



Superior Court of California  
County of Orange

***NEWS RELEASE***

**September 2, 2010**

**Hon. Thomas J. Borris Elected Presiding Judge  
of the Superior Court of California, County of Orange**

Santa Ana – Judges of the Superior Court of Orange County unanimously elected Hon. Thomas J. Borris as presiding judge and Hon. David A. Thompson as the assistant presiding judge at an election held Wednesday, September 1, announced Presiding Judge Kim G. Dunning. Both will begin their two-year term in January 2011, when the terms of the current presiding judge and assistant presiding judge expire.

**Judge Borris** has been the assistant presiding judge since January 2009 and has been active in initiatives to reduce costs and increase efficiency at the Court. He chairs the Court's Finance Committee, and led efforts establishing the new courtroom at the Orange County Jail, which has resulted in reduced detention overcrowding at the courthouses, and more efficient processing of cases. He served for many years as the presiding judge of the former West Orange County Municipal Court in Westminster and, after court unification in 1998, he served as supervising judge of the West Justice Center for nearly ten years. He also served as supervising judge of the felony panel.

Judge Borris was appointed to the West Orange County Municipal Court in 1993 by Governor Pete Wilson, and was elevated to the Superior Court upon court unification in 1998. Before becoming a judge he was an attorney in private practice, a prosecutor with the Orange County District Attorney's Office, and an instructor at Loyola Law School.

Judge Borris received his law degree from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles in 1979, and graduated cum laude in 1976 from Claremont Men's College (now Claremont-McKenna College) with a bachelor's degree in political science. He graduated with highest honors from Buena Park High School, where he lettered in varsity football.

**Judge Thompson** was appointed to the West Orange County Municipal Court in 1997 by Governor Pete Wilson, and was elevated to the Superior Court upon court unification in 1998. He is currently assigned to the felony panel. Before becoming a judge, he was an attorney in private practice.

Judge Thompson received his law degree from the University of California at Los Angeles (Order of the Coif) in 1983 and graduated from Georgetown University (Summa Cum Laude) in 1980 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and finance.

In addition to the election for presiding judge and assistant presiding judge, the judges and commissioners of the Superior Court elected members and alternate members to the Court's Executive Committee for the term January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2012. The Executive Committee, which is chaired by the presiding judge, is the principal policy making body of the court. The assistant presiding judge also serves a member of the Executive Committee.

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Alternate Member</u>
Group 1:	Hon. David C. Velasquez	Hon. William M. Monroe
Group 2:	Hon. Andrew P. Banks	Hon. Mary Fingal Shulte
Group 3:	Hon. Lance P. Jensen	Hon. James J. Di Cesare
Group 4:	Hon. Steven D. Bromberg	Hon. Dennis J. Keough

Commissioner Liaison: Hon. Edward W. Hall, Member  
Hon. Paula Coleman, Alternate Member