



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF BUTTE

* * * NEWS RELEASE * * *

MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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As part of its educational outreach efforts, the Court would like to acknowledge the achievement of local teacher Beth Geise in winning the 2022 Elementary Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award from the California Council for the Social Studies (CCSS). Ms. Geise teaches 5th grade at Hooker Oak Elementary School in Chico, California as part of a 4th and 5th grade academic loop. She integrates several civic learning opportunities into her classroom and has been a fundamental partner in the court's Mock Trial and Judges in the Classroom Programs. For 3rd and 5th grade students, the Mock Trial Program allows students to experience a mock trial simulation, while the Judges in the Classroom Program involves judicial officers visiting local elementary school classrooms to provide education on the Constitution and the court process through interactive scenarios.

Ms. Geise helped pilot the Judges in the Classroom Program in 2018 with Judge Kristen Lucena and has participated ever since. Most recently, Ms. Geise's classroom hosted former California Supreme Court Associate Justice Mariano-Florentino Cuellar along with Judge Jesus Rodriguez for a Judges in the Classroom event in October of 2022. The event was successful in part thanks to the work and support of Ms. Geise.

The Court congratulates Ms. Geise on her award and thanks her and other local educators for their continued commitment to teaching students about the important role of the Judicial Branch in our society.