Superior Court of the State of California
In and For The County of Placer
Roseville, California

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Placer Superior Court Presiding Judge and Assistant Presiding Judge Election

The Superior Court of Placer County announces the election of the Honorable Jeffrey S. Penney as Presiding Judge and the Honorable Suzanne I. Gazzaniga as Assistant Presiding Judge for the term of October 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

The Presiding Judge and Assistant Presiding Judge are typically elected by the judges of the court to serve a two-year term beginning January 1st. The longer terms were necessary to fill the Presiding Judge vacancy created by the retirement of Hon. Alan V. Pineschi , the court's current Presiding Judge, effective October 1, 2025. Judge Penney's election as Presiding Judge then created a vacancy for Assistant Presiding Judge for the October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 term.

In addition to the duties as a sitting Judge of the Superior Court, the Presiding Judge is responsible for carrying out the responsibilities outlined in California Rules of Court, rule 10.603. These include the responsibility, with the assistance of the Assistant Presiding Judge and the Court Executive Officer, for leading the court in a manner that promotes access to justice, makes efficient use of scarce funding, and ensures a forum for expeditious resolution of cases before the court.

Judge Jeffrey S. Penney joined the Placer Superior Court as a Judge in January 2005 and has served as the Assistant Presiding Judge since December 2023 and the Supervising Criminal Law Judge since 2009. "It has been an honor to serve as Assistant Presiding Judge with Presiding Judge Alan Pineschi. I now look forward to serving the court in the new role as Presiding Judge and to working with Assistant Presiding Judge Suzanne Gazzaniga," stated Judge Penney. His term as Presiding Judge begins upon the retirement of Judge Alan V. Pineschi on October 1, 2025.

Judge Suzanne I. Gazzaniga joined the Placer Superior Court as a Judge in January 2013 and served as the Supervising Family Law Judge from 2018 to 2024. Judge Gazzaniga is a current Board Member of the California Judges Association, since 2023, is an ongoing active participant in the development of judicial education through the Judicial Council's Center for Judicial Education and Resources and served as a member of the Judicial Council's Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee from 2014 to 2024. "I am honored to have been elected by my colleagues to serve as the Assistant Presiding Judge. I look forward to the future serving with Judge Penney as the Presiding Judge," stated Judge Gazzaniga.