



Superior Court of California

COUNTY OF VENTURA
Hall of Justice
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Brenda L. McCormick
*Executive Officer/Clerk and
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FORMAL ENROBEMENT CEREMONY FOR JUDGE DIANA WEISS AIZMAN AND JUDGE R. PAUL KAWAI

The formal enrobement ceremony for Judge Diana Weiss Aizman and Judge R. Paul Kawai will take place on Friday, October 25, at 4:00 p.m. in Courtroom 22 of the Hall of Justice in Ventura.

The ceremony will be open to the public, elected officials, local bar, and representatives of court-related county departments. The press is invited to attend and to take any desired photographs during these special ceremonial proceedings.

The oaths of office will be administered to Judge Aizman by Judge Kristi J. Peariso and Judge Kawai's oath will be administered by Presiding Judge Kevin G. DeNoce.

Judge Aizman was appointed to a judgeship at the Ventura Superior Court by Governor Gavin Newsom on July 17, 2024. She filled the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge David Worley.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Aizman served as a Commissioner with the Ventura Superior Court beginning in February 2024. Before that, Judge Aizman's 16+ years of experience as an attorney was exclusive to criminal law matters. As a Senior Law Clerk, she worked in the Auto Insurance Fraud Division of the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office from 2007 to 2008. As a Deputy City Attorney for the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office from 2008 to 2012, she prosecuted cases in three Los Angeles County criminal courthouses, conducting jury trials to verdict and supervising junior deputies in jury trials. In 2012, she opened her own criminal law defense practice (Aizman Law Firm, APC) focusing on alcohol and drug related offenses and assisting individuals in recovery navigate through the criminal justice system. Beginning in 2019, Judge Aizman began serving as a Judge Pro Tem for

the Los Angeles Superior Court in Traffic Court.

Judge Aizman received her Bachelor of Arts (Sociology) from the University of California, San Diego and she earned her Juris Doctorate from Southwestern Law School.

Judge Aizman currently presides over criminal cases in Courtroom 23 at the Ventura Superior Court Hall of Justice in Ventura.

Judge Kawai was appointed to a judgeship at the Ventura Superior Court by Governor Gavin Newsom on September 30, 2024. Judge Kawai filled the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Rocky J. Baio.

Prior to his appointment, Judge Kawai served as a Court Commissioner with the Ventura Superior Court beginning in August 2021. Before that, Judge Kawai served as a Senior Deputy Public Defender with the Ventura County Public Defender's Office from 2014 to 2021. From 2010 to 2014, he was a sole practitioner in Provo, Utah. Prior to that, Judge Kawai was a Trial Attorney with the Utah County Public Defender Association from 2007 to 2010 and was a Junior Partner at Esplin/Weight from 2001 to 2006.

Since 2023, Judge Kawai has served as a Military Judge in the United States Army Reserves in the Army's 6th Judicial Circuit. Judge Kawai deployed with the U.S. military to Iraq in 2003, to Afghanistan in 2006-07, and to Kosovo in 2019. He is the recipient of the Bronze Star Medal.

Judge Kawai earned his Juris Doctor degree from J. Reuben Clark School of Law at BYU, and his Bachelor of Science in Political Science/Sociology at BYU.

Judge Kawai is currently assigned to Courtroom 12 at the Ventura Superior Court Hall of Justice in Ventura where he oversees misdemeanor arraignments, out of county warrants and bench warrant holds. He also conducts the Unlawful Detainer calendar.

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