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

Date: September 2, 2022

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JUDGE MAUREEN M. HOUSKA TAKES THE BENCH

Judge Maureen M. Houska took the bench on Thursday, September 1, 2022, as Ventura County's newest Superior Court Judge. Presiding Judge Bruce A. Young administered Judge Houska's judicial oath of office.

Judge Houska was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom on August 8, 2022. She fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge William Q. Liebmann in 2021.

Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Houska was a founding Partner of Woo/Houska LLP (2013 to 2022); an Associate at Benton, Orr, Duval & Buckingham (2008 to 2013); an Associate at Lawler, Bonham & Walsh (later Lawler, Bonham & Woo) (1994 to 1998); an Associate at Franscell, Strickland, Roberts & Lawrence (1992 to 1994); and an Associate at Cotkin, Collins & Franscell (1990 to 1992). Practice areas have included defense of public entities in personal injury, premises liability, employment, and civil rights litigation.

Judge Houska was admitted to the California Bar in 1990; California and U.S. District Court, Central District of California in 1990; Northern District of California in 1993; and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in 1994. Reported cases include *A.M. v. Ventura Unified School District* 3 Cal.App.5th 1252, 208 Cal.Rptr.3d. 234 (2016); *Rands v. Rands* 178 Cal.App.4th 907, 100 Cal.Rptr.3d 632 (2009); and *Alexander v. County of Los Angeles*, 64 F.3d 1315 (9th Cir. 1995).

Judge Houska's professional associations include The State Bar of California; Los Angeles County Bar Association (1991 to 1994); Ventura County Bar Association (2009 to present); and Jerome H. Berenson American Inns of Court (1995 to 1996; 2010 to 2020; and 2021 to present).

She received her Bachelor of Arts from University of Notre Dame in 1987 and received her Juris Doctor degree from Loyola Law School in 1990.

Judge Houska will conduct the small claims calendar at the East County Courthouse, the traffic calendar at the Juvenile Justice Center