



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 TARI L. CODY NAMED JUDGE OF THE YEAR

Judge Tari L. Cody has been named Judge of the Year by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association. The honor was bestowed at the association's 40th annual Judges' Night dinner on March 27, 2018, 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 Cody was appointed to the Ventura Superior Court bench by Governor Gray Davis on December 6, 2000. She has been a judge for 17 years.

Judge Cody is currently assigned to Courtroom J1 at the Juvenile and Probate Courthouse hearing juvenile dependency matters, adoptions and guardianships. Past judicial assignments have included civil, family law and criminal matters.

Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Cody was an attorney with the law firm of Lemieux & O'Neill. Her areas of practice included the representation and defense of public agencies in personal injury claims, construction and contract disputes, employment disputes, condemnation cases and business torts. She also acted as general counsel to several public agencies, providing advice on laws governing public meetings, conflict of interest, public works projects and employment disputes.

Judge Cody earned her bachelor's degree from the University of California, Irvine and law degree from Loyola Law School.

Also honored at the event was retired Judge Allan L. Steele. A formal portrait was unveiled and presented to the court by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association. The association has selected one judge annually for the honor of a portrait since 1978.

Judge Steele was appointed to the Superior Court bench by Governor Jerry Brown on December 31, 1982. He retired on May 29, 1998, after 15 years on the bench. While serving as a judge he heard family law, civil trials, and criminal trials.

Prior to being appointed to the bench, Judge Steele was a family law attorney from 1973 to 1982, and a personal injury lawyer from 1958 to 1971.

Judge Steele's portrait and those of previous honorees can be viewed in Courtroom 22 on the second floor of the Hall of Justice in Ventura.

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