



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF BUTTE

* * * NEWS RELEASE * * *

MEDIA ADVISORY

Media Contact: Sharif Elmallah - (530) 532-7013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Governor Gavin Newsom announced today the appointment of Ms. Virginia L. Gingery as Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Butte. The appointment fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Sandra McLean in November of 2022.

Ms. Gingery will be sworn in as a Superior Court Judge on Monday, October 9, 2023 in a private ceremony at the North Butte County Courthouse in Chico.

Ms. Gingery received her Juris Doctor degree from Cal Northern School of Law in 2008, where she graduated as valedictorian of her class, and was admitted to the State Bar of California in the same year. She began her legal career working for an insurance defense and public law legal practice in Butte County, during and after law school, before becoming a sole practitioner handling all aspects of civil litigation. From 2015 to early 2019, she served Butte County as a Deputy County Counsel before joining the Butte Superior Court as a Staff Attorney in January of 2019. Ms. Gingery was appointed by the Court as a Commissioner in January of 2021. She has presided over civil harassment, small claims, unlawful detainer, child support, family, guardianship, infraction, and misdemeanor cases in that role.

Ms. Gingery's breadth of experience both as an attorney and judicial officer prepare her well to serve the Butte Superior Court as its newest Judge. She is well regarded and active in the local legal community having served as a past President of the Butte County Bar Association from 2013-2014 and as a Professor at Cal Northern School of Law since 2018.

On the appointment of Ms. Gingery, the Presiding Judge of the Butte Superior Court, the Honorable Kimberly Merrifield, comments, "We are grateful to the Governor, and the Appointments Secretary, for all of their hard work in filling the seat vacated by the retirement of Judge Sandra McLean. Ms. Gingery has been a tremendous asset to our Court as a judicial officer since she was appointed as a Commissioner in January of 2021. We are very pleased that she will now join the Judges of the Butte Superior Court and know she will continue to serve our community with the same commitment and dedication that she has always shown."

Ms. Gingery comments "I am humbled by the Governor's appointment and honored to join the bench as a Judge alongside my distinguished colleagues. I wish to thank my family and friends for their support throughout this process, and I look forward to continuing to serve the interests of justice for the citizens of Butte County."

The Butte Superior Court currently has 11 judge positions and 2 commissioner positions.