



## Biographical Information

## Hon. J. Michael Welch, Ret. Superior Court Judge

My career on the Bench is highlighted by the many leaderships roles that I played. I supervised Departments within the Courthouse that I worked in. I later supervised the Courthouses themselves. This includes all the operations within a Courthouse. Thus, I supervised Judges and staff and determined the flow of cases through the courthouse. I was elected to be the Presiding Judge because of my leadership abilities. I not only led my court locally but on the Statewide level also. It was because of my leadership that Chief Justice Ron George selected me to serve on the Judicial Council. I served for one and one half terms on the Council. I was the Vice-Chair of the Executive and Planning Committee. This is the Committee that really governs the inter workings of the Judicial Council.

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Probate, Estate & Trust, Family Law, Personal Injury, Accounting & Taxation, Civil Rights, Class Action, Commercial Contracts, General Business, Complex Litigation, Construction, Discovery Reference, Elder Care, Eminent Domain, Fee Dispute, Financial Markets, Health Care, Homeowners' Association, Insurance Coverage, Bad Faith, Legal Malpractice, Lender Liability, Official Misconduct, Partnership Dissolution, Products Liability, Professional Liability, Securities

**Appointment/Election:** Appointed [succeeding Judge James Liesch, retired] by Governor Wilson, November 16, 1995. Oath of Office administered November 16, 1995.

Other Judicial Office: Presiding Judge, San Bernardino County, January 2002 to December 2003; Supervising Judge, Victorville, May 2000 to December 2001; Assistant Presiding Judge, San Bernardino County, January 2000 to December 2001; Supervising Judge, West District, January 1997 to May 2000; Superior Court Commissioner, San Bernardino County, December 1990 to November 1995, Supervising Judge, San Bernardino Courthouse, January 2003 to December 2003. Supervising Probate Judge, October 2006 — Present.

**Past Employment:** Deputy Public Defender, San Bernardino County, 1987 -1990. Private Law Practice, Ontario, California, 1971 -1987 (Sole Practitioner, 1980 — 1987, with Banks, Johnston & Welch, 1971 — 1980); Deputy District Attorney, San Bernardino, California, 1968 —1971.

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Memberships/Awards: California Judges Association, 1991 to Present; California Judges Association, Criminal Law and Procedures Committee, 1996—2004; CIA, Court Administrative Committee, 2003—2009 (Chairperson 2005—2006); Criminal Law Advisory Committee, January 2002 to December 2004 (Chair•of the Death Penalty Subcommittee, Chair of the subcommittee dealing with Police Reports); Branch-wide Communication Working Group, 2003 to 2005; Presiding judges Advisory Committee, 2002 to 2003 (Executive Committee; Legislation Subcommittee; Governance Working Group and Term of Office Working Group); Judicial Needs Working Group 200 to 2001; Vice Chair to Court Facilities Transitional Task Force, 2004 to 2006; Probate/Conservatorship Task Force, January 2006 to June 2007; Member of the Judicial Council of California, June 2006 to September 2007 and September 2007 to September 2010—Member of the Rules and Projects Committee and the Interim Facilities Committee (2007-2008), Vice Chair of the Executive and Planning Committee, September 2009 to September 2010; Member of the Litigation Management Committee; Kaufman/Campbell Award recipient for judicial excellency, San Bernardino County Bar Association; (2010) CJA, Probate Mental Health Committee, 2011—2012, Chair 2012; Probate Mental Health Advisory Committee, 2010 to Present.

**Education:** J.D. (1967), University of San Diego School of Law San Diego, California; B.A. (1964), Loyola (Marymount) University, Los Angeles, California.

Personal: Born September 9, 1942; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Married; Two children and six grandchildren,

Admission: Admitted to California Bar January 5, 1968