Becoming a Judge in Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties

Monday, April 3, 2023, noon to 1:30 pm

Register in advance for this meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsde-opzkoGdXcHc0wzfb3xA1TP0zcMIyp

HOSTED BY THE SUPERIOR COURTS and BAR ASSOCIATIONS OF SANTA CLARA, MONTEREY, SAN BENITO and SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES, LaRaza Lawyers and other affinity bar associations: According to the California Judicial Council Vacancies Report, there are 16 vacancies in the state for the Courts of Appeal and 99 vacancies for the state trial courts. Monterey Superior Court has 2 vacancies, Santa Clara Superior Court has 6 vacancies and Santa Cruz Superior Court has 1 vacancy. If you are interested in appointment to the trial or appellate courts, this is a time of opportunities. Join the panel below to learn more about the appointment process, the California Judicial Mentor Program* created to demystify this process, as well as local mentoring programs that are available to applicants.

Luis Céspedes

Judicial Appointments Secretary

Office of Governor Gavin Newsom

Judicial Panelists include (left to right) Judge Erica Yew, moderator, Judge Vanessa Vallarta of the Monterey Superior Court, Judge Omar Rodriguez of the San Benito Superior Court, Judge Nahal Iravani-Sani of the Santa Clara Superior Court, and Judge Nancy de la Peña of the Santa Cruz Superior Court.

****In July 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the formation of the California Judicial Mentor Program, a statewide undertaking between the executive and judicial branches to advance the shared goal of an inclusive judiciary that reflects California's diversity. Comprised of an Appellate Court Mentor Program and a Trial Court Mentor Program, the initiative aims to demystify the appellate and trial court application process and improve transparency and accessibility for all members of the legal community throughout California, fostering the development of a qualified and diverse judicial applicant pool.***