Superior Court of California
County of Santa Clara

CONTACT

JESSICA KELLOGG
Communications Program Manager
jkellogg@scscourt.org
(408) 334-9236

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 19, 2023

Judge Erica Yew Elected 2023-24 President of the California Judges Association

SAN JOSÉ, California (May 19, 2023): The Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara is pleased to announce the election of **Judge Erica Yew** as the new president of the California Judge's Association (CJA). The election was held on May 16, 2023 during CJA's Executive Board Meeting in Sacramento.

Judge Yew's distinguished judicial career spans over two decades. In her appointment to the Santa Clara Superior Court, she made history as the court's first female Asian American Pacific Islander judge. Her illustrious career has been marked by exceptional leadership roles in various organizations, such as the Judicial Council of California, the California Commission on Judicial Performance, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Judicial Council, and the California Asian Pacific American Judges Association.

Currently, Judge Yew continues to make significant contributions to the judicial community through her leadership positions on several committees and organizations, including the California Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics Opinions, the California Access to Justice Commission, the National Center for State Courts, and the California Judicial Mentor Program. Her experience as an attorney also includes serving on the California State Bar Board of Governors, an esteemed position that further demonstrates her commitment to the legal profession.

Judge Yew has won several awards including the Judicial Council's Distinguished Service Award and the John W. Gardner Leadership Award from the American Leadership Forum Silicon Valley. This summer, she will receive the Rose Bird Memorial Award from the California Women Lawyers.

"As the first person in my family to become an attorney and a judge, I am honored to be selected as President of CJA," said Yew. "My parents left their homeland to give their children opportunities in this country and I have been proud to serve as a member of the legal community and judicial branch. I am the beneficiary of the goodwill and support of so many people… I will do my best to give back and be worthy of the trust of my esteemed colleagues."

Since CJA membership was established in 1929, there has only been one other Santa Clara Superior Court judge elected to serve as president. In 1974 Judge Racanelli served as president, upholding CJA's dedication to the promotion of judicial excellence. Since 1929, there have only been four female presidents, making Judge Yew the fifth to hold this esteemed title. As president of CJA, Judge Yew will be responsible for leading CJA's efforts to improve the administration of justice in California. The Santa Clara Superior Court's bench applauds Judge Yew's commitment to service and is supportive of her endeavors as she ensures that CJA remains a strong and effective voice for judges throughout the state.

###