretrial matters and in 2016 supervised the criminal trial calendar in felony and misdemeanor cases. He has served on the Court Executive Committee for eight of his 16 years on the bench.

Prior to Judge Abbott's appointment to the bench, he was a civil trial lawyer for more than 25 years, emphasizing professional and products liability, industrial accidents, insurance bad faith and general personal injury cases.

The Sacramento County Bar Association selected Judge Abbott as Judge of the Year in 2016.

Judge Abbott received his Juris Doctorate from McGeorge School of Law and his undergraduate degree from UC Berkeley. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps as Judge Advocate from 1974-1977, attaining the rank of Captain.

Following his selection as the next Assistant Presiding Judge, Judge Abbott stated, "The Sacramento Superior Court is one of the most effective and efficient trial courts in California. During my tenure as Assistant Presiding Judge and presumably Presiding Judge, our court will be presented with encouraging opportunities and daunting challenges. I am excited to be working with our Presiding Judge, David De Alba, our Executive Officer, Lloyd Connelly, court

leadership and staff, and my many colleagues as we continue to develop and increase access to justice for the citizens of Sacramento.”

For further information, please contact the Public Information Office at (916) 591-0050.