

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SOLANO



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COURT ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT OF HON. E. BRADLEY NELSON

Fairfield, California – The Superior Court of California, County of Solano announces the retirement of the Hon. E. Bradley Nelson effective June 28, 2023. Judge Nelson was appointed to the Solano County bench on July 28, 2008, and assigned to Department 4. Judge Nelson served as the Court's Presiding Judge (2014-2015), Assistant Presiding Judge (2012-2013), and Supervising Criminal Law Judge (2018-2019). He has served as a judge in Civil, Criminal, Probate and Collaborative Courts assignments. He currently presides over a civil department in Fairfield and hears the Court's Veterans Treatment Court calendar.

Judge Nelson was born and raised in Los Angeles, California and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of California, Santa Cruz. During his college years, Judge Nelson spent his summers working as a deckhand on sport-fishing boats in San Diego. After graduation, Judge Nelson moved to Morro Bay, California and worked as a painter and carpenter.

Judge Nelson earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of California, Davis and was admitted to the State Bar of California in November 1979. He began practicing at the Solano County firm of Honeychurch, Finkas & Villarreal. From 1980 to 1982, Judge Nelson worked for the Solano County Office of the Public Defender. Judge Nelson became a named partner of Power, Hagler & Nelson in 1983, and opened his own private firm, The Law Office of E. Bradley Nelson in 1999.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Nelson served on the Board of Directors of the Solano County Bar Association from 1991 to 1993. He was appointed to the bench as a Commissioner on October 15, 2007 by the judges of the Superior Court and then elevated to judge in 2008 by Governor Schwarzenegger. He has been instrumental in the implementation and administration of Solano County's Veterans Treatment Court, which is an alternative process for at-risk veterans with specific, service-related needs, and focuses on support and rehabilitation.

Upon his retirement, Judge Nelson commented, "I have devoted all 43 years of my legal career serving the Solano County criminal and civil justice community, first as an attorney and last as a judge, and have been honored to do so. I have thoroughly enjoyed all of it, and did the best job I could under a wide variety of circumstances. As a 'young' 71-year-old, it is time to move on to the next phase of my life, spend more time with my wife and engage in other pursuits. I heartily thank all of my judicial colleagues, court staff, members of Solano County's legal community, and the litigants and jurors who have appeared before me during my judicial career."

Judge Wendy G. Getty, the Court's Presiding Judge commented, "Judge Nelson epitomizes the qualities you seek in a great judicial officer. Not only is he smart and hard-working, but he is

respectful, kind and compassionate. He is strong when he needs to be, but knows he does not need to flex his muscle just because he can. He is patient and effectively uses humor as a tool to manage the courtroom. Although he has served well in civil, criminal, probate and as a past presiding judge, Judge Nelson's greatest legacy to our community and country is his contribution to Veteran's Court. He has been the heart and soul of Veteran's Court and the reason it has successfully endured for so many years. So many of our veterans and service members benefited from his wisdom, guidance and compassion."