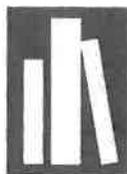


CALIFORNIA  
COURTS AND JUDGES  
HANDBOOK

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VOLUME ONE



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life that we didn't want to ruin. He knew he had to get some services to change whatever the problem was. If you cared to get past your problems, he would hook you up with services and make the legal process so that it wasn't so bad for you that you hated it. On the other hand, he was very stern with the punks who didn't care to get services."

#### Summary

The fact that Judge Kams's sister, Elizabeth Egan, is the long-time district attorney of Fresno County has kept him from serving in criminal courts. So he spent a number of years in a family court, despite having no background in that area, and also despite the fact that, by the account of a number of family practitioners, he did not like the assignment, which was readily apparent in his lackadaisical attitude. Other family law practitioners, on the other hand, appreciated what they regarded as his common-sense approach to cases. He would cut to the heart of a dispute and not necessarily get hung up on family law technicalities, those interviewees said. Some years earlier, when he was assigned to a juvenile delinquency court, he was a creative, diligent judge, said an attorney who had cases before him in that court. By all accounts, he is affable and approachable, and by most accounts, he could be a decent judge if he were back in a court that was a good fit for him. (11A)

#### KANE, Stephen J.

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE, COURT OF APPEAL, Fifth Appellate District

**Appointment/Election:** Appointed to Fresno Superior Court by Governor Pete Wilson on January 21, 1992 (oath Jan. 31, 1992); elected 1992, reelected 1998, reelected 2004; appointed to Court of Appeal by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on May 2, 2006 (confirmed June 9, 2006). Retained by voter election 2006.

**Other Judicial Office:** Civil, criminal and family law trials; civil and criminal law and motion; appellate department; felony sentencing and violations of probation; Assistant Presiding Judge 1994-95; first Presiding Judge of the consolidated Fresno County Courts 1996 and 1997; first full-time civil law and motion judge for Fresno courts (1999-2002); first supervising judge of Fresno Superior Court's Civil Department (2003-04); general trial assignment (2004-06); Justice, pro tempore, Fifth District Court of Appeal, August 2001.

**Past Employment:** Private law practice (civil litigation and trial work, primarily defending cases of personal injury, professional liability, employment termination/discrimination and public entity liability) Fresno, Calif., 1976-92 (partner 1981-92, associate 1976-81, McCormick, Barstow, Sheppard, Wayte and Carruth).

**Memberships/Awards:** Member: Calif. Judges Assn., 1992—; Member: American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), 1985-2005; Member: State Bar of Calif., 1976-92; Fresno County Bar Assn., 1976-92 (Board of Directors, 1982-84); Fresno County Young Lawyers Assn., 1976-88 (President, 1982; Board of Directors, circa 1978-83); Assn. of Defense Counsel, 1977-92; Trustee, Frank J. Creede, Jr. Public Law Library 2000-03; Member: Board of Governors, San Joaquin Valley Association of Business Trial Lawyers (ABTL), 2001-06 (Secretary 2004-06); Member: Judicial Council Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions 2003-09; Chair, Bench, Bar, Media Steering Committee 2006-07. Recipient: State Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award (1985).

**Teaching:** Partial listing. Member, Planning Committee, 1992 CJER Civil Law Institute. Faculty member ("Pre-trial and Post-trial Motions") 1992 CJER Civil Law Institute. Panelist, "Summary Judgment Practice" (circa 1995). "Civil Trial Skills Series" (March 1996) San Joaquin College of Law (Planning Committee and Panelist on "Effective Use of Evidence"). Panelist, "Effective Motion Practice in California" (April 1996). Panelist, "State Court Judges Program on Bankruptcy and Trial Courts" (May 1999). Planning mem-

ber, "Advanced Civil Trial Skills Series" (April, May 2000) and sole presenter, "Summary Judgments," a 3-hour presentation to local attorneys at San Joaquin Law School. Panelist, Annual State Association of Business Trial Lawyers (ABTL) Seminar, "Opening Statements" (October 2001). Panelist/facilitator, Court Community Forum (November 9, 2001); Panelist, "Ins and Outs of Civil Trials," (Fresno Co. Bar Assoc., June 2005); Panelist, "Streamlining the Complex Construction Dispute," (Construction Law Section of Fresno Co. Bar Assoc., February 2006); Panelist, "Special Jury Instructions," Civil Law Institute for Judges (March 2006); Panelist, "Litigating to Win Through Advanced Trial Advocacy" (National Business Institute, October 2007); Faculty Member, Appellate Judicial Attorneys Institute, Presenter on "Disposition" (CJER, November 2007 and September 2008); California Boys' State counselor (2006, 2007); Panelist, Appellate Justices' Institute ("Variations on a Theme; Opinion Development"); Panelist, "Handling Civil Appeals and Writs in California State Courts," (May 2009)

**Education:** J.D. (1976), Hastings College of the Law, San Francisco, Calif. (Chair, Moot Court Board, 1975-76); B.A. (1973, Magna Cum Laude, Economics) Univ. of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind. (completed undergraduate studies in 3 years); Graduate (1970) Bellarmine College Preparatory, San Jose, Calif.

**Personal:** Born June 26, 1952, San Mateo, California. Married. Four children.

**Office Address:** Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District  
2424 Ventura St.  
Fresno, CA 93721

**Office Phone:** (559) 445-5161; (559) 445-6688 (Fax)

#### KANESHIRO, Gale Eiko

JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT, San Diego County

**Appointment/Election:** Succeeded to court upon majority vote of judges in county [pursuant to Prop. 220] to convert Municipal Courts to Superior Courts, effective Dec. 1, 1998. Reelected in 2000, 2006 and 2012.

**Other Judicial Office:** Judge, Municipal Court, San Diego Judicial District, San Diego County, appointed [succeeding Judge Louis Boyle, elevated] by Governor Deukmejian March 7, 1989 (oath March 8, 1989), and reelected in 1994.

**Past Employment:** Deputy District Attorney, San Diego County, 1978-89. Deputy City Attorney, San Diego, Calif., 1978.

**Teaching/Lectures/Panelist:** Member: Calif. Judges Assn., 1989—; Alliance of California Judges, 2009—.

**Education:** J.D. (1976), Washington Univ. Law School, St. Louis, Missouri; B.A. (1973), Boston Univ., Boston, Massachusetts.

**Personal:** Born Oct. 4, 1951; Hilo, Territory [now State] of Hawaii; Married.

**Admission:** Admitted to Calif. Bar June 28, 1977.

**Political Affiliation/Religion:** Republican; Buddhist.

**Office Address:** County Courthouse  
220 West Broadway  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Office Phone:** (619) 450-5555 (Main)

#### ATTORNEYS' COMMENTS

##### Temperament/Demeanor

San Diego attorneys praised Judge Kaneshiro's demeanor. They said, "She's friendly and courteous to both sides," "Professional," "Very even-tempered," "She's pleasant. A by-the-book type of judge," and she has an "even temperament." Only one lawyer questioned her demeanor: "She's a little intimidating."

##### Intelligence/Knowledge

Three attorneys said Judge Kaneshiro is "very knowledgeable" of the law. Others added, "[Her legal acumen is] excellent," and "She knows what's required." One attorney felt that Judge Kaneshiro is not always aware of