



# Superior Court of California

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

*Michael D. Planet*  
Executive Officer/Clerk  
and Jury Commissioner

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **JUDGE BRIAN J. BACK APPOINTED TO CALIFORNIA JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye has announced the appointment of Ventura Superior Court Presiding Judge Brian J. Back to the California Judicial Council. He will serve a three-year term, which begins on September 15th of this year. Judge Back is one of six new appointments to the council by the Chief Justice. He becomes the third Ventura County judge to serve on the Judicial Council since its inception in 1926, following Judges Jerome Berenson (1971-1975) and Melinda Johnson (1996-2000). Ventura Superior Court Executive Officer Michael D. Planet and former Court Executive Officer Sheila Calabro were both also previously appointed and served on the Judicial Council Advisory Committee.

The Judicial Council is the governing body of the California court system chaired by the Chief Justice. The council has 33 members comprised of individuals from the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, trial courts, state legislature and California State Bar.

Judge Back was appointed to the Ventura Municipal Court by Governor Pete Wilson in 1997 and elevated to the Superior Court in 1998 by court unification. He has been a judge for 16 years. He has served as Presiding Judge of the Ventura Superior Court since January 2013.

Judge Back is currently assigned to the criminal division. Previous assignments have included juvenile delinquency, family law, guardianship, domestic violence, and adult mental health courts. Judge Back has presided over specialized juvenile drug and mental health calendars and served on numerous professional and community boards and commissions. In 2003, he was named Judge of the Year by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association.

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