



The Superior Court
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 2, 2020

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Court Mourns the Passing of Judge Brett H. Morgan



Hon. Brett H. Morgan

The San Joaquin County Superior Court is mourning the passing of Judge Brett H. Morgan, who passed away on Friday, August 28, 2020. He was 59. He is survived by his wife, four adult children, and daughter-in-law.

Judge Morgan was appointed to the Superior Court bench in December 2010. During his time on the bench, Judge Morgan presided over felony and misdemeanor domestic violence, felony preliminary hearings and motions, Collaborative Court and Drug Court, juvenile delinquency, and mental health calendars.

Judge Morgan was admitted to the California State Bar in December 1989. He earned a Juris Doctorate degree from McGeorge School of Law in 1988 and a Bachelor of Science in Social Studies in 1985 from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Before his appointment to the bench, Judge Morgan served as Chief of Staff for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and was appointed to this position in 2008. Prior to his position as Chief of Staff, Mr. Morgan was the Chief Deputy Inspector General for the Office of Inspector General, the law enforcement agency that oversees the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. He held this post from 2004 to 2008.

Judge Morgan spent a significant portion of his career litigating cases. He worked as a law clerk and an associate in the Law Office of James W. Lewis from 1987 to 1989. Between 1989 and 1998, he was a Deputy District Attorney with the Sacramento District Attorney's Office. From 1999 to 2004, he was a Deputy Attorney General and litigated criminal appeals, writs and superior court cases on behalf of the People in state Courts of Appeal, Third and Fifth Districts, and various county superior courts, and state cases on review and habeas corpus

matters filed in the United States District Court, Eastern District of California, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Judge Morgan lived in Sweden and England as a young child. Consequently, he enjoyed traveling in Europe. He enjoyed running, working out at the gym and refereeing youth soccer. Judge Morgan was a devoted and loving husband and father. His family knew him to be passionate, generous, and loving. He enjoyed telling stories, encouraging others, designing and completing projects at home. We extend our deepest and sincerest condolences to the Morgan family.

Presiding Judge Xapuri B. Villapudua had this to say about Judge Morgan's passing, "Judge Morgan was an outstanding person, colleague and beloved member of this Court. His passing is a tremendous loss and we will miss him dearly."

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