



# Superior Court of California

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

**Brenda L. McCormick**  
*Executive Officer/Clerk  
and Jury Commissioner*

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 16, 2024

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### **JUDGE CARLA J. ORTEGA TAKES THE BENCH**

Judge Carla J. Ortega took the bench on Monday, December 16, 2024, as Ventura County's newest Superior Court Judge. Presiding Judge Kevin G. DeNoce administered Judge Ortega's judicial oath of office.

Judge Ortega was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom on November 21, 2024. She fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Jeff G. Bennett earlier this year.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Ortega served as Managing Attorney at the Kern Superior Court since 2018. She was a sole practitioner from 2017 to 2018, after working in several roles at the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California from 1995 to 2016, including as Chief Deputy and Staff Attorney. She began her legal career as an Associate at England, Whitfield, Schroeder & Tredway in Oxnard from 1994 to 1995.

Judge Ortega attended California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo with a double concentration in Finance & Accounting and earned her Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law.

Judge Ortega's judicial assignment and the date of her formal enrobement ceremony will be announced in the near future.