



News Release

Superior Court of California, County of Kern

October 16, 2025

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SUPERIOR COURT SELECTS ASSISTANT PRESIDING JUDGE

Presiding Judge John W. Lua announced the judges of the Superior Court of California, County of Kern, selected Judge Christie Canales Norris as the next Assistant Presiding Judge. Judge Norris will assume her new duties on January 1, 2026. She succeeds Judge Eric Bradshaw, current Assistant Presiding Judge, who will complete a four-year leadership term as Assistant Presiding and Presiding Judge.

“Judge Norris is an intelligent and talented jurist with a no-nonsense approach to problem solving. Her character, demeanor, and decision-making skills are exceptional. She understands and is committed to our Court’s mission of access to justice and is the perfect leader to shepherd us forward. We are excited for her as she assumes these leadership responsibilities.”

Judge Lua also thanked Judge Bradshaw for his leadership and mentorship over the last four years.

Judge Norris was appointed to the Kern County Superior Court in 2021. Her primary assignment has been in juvenile dependency. In 2023, she served as the Assistant Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court. She became the Presiding Judge of Juvenile Court in 2024. Prior to becoming a judicial officer, Judge Norris served as a Senior Attorney at the Kern County Superior Court from 2018 to 2021. She was a sole practitioner from 2013 to 2021 and served as a Kern County Deputy Public Defender from 2011 to 2013. Judge Norris was an Associate at Malcolm Cisneros, A Law Corporation from 2010 to 2011. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Pomona College and Juris Doctor from the University of Iowa College of Law.

In response to her selection, Judge Norris stated, “I am honored for the opportunity to serve the court and our community in this new role. I look forward to working alongside a dedicated bench in upholding the court’s mission of delivering justice fairly and efficiently for all. I am proud to continue the legacy established by our past presiding judges.”

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