Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

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News Release for 12/08/03 Judicial Council Selects Judge Leonard P. Edwards Jurist of the Year

The Superior Court of Santa Clara County proudly announces that the Judicial Council of California selected Judge Leonard P. Edwards as Jurist of the Year. Judge Edwards receives this recognition "for his innovative and lasting contributions to the judiciary in the areas of juvenile and family courts, court coordination, and domestic violence prevention and intervention."

Judge Edwards was instrumental in the development of one of the first unified family courts in California. Through his efforts, the Santa Clara County juvenile dependency court has received recognition as a national model. He also started one of the nation's first collaborative dependency drug treatment courts.

Judge Edwards has demonstrated his commitment to improving the lives of juveniles and families by founding the Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Council. His tireless service on the Judicial Council and its Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee and his chairing of the Juvenile Court Judges of California attest to passion for his work.

Judge Edwards currently sits as supervising judge of the juvenile dependency court.