

## **DAWSON, Betty L.**

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE, COURT OF APPEAL, Fifth Appellate District

**Appointment/Election:** Appointed Sept. 26, 2003 (oath same day).

**Other Judicial Office:** Judge, Superior Court, Merced County (oath on April 20, 2000); Commissioner, Municipal Court, Merced County Municipal Court District, Merced County, appointed by judges of court Jan. 24, 1992 (oath same day).

**Past Employment:** Private law practice (specializing in appellate work), Merced, Calif., 1980-92 (member, Haden & Dawson, PC). Research Attorney, Calif. Court of Appeal, First Appellate Dist., San Francisco, 1979-80.

**Memberships/Awards:** Vice Chair, Criminal Law Advisory Committee to the Judicial Council of California, 2008—; Member: Board of Directors, Calif. Court Commissioners Assn. 1995-2000; Calif. Judges Assn., 1992—; National Assn. of Women Judges, 1994—. Former member: League of Women Voters, 1988-2000; Merced County Bar Assn., 1980-93 (President, 1987; Vice President, 1986; Secretary-Treasurer, 1985); and Merced County Coalition for Affordable Housing, 1988-92 (Vice Chair, 1990-92; Board of Directors, 1988-92).

**Teaching/Lectures/Panelist:** Adjunct Professor, Merced College, 1993-94 (“Criminal Procedure”) and 1982 (“Business Law”). Teaching Fellow, Stanford Law School, Palo Alto, Calif., 1978-79.

**Publications:** Co-author (with Walter Zultowski and Richard Arvey), Post-secondary Educational Requirements in Employment Decisions: A Legal Perspective, Professional Psychology (Aug. 1978).

**Education:** J.D. (1978), Hastings College of the Law, San Francisco (member: Order of the Coif, Thurston [Scholastic Honor] Society; and Law Journal; recipient Milton D. Green, Top-Ten Award [award given to top 10 students after their first year at Hastings]); B.A. (1975, History), San Francisco State Univ. Attended: Universidad de las Americas, Puebla, Mexico, 1972-73; and City College of San Francisco, 1970-72; Graduate, Santa Rosa Junior and Senior High Schools, Santa Rosa, Calif., 1966. Attended Luther Burbank Elementary School, Santa Rosa, 1955-60.

**Personal:** Born June 26, 1948; Albert Lea, Minnesota; Married (attorney). Two children.

**Interests:** Enjoys travel, gardening, and the outdoors.

**Admission:** Admitted to Calif. Bar Nov. 29, 1978; to U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, in 1978; to U.S. Dist. Court, Eastern Dist. of Calif., in 1990; and to U.S. Supreme Court in 1990.

**Political Affiliation:** Democrat.