



SUPERIOR COURT OF
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PRESS RELEASE

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San Joaquin Court Announces Appointment of New Presiding Judge Hon. Judge Lance G. Jacot and Assistant Presiding Hon. Judge Jayne Chong-Soon Lee

Stockton, CA — The San Joaquin County Superior court is pleased to announce Hon. Judge Lance G. Jacot has been selected as the new Presiding Judge, effective January 1, 2026. Judge Jacot replaces outgoing Presiding Judge Gus Barrera II, whose leadership and service to the court are gratefully acknowledged.

Judge Jacot most recently served as Assistant Presiding Judge during the 2024–2025 term, providing continuity and institutional knowledge as he assumes his new role. He was appointed to the bench by Governor Gavin Newsom in December 2019.

Prior to his judicial appointment, Judge Jacot built a distinguished legal career dedicated to public service. He served as a Deputy Public Defender with the San Joaquin County Public Defender's Office from 1999 to 2010, and again from 2019 until his appointment to the bench. From 2010 to 2019, Judge Jacot practiced as a sole practitioner, gaining broad experience in criminal defense and courtroom advocacy.

Judge Jacot earned his Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

Presiding Judge Jacot along with the assistance of Court Executive Officer, Stephanie Bohrer will oversee the administration of the court, working closely with judicial officers and staff to ensure the fair, efficient, and accessible delivery of justice to the San Joaquin County community.

Judge Jayne Chong-Soon Lee has been named the new Assistant Presiding Judge. Appointed to the San Joaquin County Superior Court in December 2019, she currently serves as Supervising Judge for the Civil Division.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Lee served as a court commissioner, judge pro tem, and supervising probate attorney for the San Joaquin County Superior Court. Her earlier experience includes serving as a legal research attorney with the Alameda County Superior Court, Deputy City Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco, and an adjunct professor and lecturer at Golden Gate University School of Law and Stanford Law School.

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