



Superior Court of California

COUNTY OF VENTURA
Hall of Justice
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

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Executive Officer/Clerk
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JUDGE PATRICIA M. MURPHY NAMED JUDGE OF THE YEAR

Judge Patricia M. Murphy has been named Judge of the Year by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association. The honor was bestowed at the association's 41st annual Judges' Night dinner on March 26, 2019, at the Tower Club in Oxnard.

The award recognizes exceptional judicial performance balanced with courtesy and compassion toward litigants and attorneys. Honorees are selected by a committee comprised of a diverse group of trial lawyers from the civil and criminal arenas.

Judge Murphy was appointed to the Ventura Superior Court by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on March 9, 2006. She has been a judge for 13 years, hearing a wide variety of criminal matters. She recently completed a two-year term as Superior Court Presiding Judge, where she was responsible for leading the court.

Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Murphy was a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office for 19 years, rising to Chief Assistant District Attorney, that agency's second highest position.

Judge Murphy earned her bachelor's degree at California State University Northridge and her law degree from Southwestern Law School.

Also honored at the event were retired Judges Frederick H. Bysse and Charles W. Campbell, Jr. A formal portrait of each was unveiled and presented to the court by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association. The association has selected one or more judges annually for the honor of a portrait since 1978.

Judge Bysse was appointed to the Ventura Superior Court bench by Governor Gray Davis on December 6, 2000. He retired on July 31, 2018, after more than 17 years on the bench. During his career, he presided over a wide range of civil and criminal assignments, and served on the court's appellate division. He also served as Supervising Civil Judge and Chief Settlement Judge. In 2010, he was named Judge of the Year by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, he practiced law in Ventura County for 30 years and was a prosecutor in Riverside County for seven years, rising to the position of Chief Assistant District Attorney.

Judge Campbell served as a judge for 20 years. He was appointed to the Ventura Municipal Court by Governor Deukmejian in 1988 and elevated to the Ventura Superior Court by Governor Wilson in 1992. He retired in 2008, but continued to serve on assignment for ten years. He is a former Superior Court Presiding Judge, having been elected to the position by his fellow judges in 1998, 1999 and 2000. He was named Judge of the Year by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association in 2012.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Campbell was a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office for nine years, where he rose to the position of Assistant District Attorney. Before that, he briefly worked in civil law.

The portraits of Judge Bysse and Judge Campbell, and those of previous honorees, may be viewed in Courtroom 22 on the second floor of the Hall of Justice in Ventura.

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