



PRESS RELEASE

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JUDGE BRIAN L. SOTTILE TAKES THE BENCH AS VENTURA SUPERIOR COURT'S NEWEST JUDGE

**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF VENTURA**
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Ventura, CA 93009
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Matthew P. Guasco
Presiding Judge



Kate Bieker
*Court Executive Officer,
Clerk of the Court and
Jury Commissioner*

VENTURA, CA — Judge Brian L. Sottile officially began his term on Monday, March 30, 2026, as the newest Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Ventura, after having been appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 27, 2026. He was sworn into office on March 30th and was administered the oath by Presiding Judge Matthew P. Guasco. He fills the vacancy created by the passing of Hon. Ryan J. Wright.

Judge Sottile is currently assigned to Department 34 in the Family Law Department at the Hall of Justice in Ventura. Prior to his judicial appointment, Judge Sottile served as a Commissioner in Department 34 starting in May 2025.

Prior to becoming Commissioner, Judge Sottile worked as an Assistant City Attorney for the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office in the capacity of Division Head Deputy in the Prosecution Division starting in June 2023. His prior roles with the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office included Supervising Attorney of the Van Nuys Branch (February 2021 – June 2023); Acting Supervising Attorney of the Van Nuys Branch (November 2020 – February 2021); Assistant Supervising Attorney of the Van Nuys Branch (April 2016 – November 2020); Public Safety General Counsel (PGEN Section) (March 2008 – April 2016); Neighborhood Prosecutor in the Safe Neighborhoods Division (March 2005 – March 2008); and Prosecutor-Chatsworth/San Fernando and Van Nuys Branches (November 1998 – January 2002 and February 2003 – March 2005). Commissioner Sottile was an associate with Sullivan, Sottile and Taketa, LLP in 2002 and 2003.

Judge Sottile obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California Riverside, and his Juris Doctor degree from San Joaquin College of Law.

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