



The Superior Court
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SUPERIOR COURT ANNOUNCES NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES

The San Joaquin Superior Court announces new leadership roles. Former Assistant Presiding Judge, Lesley D. Holland is now the Presiding Judge and Judge José L. Alva was elected by his fellow judges to be the new Assistant Presiding Judge. Both of these terms will run through December 31, 2015.

Holland served a two-year term as Assistant Presiding Judge alongside former Presiding Judge, David P. Warner. Holland has been a Superior Court Judge since 1996 when he was appointed to the bench by Governor Pete Wilson. Prior to the judicial appointment, Holland was an attorney in private practice with Kroloff, Belcher, Smart, Perry & Christopherson where he handled civil litigation with emphasis in commercial disputes and products liability. Holland also currently serves as president of the Judge Consuelo M. Callahan Inn of Court, and holds membership in the American College of Business Court Judges.

Alva has been a Judge on the Superior Court Bench since his appointment in 2006 by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Prior to his appointment, he had a civil practice in Land Use, Real Property litigation, and Family Law. He also served on the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors from 1979 -1985.

The role and responsibility of the Presiding Judge is described in the California Rules of Court. Generally, with the assistance of the court executive officer, the presiding judge is responsible for leading the court, establishing policies, and allocating resources in a manner that promotes access to justice for all members of the public, provides a forum for the fair and expeditious resolution of disputes, maximizes the use of judicial and other resources, increases the efficiency of court operations, and enhances services to the public. Other duties include making judicial assignments, maintaining judicial schedules, monitoring the causes under submission, oversight of judicial officers, and provide general direction and supervision of the court executive officer.

The Assistant Presiding Judge shall act in the absence of the Presiding Judge and will then assume the role of the Presiding Judge when the two-year term as Assistant expires.

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