



# SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

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PRESS  
RELEASE

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## PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

### *Court Announces Selection of Commissioner*

The Superior Court of California for the County of Monterey is pleased to announce the selection of Maria L. Mendoza to become a Court Commissioner, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Commissioner Christopher R. Martin. Commissioner Mendoza was officially sworn in on Monday, June 24, 2019. The selection was conducted by the full Bench, after an extensive review process.

Commissioner Mendoza has over 21 years of legal experience in criminal, family, education, and employment law. She obtained her Bachelors in Criminology, Law and Society from UC Irvine and her Juris Doctorate with distinction from McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento. After several years as an associate in a private defense law firm, Commissioner Mendoza became a staff attorney and then the directing attorney for California Rural Legal Assistance, representing low income families and migrant workers in the area of employment, housing, education and public benefits law.

Commissioner Mendoza joined the Monterey County Superior Court in January of 2011 as a staff attorney for the Self Help Center. She has worked with a large volume of self-represented litigants regarding the court processes for family law, small claims, unlawful detainers, domestic violence, guardianships, adoptions and debt collection cases.

Presiding Judge Lydia Villarreal, on behalf of the court, welcomed Commissioner Mendoza to the bench. "Commissioner Mendoza has a reputation for excellence and compassion. We could not be more pleased by her decision to join our bench."

Commissioner Mendoza assumed her assignment in the Marina Traffic Court on June 24, 2019 where she is assigned primarily to traffic and small claims matters.

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