



Meeting Materials for the Court Facilities Advisory Committee's Subcommittee on Courthouse Names

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

AUGUST 11, 2023



Judicial Council of California
Court Facilities Advisory Committee



Court Facilities Advisory Committee's
Subcommittee on Courthouse Names

Open Meeting

August 11, 2023

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Judicial Council of California
Court Facilities Advisory Committee

www.courts.ca.gov/cfac.htm
cfac@jud.ca.gov

Request for ADA accommodations should be made at least three business days before the meeting and directed to:
JCCAccessCoordinator@jud.ca.gov

**COURT FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COURTHOUSE NAMES**

NOTICE AND AGENDA OF OPEN MEETING

Open to the Public (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 10.75(c)(1) and (e)(1))

THIS MEETING IS BEING CONDUCTED BY VIDEOCONFERENCE

THIS MEETING IS BEING RECORDED

Date: August 11, 2023
Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Public Videocast: <https://jcc.granicus.com/player/event/2936>

Meeting materials will be posted on the advisory body web page on the California Courts website at least three business days before the meeting.

Members of the public seeking to make a recording of the meeting must submit a written request at least two business days before the meeting. Requests can be e-mailed to cfac@jud.ca.gov.

Agenda items are numbered for identification purposes only and will not necessarily be considered in the indicated order.

I. OPEN MEETING (CAL. RULES OF COURT, RULE 10.75(C)(1))

Call to Order and Roll Call

II. PUBLIC COMMENT (CAL. RULES OF COURT, RULE 10.75(K)(1))

This meeting will be conducted by videoconference with a livestream available for the public. As such, the public may submit comments for this meeting only in writing. In accordance with California Rules of Court, rule 10.75(k)(1), written comments pertaining to any agenda item of a regularly noticed open meeting can be submitted up to one complete business day before the meeting. For this specific meeting, comments should be e-mailed to cfac@jud.ca.gov or mailed or delivered to 455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102, attention: Chris Magnusson. Only written comments received by 12:00 PM on August 10, 2023, will be provided to advisory body members prior to the start of the meeting.

III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (ITEM 1)

Item 1

Requests to Name New Courthouse in Downtown Sacramento (Action Required)

Review the requests to name the superior courthouse under construction in downtown Sacramento.

Presenter: Mr. Chris Magnusson, Supervisor, Judicial Council Facilities Services

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

MICHAEL G. BOWMAN
PRESIDING JUDGE
DEPARTMENT 47

720 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 874-5487

June 29, 2023

VIA E-MAIL

Hon. Keith D. Davis, Chair
Subcommittee on Courthouse Names
Court Facilities Advisory Committee
kddavis@sb-courts.org

Re: Courthouse Naming Policy

Dear Judge Davis:

I write to you pursuant to the process set forth in the Judicial Council's Courthouse Naming Policy to request a name for the new courthouse under construction in downtown Sacramento. We respectfully request that our new courthouse be named "Superior Court of California, Sacramento County, Downtown Courthouse."

We do not take this step lightly. We come to our recommendation after months of consideration, robust discussion, and constructive debate. Ultimately, we reached a consensus as a bench that the best approach to serving the people of Sacramento County is one that reflects the highest values of the judicial branch itself: a commitment to independence, neutrality, and the public's access to justice. We believe that a generic name that references only the court's location best exemplifies those ideals. Such a name would remain unaffiliated with any particular person and, more importantly, the perspectives or causes that public sentiment may attach to a particular person, no matter how esteemed or noble they may be. A name that references our court's location carries a simple, but profound message: that the public we serve comes first, and it is their access to our courthouse that we prioritize over the achievements of our colleagues in the legal or political arena. We of course differ from our two sister branches of government in that we are not political; our proposed name reflects our commitment to remain so. Our mission is to serve everyone equally under the law, regardless of political affiliation or any other characteristic. In this regard, it is the public's courthouse, and we wish to put them first.

Hon. Keith D. Davis
Subcommittee on Courthouse Names
Court Facilities Advisory Committee
June 29, 2023
Page 2

We are aware that changes to the Courthouse Naming Policy are under discussion, and we appreciate that, if approved by the Judicial Council, those changes would provide greater leeway to name new courthouses after individuals. We ourselves considered such an approach and note that there are many deserving candidates with deep ties to Sacramento County who merited our serious consideration. Indeed, if we were to propose that our new courthouse be named after an individual, a majority of our Judges support naming it after our former Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, Tani Cantil-Sakauye. Born in Sacramento where she resides to this day, the former Chief Justice served on the Sacramento County Superior Court and the Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District, based in Sacramento, before her elevation to the California Supreme Court. Her accomplishments, spanning more than thirty years in the judiciary, and all that she and her family overcame to achieve them, are well-known to all of us here in Sacramento and throughout the Judicial Council and, indeed, the State of California. She, without doubt, warrants the most serious consideration for this honor, particularly in light of the proposed changes to the Courthouse Naming Policy that provide an avenue for new courthouses to be named after living persons.

However, despite her achievements and all the support she continues to enjoy from our bench, we nonetheless believe that the highest ideal for our new courthouse is to remain unaffiliated with any particular person, however worthy she may be. The independence that is essential to the judicial branch is best served by this approach. It is the fair, equal and consistent application of law that must be our focus, not the identity of any particular jurist. The name of our new courthouse should reflect this enduring commitment.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide our request to this subcommittee, and will take this moment to again thank the Judicial Council for the new downtown courthouse that is taking shape to be finished next year. We look forward to the significant step forward it will represent in service to our Sacramento community and express our deepest appreciation for your support.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Bowman
Presiding Judge

cc: Hon. Brad R. Hill

Courthouse Naming Request: Name New Courthouse in Downtown Sacramento

CFAC Subcommittee on Courthouse Names Meeting
August 11, 2023



New Courthouse in Sacramento

- New Sacramento Criminal Courthouse is currently under construction in downtown Sacramento for the Superior Court of Sacramento County.
- **New Sacramento Criminal Courthouse capital project:**
 - Provides a state-owned building of 18-stories, 540,000 square feet, and 53 courtrooms to consolidate the court's criminal and civil calendars and operations in Gordon D. Schaber Courthouse with IT facility.
 - Design and construction has been under Judicial Council management.
 - Estimated completion date is May 2024.



Benefits to Naming New Courthouse under Construction

- *New Sacramento Criminal Courthouse* has been a project placeholder name.
- Providing an official name at this time allows for it to be incorporated into the signage—with design, fabrication, and installation paid from project budget.
- Building would have an official name when it opens for service to the public.

Naming Proposals

- **From the Sacramento Court and of other letters submitted, three names are proposed for new courthouse:**
 - After its location—**Downtown Courthouse.**
 - After former Sacramento Court Judge, Third Appellate District Justice, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California, **Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakaue.**
 - After former Sacramento Court Judge and Court Executive Officer, **Lloyd George Connelly, Jr.**

Sacramento Superior Court's Proposal

- Superior Court of Sacramento County's request:
 1. Name courthouse after its location:

**Superior Court of California
Sacramento County
Downtown Courthouse**
 2. Or, if named after a living person: **Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakaue.**
 - **Court indicates majority of judges are in support and that *she, without doubt, warrants the most serious consideration for this honor.***

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye

- Naming the superior courthouse under construction after former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California, **Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakauye:**
 - Would honor her many contributions to the legal community and years of service.
 - Would honor her service with distinction to the Superior Court, California Court of Appeal, and the Supreme Court of California.
 - Would highlight her achievements to inspire/empower young people to seek to achieve their passions.

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye's Background

- **Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye was a trailblazer:**
 - Born and raised in Sacramento County.
 - Deputy District Attorney for Sacramento County in 1984.
 - Senior staff of Governor Deukmejian from 1989–90:
 - Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary and Deputy Legislative Secretary.
 - Appointed to the Sacramento Municipal Court in 1990.
 - Elevated to the Superior Court of Sacramento County in 1997:
 - Established the first Domestic Violence Court.
 - Chaired the Criminal Law Committee.
 - Member of Domestic Violence Task Force and Home Court Committee.

Background, *continued*

- Appointed to Third District Court of Appeal in 2005.
- Member of the Judicial Council of California in 2008.
- Served on and chaired many Judicial Council committees:
 - Advisory Committee on Financial Accountability and Efficiency for the Judicial Branch.
 - Domestic Violence Practice and Procedure Task Force.
 - Executive and Planning Committee.
 - Rules and Projects Committee.
 - Judicial Recruitment and Retention Working Group.
 - Commission for Impartial Courts Implementation Committee.
- First Asian-Filipina American and second woman Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California in 2011 (served from 2011–22).

Background, *continued*

- Selected by Supreme Court of California as a Special Master to hear disciplinary hearings before Commission on Judicial Performance.
- President of the Anthony M. Kennedy American Inn of Court.
- Member of the National Conference of Chief Justices Board of Directors.
- Former board member of several nonprofit organizations and is active in numerous professional community organizations.
- Recipient of numerous awards—as listed in bio under materials Tab 5.
- Commonly known for *Vision for Access 3D* initiative—for access to justice to be physical, remote, and equal.

Justice Scotland's Proposal

1. Prefers the courthouse be named after **Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakauye.**
2. Also recommended is to name the courthouse after **Lloyd George Connelly, Jr.**

Judge Connelly's Background

- **Lloyd George Connelly, Jr. was:**
 - Born in Sacramento County.
 - Served in the US Army from 1968–70 including recipient of an Army Commendation Medal.
 - Received undergraduate degree from California State University, Sacramento and law degree from the University of the Pacific.
 - Legislator in California State Assembly from 1982–92:
 - Chair of Assembly Sub-Committee on the Administration of Justice.
 - Co-chair of the Assembly Judiciary Committee.
 - Honored in 1985 as *Legislator of the Year* by Society of Professional Journalists.

Background, *continued*

- Member of the Sacramento City Council (served seven years).
- Appointed to Superior Court of Sacramento County in 1992 serving until 2012 and thereafter in capacity as Retired Judge:
 - Presided over various case types including but not limited to criminal, civil, traffic, small claims, unlawful detainers, and mental health.
- Court Executive Officer of the Superior Court of Sacramento County from 2017–21—see article under materials Tab 6.
- Continues to serve local community through various efforts—see article under materials Tab 6.

Naming Policy Compliance

- **Proposal for former Chief Justice** is found to comply with the Judicial Council's *Courthouse Naming Policy* (section III.B.2.b.):
 - The rebuttable presumption can be overcome to allow the name of a Living Person based on:
 - Former Chief Justice's character and reputation have been previously investigated, extensively and repeatedly, in connection with her prior appointments to positions of public service.
 - Proposal meets the other criteria:
 - Recognizable, significant contributions to the state justice system.
 - No known case pending before any court/unlikely in the future.
 - No potential conflict of interest.
 - Consistency with the California Code of Judicial Ethics.

Naming Policy Compliance, *continued*

- **Proposal for Judge Connelly** also likely complies with the Council's *Courthouse Naming Policy* (section III.B.2.b.), though available public records seem limited.
- **Proposal for name by location** needs slight adjustment to comply with the Council's *Courthouse Naming Policy* (sect. III.B.2.a.):

From: Superior Court of California
Sacramento County
Downtown Courthouse

To: Downtown Courthouse
Superior Court of California
Sacramento County

Requested Action

1. Determine a name for the new courthouse to recommend to the Judicial Council, subject to concurrence of the full Court Facilities Advisory Committee.

Questions?



CRUZ REYNOSO

BAR ASSOCIATION

20 Bicentennial Circle Sacramento, CA 95826

July 31, 2023

Hon. Brad Hill
Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, CA 93721
Via email: brad.hill@jud.ca.gov

Dear Presiding Justice Hill,

The Cruz Reynoso Bar Association (CRBA) offers this letter to support the naming of the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento downtown courthouse after former Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye. Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye's contributions to the legal community in Sacramento and throughout our state make her the ideal candidate upon which to bestow this honor.

As a native Sacramentan, Justice Cantil-Sakauye's connections to our area are both expansive and profound. Her life has been anchored to the Sacramento area beginning in her childhood, throughout her higher education, and up until the present time. Her contributions to the legal field are equally remarkable given her many roles of public service, including as a Sacramento County district attorney, as a member of then-Governor Duekmeijin's senior staff, as well as her many jurist positions culminating with her serving as the Chief Justice of our State's highest Court. Throughout her career, she has also worked extensively to enhance access to justice through various initiatives promoting civics education, increased court funding, as well as advocacy for legal reforms to combat inequality and unfairness. Through her work with the Judicial Council of California, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has also demonstrated a deep commitment to increasing the diversity of the judiciary, safeguarding the impartiality of our judicial officers, and focusing the resources of the courts to better serve the people of California.

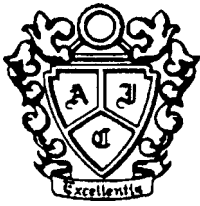
In no uncertain terms, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has left an indelible mark upon our state's system of justice. She is renowned in our statewide legal community as a leader and model who inspires others to break down barriers, paving a path for others to follow in her footsteps of service through one's dedication to equity and access to justice. The CRBA can think of no better individual for whom the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento downtown courthouse should be named after.

Respectfully submitted,

CRBA Board of Directors

Victoria Fernández, *President*
Mayra Sandoval, *Vice-President*
Jizell López, *Treasurer*
Andres Felipe García, *Secretary*
Brian López, *Chair*
Joe Ayala, *General Counsel*

Robert Artuz
Jeremy Ávila
Santiago Ávila Gómez
Blanca Espinoza
Eduardo Garnica
Monica Jiménez



The Anthony M. Kennedy American Inn of Court

Center for Legal Advocacy • McGeorge School of Law • University of the Pacific • 3200 Fifth Avenue • Sacramento, California 95817

July 24, 2023

Hon. Brad Hill, Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Naming New Sacramento County Courthouse in Honor of Retired Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye

Dear Presiding Justice Hill:

I write on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Anthony M. Kennedy American Inn of Court to enthusiastically support the proposal to name the new Sacramento County courthouse in honor of our past president and former Chief Justice of California, Tani Cantil-Sakauye.

The Kennedy Inn of Court is an organization of judicial officers, attorneys, and law students dedicated to promoting ethics, civility, professionalism, and excellence in the practice of law. Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has exemplified these ideals throughout her illustrious career. She has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to civics education and engagement; public access to the courts; diverse, transparent, fair, and efficient administration of justice; strategic planning and collaboration; and service to the people of California.

In addition to epitomizing the qualities of an exceptional and inspirational leader, jurist, role model, and mentor, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has deep ties to Sacramento and the Sacramento County Superior Court. Born and raised in Sacramento, she attended local public schools before graduating from college and law school in nearby Davis. As a Deputy District Attorney, she prosecuted cases in the Sacramento County Superior Court before serving as a Judge of that court and then as a Justice of the Third District Court of Appeal in Sacramento. During her tenure as president of the Kennedy Inn, she was elevated to the Supreme Court of California as its Chief Justice and maintained an office in Sacramento. Her family roots remain in Sacramento, where she continues to devote time for community service to enhance Sacramento County.

If named for Tani Cantil-Sakauye, the Sacramento County Superior Court's new downtown courthouse would be a beacon of light for the rule of law, access to justice, diversity, fairness, and the highest standards of judicial administration, ethics, civility, and professionalism. Naming the courthouse in her honor would be a fitting tribute to a Sacramento native who has championed those principles. It would also serve to inspire future generations of Sacramentans and Californians to follow in her footsteps of excellence and dedication to public service.

Accordingly, as members of the Kennedy Inn of Court's Executive Committee, Hon. Lawrence Brown, Hon. Connie Callahan, Hon. Kevin Culhane (ret.), Hon. Garen Horst, Hon. Todd Irby, Hon. Ronald Sargis, Hon. Arthur Scotland (ret.), Jeffrey Galvin, Karen Jacobsen, Wazhma Mojaddidi, Mary-Beth Moylan, Uduak Oduok, and Sue Ann Van Dermeyden join me in enthusiastically supporting the naming of the courthouse in honor of our past-president Tani Cantil-Sakauye.

Respectfully,

Lauri Damrell
President, Anthony M. Kennedy Inn of Court

Ruthe Catolico Ashley

1749 Durrow Court
Vallejo, CA 94591
916.838.5457

July 7, 2023

Honorable Brad Hill, Presiding Justice
Fifth District Court of Appeal
2525 Capitol St.
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Naming of Sacramento Courthouse for TANI CANTIL-SAKAUYE

Dear Justice Hill:

I write to ask for serious consideration in naming the new Sacramento Courthouse after former Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye. I've known Tani since we were at the Sacramento DA's office together in the 1980's. I was an intern from McGeorge SOL and she was a brand new DA after not being able to find a lawyer job. We've stayed close since then.

I've had the privilege of watching her meteoric rise from those early days to being Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Instead of going into a great deal of detail, I am attaching my letter written to the Commission on Judicial Appointments in support of her Supreme Court Chief Justice Nomination in 2010. Also attached are my crib notes for the speech I was honored to give at her investiture celebration. My letter and notes are still true with now the amazing work added that she did as Chief Justice of California.

For the past twelve years, she has inspired and motivated a whole new generation of Filipina attorneys because of who she is and how she gives back to the community. My focus will be on a specific pipeline of Filipina women attorneys even though her magic goes far beyond this small group. I was able to connect with many of these young leaders who wanted to sign on to this letter to urge strong consideration of this request. Because time is of the essence, this one letter carries the weight of the signatories below. You can see that her influence as a woman of color with Filipina women lawyers is not limited to California – but nationally.

She continues to be a mentor, role-model, and inspiration to so many. Having the Sacramento Courthouse named after her would be a message to the world that excellence, commitment, grit, and service as a trailblazer is recognized by all.

With warm regards,

Ruthe Catolico Ashley
Past President, NAPABA and ABAS (National Asian Pacific American Bar Association and Asian Bar Association of Sacramento)

Jinnifer Pitcher
President, ABAS

Grace Arupo Rodriguez
Past President ABAS & Asst Deputy Director, Legal Affairs Division, Dept of Consumer Affairs

Rosielyn Pulmano
Chief Consultant, California Assembly Health Committee

Rozzana Verder-Aliga
Vice Mayor, City of Vallejo

Dee Brown
Past ABAS President & Administrative Law Judge

Marlo Nisperos
Past President APABA Solano County & Administrative Law Judge

Patrice deGuzman Huber
Administrative Law Judge

Anna Mercado-Clark
President-elect, NAPABA

Jeri Gonzales Abrams
Immediate Past NFALA President (National Filipino American Lawyers Association)

Gage Javier
President, NFALA

Mika Domingo
President, California Women Lawyers

Christine Start
Founder Pinay Powerhouse, Past President FBANC (Filipino Bar Association of Northern California)

Jennifer Sta. Ana
Past President FBANC

Mari Bandoma Callado
Past President FBANC

Laurie Lubiano
Past President FBANC

Lorna Garcia
Past President FBANC

Vanessa Candeleria
Past President FBANC

Abigail Rivamonte
Past President FBANC

Angelica Leonardo
President, APABA Solano County

Kimberly Procida
President, Sacramento Filipino American Lawyers Association

Serena Warner
Immediate Past President SacFALA

Hildegarde Aguinaldo
Past President, Philippine American Bar President

Frances Prizzia
President, Filipino Lawyers of Orange County

Mercedes Cook
Philippine American Bar Association (Los Angeles)

Pauline Villaneuva
President, Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego

Monica Glicken
CEO, Public Law Center

Linda Cabatic
Former Director, Department of General Services

Note: This is an amazing list of Filipino Women Lawyer Leaders who all have been influenced and inspired by the Chief. They readily signed in one afternoon in their individual capacities for this woman we all know, love and support. These ladies hold many more titles: Governor appointments, leadership in a variety of other organizations, law firm luminaires and more.

PS: Thanks for all you do for the courts, the BBC, and the support of our pathway in Fresno County that introduces students from High School into Law School to law-related careers. Fresno is part of the strongest Regional Advisory Council we have in the state. Kudos to Fresno!

Ruthe Patolico Ashley

3681 Black Oak Drive
Sacramento, CA 95765
916.838.5457

August 1, 2010

Commission on Judicial Appointments
350 McAllister Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Justice Tani Cantil Sakauye

To Chief Justice George and the Commission:

I write in support of the nomination of Justice Tani Cantil Sakauye to Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court. I wish I could talk about Tani in person at her August 25 hearing. However, I will be celebrating 40 years of marriage on an Alaskan cruise and catching a plane out of Ketchikan for a day could be tough. Therefore, I will encapsulate what a great nomination this is in this letter.

My perspective comes from several views: that of a lawyer, a woman, a person of color, a leader in local/state/national bars, and a friend.

Lawyer: Tani was a deputy district attorney when I was an older law student and legal intern in the Sacramento DA's office. As a new lawyer, she had a reputation with even the most grizzled prosecutors of being on top of her game – tough, fair, intelligent but with a real feel for the human condition. Tani was generous and kind to an older 3rd career woman of color and I knew she had the special something that would bring impact to the profession. From her position in the Governor's office to the 3rd District Courts of Appeal bench, Tani has proven that she is smart, fair, a good listener, a consummate lawyer and an excellent judge.

Woman: Tani has embraced her gender and used it to open doors for women of all ages in the law. Her involvement with law students has been long-standing. She understands from her own life experience what so many young women, especially young women of color, have to face and the obstacles that must be overcome. By her life and her career, she has become a shining star and the epitome of a real life story that dreams can come true. She has inspired many to strive and to dream to be just like her.

Person of Color: Tani, as a Filipina woman, has lived through the struggles of being a minority in a majority world. Yet, with grace and aplomb, being an Asian Pacific Islander has become something to celebrate throughout her career. Even as she gained more and more responsibility and became more visible, Tani stay engaged and dedicated to her community of API lawyers and to the Filipino community. I remember when Tani and I were privileged to be part of an impressive group of Filipinas being honored in a parade. We were proud to be part of these sisters, but found we were the only two without an ethnic dress. We marched proudly but went straight to one of the fair vendors in order to "suit" up properly the next time. Tani never forgets where she comes from, yet she sits with the decision makers and leaders at the highest level and remains humble and open.

Her profession: Giving back to the profession has always been part of who Tani is. It has never been something that she had to do; it was just part of her nature to be available and to give of her time and resources. She is always available as a mentor, speaker, mock interviewer, dinner companion, role model, and teacher. She is a leader in the justice system, in the Inns of Courts, in her professional associations and in her church. She has received many awards including the Trailblazer Award in 2003 from the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association. My 2005 Sacramento Lawyer article outlines her humble beginnings to her seat on the Courts of Appeal. Truly she is a woman for all seasons.

<https://www.sacbar.org/members/saclawyer/JanFeb2005/coverStory.html>

Friend: Tani and I bonded from the very beginning just because of who we both were: women of color, more specifically, Filipina lawyers. There are so few of us, that from our first meeting, we knew we were sisters. I've watched her career grow from her DA days to now. Through it all, Tani has exuded graciousness and warmth that is found in so few. Tani has an uncanny ability to build and maintain relationships. She is a true collaborator but can carry a big stick with a soft voice. All her life and professional experience and the relationships she has built have led her to this moment. I, and so many others, cherish her friendship and wish her well in this important step.

There is no better time than now to have Tani Cantil-Sakauye as the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court. In a state that has a 58% population of color, her appointment would be a shining beacon on a hill. She brings extraordinary leadership skills, a collaborative nature, intelligence, experience, long-term relationships with the bench/bar and the legislature, the respect of her colleagues and the love of her friends and family. In a time when California needs stability and respect, Tani will certainly continue the legacy of Chief Justice George and will add her own special flavor to the justice system.

I applaud Governor Schwarzenegger's nomination and urge the Commission to support her nomination.

Most sincerely,



Ruthe Catalico Ashley
Woman lawyer of color
Bar Leader
Proud to be friend of Tani

cc: Judicial Nominations Evaluation Committee
Howard Miller, President, State Bar of California
William Hebert, President-elect, State Bar of California

TANI CANTIL-SAKAUYE

Break glass....

Another glass ceiling has been shattered

Rare and important sisterhood 3 on continental US

Your story is one that resonates with so many in the room tonight....

Parents immigrating to America with a dream for a better life

Working in the fields so their children could be all that they could be

Your success is the communities success....

Third generation Filipina – stand on the shoulders of those that had the courage to leave their homes to find that American dream.

Your appointment makes all the labor of the generations that immigrated to America worth all the sacrifices....

As you were inspired to choose law when you heard Filipino woman lawyer Gloria Ochoa speak....so will you inspire future generations of lawyers who see you and know it can be done....

One elderly Filipina women said she registered to vote for the first time after you were appointed. What a door it has

opened for many to connect to government and to the justice system.

Your appointment has been a bright light for democracy – for a country that inscribed on the Statue of Liberty:

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me.
I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

Real live example of the American dream

So Tani – my friend....

Daughter to Mary Gorre and Clarence

Never dreamed that the journey from working in the fields to the supreme court would occur in just one generation

Daughter in law to Jiro and Dorothy

Father Clarence would be so proud

Sister to Mark and Clem

Wife to Mark who not at all surprised when you were picked...(17 years)

Mother to Hana (15) and Clair (12)

Trailblazer

Glass ceiling shatterer

Role model

Mentor

My ading

Now with a voice that will be heard

A legacy to be lived

Done all of this with SUCH GRACE, authenticity, and genuine

Friends, fans and family - Proud to call you CHIEF



July 5, 2023

VIA E-MAIL brad.hill@jud.ca.gov

Hon. Brad Hill
Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Presiding Justice Hill,

With great joy and enthusiasm, we at the South Asian Bar Association (SABA) of Sacramento urge that the new downtown Sacramento courthouse be named after retired Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye.

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye embodies the best of Sacramento and our great state. She was born and raised here, attended CK McClatchy High School in Sacramento, attended junior college here as well, and then went on to graduate from UC Davis with her undergraduate and law degrees. She served as a Sacramento County Deputy District Attorney before beginning a more than three-decade career in our state's judiciary. Indeed, she has served at all levels: municipal, superior, appellate, and our high court. And she successfully led our state through one of its deepest recessions and a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic.

To have the downtown Sacramento courthouse named the Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye Courthouse sends a powerful message state and nationwide: a woman of color, child of immigrants, educated exclusively in our public schools has risen to the highest form of service in our state judiciary and serves as a beacon of access to justice to all. There is no person we can think of who more aptly captures that spirit and who is from our region. We strongly urge the new courthouse be named for her.

Sincerely,

Aparna Agnihotri, President of the South Asian Bar Association of Sacramento
&
The SABA Board



July 15, 2023

VIA E-MAIL brad.hill@jud.ca.gov

Hon. Brad Hill
Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Presiding Justice Hill,

The Sacramento Filipino American Lawyers Association (SacFALA) writes to support the naming of the new downtown Sacramento courthouse after retired Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye.

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye truly embodies the best of Sacramento and California. A Filipina, a child of immigrants, a product of California's public schools, she has consistently and continuously served all the people of California with integrity and a profound sense of conviction, not from an ivory tower but from a place of extraordinary understanding, empathy and caring.

Not only has she served as a pillar of our local legal community, serving at all levels of California's court system, but she has also been a true inspiration to the regional and national Filipinx community. She grew up here in Sacramento, attended C.K. McClatchy High School in Sacramento and UC Davis, and rose to the highest level of the state judiciary, demonstrating that people who look like us do belong in all levels of the legal profession. Her lifetime of experiences, both personal and professional, shaped her unflagging commitment to making the courts a refuge for all who seek fair treatment and equal access to justice.

We strongly encourage that the new downtown Sacramento courthouse be named the Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye Courthouse. Everyone who knows the Chief Justice, either professionally or personally, admires and respects her. It is only fitting that the new courthouse be named after her

to honor her immense contributions, her legacy of excellence and diversity and as a reminder to all of us in the legal profession of the qualities, values and vision to which we must all aspire.

Sincerely,

Kimberly J. Procida, President of the Sacramento Filipino American Lawyers Association
&
The SacFALA Board

Arthur G. Scotland
Presiding Justice (retired), Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District
Of Counsel, Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni
1415 L Street, Suite 1200, Sacramento, CA 95814

July 31, 2023

Hon. Brad Hill
Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, CA 9371

Naming the New Sacramento County Courthouse

Dear Presiding Justice Hill:

Having joined Executive Committee members of the Anthony M. Kennedy American Inn of Court urging the Judicial Council of California to name the Sacramento County Superior Court's new courthouse in honor of retired Chief Justice of California Tani Cantil-Sakauye, I write separately to recommend that the Judicial Council also honor retired Sacramento County Superior Court Judge Lloyd Connelly, who served as the court's Executive Officer after his retirement from the bench.

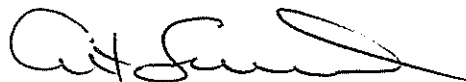
For all the reasons stated in the Inn of Court letter, Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye is worthy of the recognition. Indeed, I can think of no one else more deserving of the honor.

It also cannot be ignored that, without the efforts of Judge Connelly, approval and funding for construction of the new courthouse would not have been achieved. I know because, along with Presiding Judge Kevin Culhane, I attended Judge Connelly's meetings with California's Department of Finance to get its support for the project. His connections with the Legislature and the Governor also were instrumental in achieving the outcome.

One option would be naming the building the Tani Cantil-Sakauye Lloyd Connelly Courthouse. Another option I favor would be naming it the Tani Cantil-Sakauye Courthouse and naming a significant part of its interior in honor of Judge Connelly – for example, the Lloyd Connelly Jury Assembly Room.

Thank you and the Court Facilities Advisory Committee for considering my recommendation.

Respectfully,



Arthur Scotland

July 20, 2023

By Regular Mail and E-Mail (brad.hill@jud.ca.gov)

Administrative Presiding Justice Brad Hill
Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Naming of Sacramento Courthouse

Dear Presiding Justice Hill:

I am honored to write this letter in support of naming the new downtown Sacramento courthouse after retired Chief Justice of California Tani Cantil-Sakauye. Besides being a path-breaking Chief Justice committed to excellence and diversity, she, in my estimation, embodies the excellence of Sacramento and everything for which our great state stands.

The Chief Justice's compelling personal story is well-known. Born and raised in Sacramento, she was a first generation college and law student. She attended CK McClatchy High School, community college, and earned her undergraduate and law degrees from UC Davis. Throughout an amazing career dedicated to justice for all, Cantil-Sakauye served at all levels of the state judicial system -- municipal, superior, court of appeal, and as the Chief Justice of California. Her successes are paramount, having maintained a judicial system through a recession, budget cuts, and a global pandemic. The Chief Justice was a stabilizing force on the court and built remarkable consensus among justices addressing complex and controversial issues.

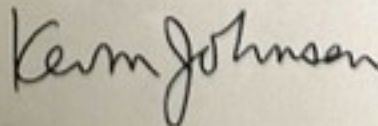
Rather than repeat her many achievements in this letter, I am enclosing an article we recently published in our alumni magazine about the Chief Justice.

Moreover, the Chief Justice has reached out to the bar associations, lawyers, law students, and others to build support for the court system. She also assisted greatly in our efforts to encourage students from underrepresented communities to consider law school and a career as an attorney. The Chief Justice's commitment to diversity in all respects has been no less than amazing and unprecedented.

Naming the new downtown Sacramento courthouse after Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye would send a powerful message to the state, as well as the nation. A true role model: a woman of color, child of immigrants, educated exclusively in public schools, and advancing to the highest form of service in our state judiciary serves as a beacon of access to justice to all. In fact, I cannot think of anyone better than Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye to name the new downtown Sacramento courthouse.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (530) 752-0243 or krjohnson@ucdavis.edu if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Kevin R. Johnson
Dean

Attachment/Enclosure

August 7, 2023

Honorable Brad Hill
Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, CA 93721

**Michael Hunter
Schwartz**
Dean & Professor of
Law

**Subject: Naming New Sacramento County Courthouse in Honor of Retired Chief
Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye**

Dear Presiding Justice Hill:

3200 Fifth Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95817
www.mcgeorge.edu
Tel 916.739.7151
Fax 916.739.7333

I am pleased to have this opportunity to wholeheartedly endorse the proposal to designate the new Sacramento County courthouse in tribute to our former Chief Justice of California, Tani Cantil-Sakauye. In my role as Dean of the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law, I have had many opportunities to interact with Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye. I can say, without reservation, that she is a wonderful and humble person, a great supporter of the rule of law, and a community servant who has created a legacy of change and advocacy for the social good.

Throughout her illustrious career, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has exemplified the ideals of our profession, unflinching ethics, civility to all, professionalism in her work and service, and excellence. She has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to civics education and engagement; public access to the courts; diverse, transparent, fair, and efficient administration of justice; strategic planning and collaboration; and service to the people of California.

In addition to her leadership and mentorship, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye holds deep-rooted connections to Sacramento and the Sacramento County Superior Court. A Sacramento native, she attended local public schools and later pursued her higher education at nearby institutions. Early in her career, she prosecuted cases in the Sacramento County Superior Court as a Deputy District Attorney, subsequently serving as a Judge of the court and later as a Justice of the Third District Court of Appeal. She served as a President of the prestigious and accomplished Anthony Kennedy Inn of Court housed on the McGeorge School of Law campus, and she continued in that role after her elevation to the position of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California. Her dedication to community service within Sacramento and, really, throughout our state, further supports her candidacy to be the person for whom the courthouse is named.

Should the Sacramento County Superior Court's new downtown courthouse bear the name of Tani Cantil-Sakauye, it would become a symbol of unwavering commitment to the rule of law, equitable access to justice, diversity, fairness, and the highest standards of judicial administration, ethics, civility, and professionalism. This naming would aptly honor a Sacramento native who has ardently championed these principles and inspire future

generations of Sacramentans and Californians to follow her path of excellence and dedication to public service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Hunter Schwartz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Hunter Schwartz
Dean



AMERICAN INNS *of* COURT

THE MILTON L. SCHWARTZ DAVID F. LEVI AMERICAN INN OF COURT
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

July 26, 2023

VIA E-MAIL brad.hill@jud.ca.gov

Hon. Brad Hill

Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee

California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District

2424 Ventura Street

Fresno, CA 93721

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LAURA NEACATO

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JAN MICHAEL ROOS

ANDREW W. STROUD

HON. JULIE WENG-GUTIERREZ

R. MATTHEW WISE

SARAH WOOLSTON

Dear Presiding Justice Hill,

We write on behalf of the Schwartz/Levi Inn of Court to urge that the new downtown Sacramento courthouse be named after retired Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye. The American Inns of Court work to improve the skills, professionalism and ethics of the bench and bar, and our chapter is based at UC Davis Law School, where Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye earned her law degree.

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye is a living testament to the values of the American Inns of Court: she embodies ethics, professionalism, and civility. She successfully led our judiciary through the worst fiscal crisis since the Great Depression, she kept our courtroom doors open virtually and literally through a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic, and she fought for the rights of all court users, whether they be victims, defendants, observers, or litigants, to be free from the threat of deportation at our courthouse doors.

To have the downtown Sacramento courthouse named after Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye represents all that is great about this state and nation: she is a daughter of farm workers and immigrants who rose to the highest position in our state's judiciary through hard work with a public school education and public service career.

It is the right time to name this new courthouse after her.

Sincerely,

Justice Shama Hakim Mesiwala

President, Schwartz/Levi Inn of Court



State of California
Office of the Attorney General

ROB BONTA
ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 9, 2023

Administrative Presiding Justice Brad Hill
Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Presiding Justice Hill:

It is with great privilege that I write to submit my wholehearted support for naming the new Sacramento Courthouse in honor of former Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye, the first Filipino American and second woman to serve as California's Chief Justice. As a public servant who has dedicated her career to justice, equity, and consensus-building, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye is the embodiment of the California Dream. Born and raised in Sacramento, her remarkable journey of courage, devotion, distinction, and triumph warrants recognition in our state capital's court.

With twenty years of service to the Superior and Appellate Courts, followed by twelve years as Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has played a key role in shaping our state's judicial system. Despite ascending to the highest judicial position, she never lost sight of everyday Californians — devoting her time, passion, and energy to increasing the accessibility of the courts. From ensuring no criminal defendant is held in custody simply because they cannot afford bail to authoring a groundbreaking, unanimous decision to allow undocumented immigrants to practice law in California, the Chief Justice's career is marked by dedication to one principle above all: everyone has a right to equal access to justice. Her impact on the judicial system is perhaps best described in the words she used during her 2020 State of the Judiciary address, during which she remarked that California's courts have become “more than a place that resolves disputes. We have become centers for social justice.”

Moreover, while Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye serves as an exemplary role model for all Californians, she does so in a distinctive and important way for the growing Filipino American legal community in the state and across the country. Representation matters, and nothing signals more clearly the heights our Asian American community can rise to quite like the career of Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye.

August 9, 2023

Page 2

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not mention that, on a personal level, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has served as a friend, mentor, and inspiration for me throughout my own career. Her path has been a constant reminder to keep social justice firmly at the center of everything we do. My work as “the People’s Attorney” owes no small debt of gratitude to the lessons I have learned from Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye.

I urge you to bestow on her this great and fitting honor.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rob Bonta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rob Bonta
California Attorney General

From the desk of Andi Liebenbaum

11 August 2023

Hon. Brad Hill
Chair, Court Facilities Advisory Committee
1/0 California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, CA 93721
Via email: brad.hill@jud.ca.gov

RE: Naming New Sacramento County Courthouse in Honor of Retired Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye

Hello and good tidings, Justice Hill. I hope this letter finds you well.

In the months since leaving the Judicial Council I frequently reflect fondly on the work I did there. It is not lost on me the significance and value of the leadership I experienced while I worked for the California courts, because I served during the tenure of Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye.

2023 has been quite a year for me – I left the Judicial Council after 11 years of proudly representing the interests of the judiciary to the legislative and executive branches. I now help lead a new governmental affairs team that serves the nearly 10 million people of Los Angeles County. And I serve as president of the Sacramento County Bar Association.

Today I write as an individual to share my enthusiasm for the proposal to name the new Sacramento County courthouse in honor of our former Chief Justice and my former boss (thrice removed), Tani Cantil-Sakauye.

The Chief was in all ways the ideal leader of the largest court system in the country (and arguably, in the free world). She was a unifying, thoughtful, and articulate voice from the beginning. Her roots in Sacramento are deep, and reflective of our community's diversity. Like many of the people who will rely on the new courthouse, she grew up in a working-class neighborhood. She attended local public schools. She stayed nearby family and friends in undergrad and law school. Even in her career, Cantil-Sakauye showed her commitment to Sacramento. She worked as a Deputy Sacramento District Attorney. She served as a Judge of our local court, and was then elevated to the Third District Court of Appeal. Even upon her appointment as Chief Justice of California, Cantil-Sakauye's relationship with and ties to Sacramento remained strong. As a Judicial Council employee in Sacramento, it was a frequent joy for me when she would stop by the office to support our work. So it is with extreme personal pride that I am able to show support for the Chief now. If the local trial court will be named, I cannot imagine a better name than for this impressive and representative daughter of our community.

Thank you for your own leadership, Justice Hill. I send my fondest regards to you and the Judicial Council.

Sincerely,





Chambers of
CONSUELO MARIA CALLAHAN
United States Circuit Judge

Dear Brad

I am writing regarding the naming of the Sacramento Courthouse. I strongly support the naming in honor of Toni Cantel-Sakanye. Her service embodies all that we wish to emulate. Her life has been devoted to

access to justice. Isn't that what we are all about?

I already signed a form letter from the Anthony M Kennedy Inn of Court.

I just wanted to underscore the depth of my support by penning a personal note. I hope all is well with you.



Supreme Court of California

THE STATE'S HIGHEST COURT

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Chief Justice Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakauye



Chief Justice Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakauye was the 28th Chief Justice of the State of California. She was sworn into office on January 3, 2011, and was the first Asian-Filipina American and the second woman to serve as the state's chief justice.

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye was nominated to office in July 2010, unanimously confirmed by the Commission on Judicial Appointments in August 2010, and overwhelmingly approved by voters in the November 2010 general election. At the time she was nominated as Chief Justice, she had served more than 20 years on California trial and appellate courts, including 6 years on the Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District, in Sacramento.

Nomination

Former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger nominated her as Chief Justice on July 22, 2010, and the California State Bar Judicial Nominees Evaluation Commission rated her as exceptionally well qualified for the position. At a public hearing on August 25, 2010, she was unanimously confirmed by the Commission on Judicial Appointments, and in a general election on November 2, 2010, an overwhelming majority of voters elected her to that position. As Chief Justice she also chairs the Judicial Council of California, the administrative policymaking body of state courts, and the Commission on Judicial Appointments.

Professional History

Before her elevation to the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye served for more than 20 years on California appellate and trial courts. In 1990, Governor George Deukmejian appointed her to the Sacramento Municipal Court and in 1997; Governor Pete Wilson elevated her to the Superior Court of Sacramento County, where she presided over both criminal and civil cases. In 1997, she established and presided over the first court in Sacramento dedicated solely to domestic violence issues. In addition, then-Judge Cantil-Sakauye chaired the court's criminal law committee and was a member of the presiding judge's task force on domestic violence and the Home Court committee. In 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger nominated her to the Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District.

Chief Justice Ronald M. George appointed her to the Judicial Council of California in September 2008. She has also served as chair of the council's Advisory Committee on Financial Accountability and Efficiency for the Judicial Branch, a member of the Domestic Violence Practice and Procedure Task Force and chaired its Best Practices Domestic Violence subcommittee, vice-chair of the Executive and Planning Committee, vice-chair of the Rules and Projects Committee, co-chair of the Judicial Recruitment and Retention Working Group, and as a member of the Commission for Impartial Courts Implementation Committee.

The Chief Justice was a Special Master, selected by the Supreme Court of California to hear disciplinary proceedings before the Commission on Judicial Performance. She was president of the Anthony M. Kennedy American Inn of Court, an organization dedicated to promoting civility, ethics, and professionalism in the practice of law. And was a member of the national Conference of Chief Justices Board of Directors.

Early Career

A Sacramento native, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye attended C. K. McClatchy High School and Sacramento City College, before graduating with honors from the University of California, Davis. After taking a year off to visit her ancestral homeland, the Philippines, the Chief Justice began law school, receiving her JD from the UC Davis, Martin Luther King, Jr., School of Law. She worked as a deputy district attorney for the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office, and then served on the senior staff of Governor Deukmejian, first as deputy legal affairs secretary and later as a deputy legislative secretary.

Leadership Roles

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye is a former board member of several nonprofit organizations and has been active in numerous professional community organizations, including membership in the California Judges Association, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, and the Sacramento Asian Bar Association, and received the Filipina of the Year Award. She is currently a member of the Board of Directors for the Conference of Chief Justices, The American Law Institute, the Board of Visitors for UC Davis, an Advisory Board member of the Sacramento Federal Judicial Library and Learning Center Foundation, an honorary member of the Foundation for Democracy and Justice, a private nonprofit organization devoted to civics education. She is married to Mark Sakauye, a retired police lieutenant. They have two daughters.

Vision for the State's Judicial Branch

As leader of California's judicial branch of government and chair of the Judicial Council, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has focused on a vision for improving the public's access to justice, building partnerships to lead the judicial branch out of the state's worst fiscal crisis since the Great Depression, and using ongoing self-assessment to improve the branch's efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability. She has also taken a leadership role in revitalizing civic learning and engagement in the state.

When Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye took office in 2011, the state was deep into a fiscal crisis that arose out of the Great Recession of 2008. The judicial branch was absorbing the single largest budget cut in its history. In her first year, the Chief Justice traveled 30,000 miles meeting with community and business groups, students, elected representatives, judges, and attorneys. The meetings resulted in the [Open Courts Coalition](#), in which the judicial branch works with bar associations, consumer and defense attorneys, prosecutors, criminal defense attorneys, large and small law firms, and legal services organizations, to advocate on behalf of the public who rely on the courts.

Within a few months of taking office, the Chief Justice surveyed all justices and judges within the judicial branch to ask how the Judicial Council staff agency could be more efficient. She then appointed judges and government experts--the [Strategic Evaluation Committee](#)--to thoroughly evaluate the Judicial Council staff agency. More than a year later, the committee reported to the Judicial Council, which accepted the recommendations and made them directives. In the meantime, the Judicial Council staff has been reduced by 30 percent.

To oversee the vast court facilities program, the Chief Justice also appointed an oversight committee that includes a cost reduction subcommittee. In another push for efficiency, the Chief Justice supported, and the Judicial Council adopted, a plan by one of the council's advisory committees to revamp the funding allocation methodology for trial courts. The move will result in more equitable funding for the trial courts.

In 2013 Chief Justice introduced her Vision for Access 3D—calling for access to justice to be physical, remote, and equal. The Chief Justice then appointed a working group to develop a plan to provide a consistent statewide approach to ensure language access for all limited English proficient court users in California. The Judicial Council adopted the language access plan in January 2015. The Chief Justice appointed Supreme Court Associate Justice Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar to chair the Language Access Implementation Task Force. In 2014, the Chief Justice created the Futures Commission, chaired by Associate Supreme Court Associate Justice Carol A. Corrigan, to take a fresh look at the state's legal infrastructure and to recommend ways to deliver justice and court services more efficiently without compromising fairness or due process.

As chair of the Judicial Council, the Chief Justice has made the business of judicial administration more transparent. She opened to the public previously closed council meetings and invited public comment at the meetings. The council then adopted rules that opened up to the public its advisory committee meetings, making California one of the most transparent state judicial branches in the country. The council also initiated a liaison program, in which council members are assigned specific trial courts to visit and report back to the council. Those reports are [posted online](#). As part of its oversight role, the council trimmed the number of its advisory committees and required the committees to submit annual agendas for approval to the council. The council also discontinued the development of a costly case management system that had been in development for almost 10 years. A task force authorized by the Chief Justice in 2013 helped the council's Technology Committee finalize a new technology strategic plan that included widespread participation by the trial courts, as well as input from the Legislature, executive branch, and the public. The council approved the [plan](#) in 2014.

In another major initiative, the Chief Justice has taken a leadership role in promoting civic awareness and engagement in California. She launched the Power of Democracy initiative to promote civics literacy in California's schools. The committee overseeing the initiative includes representatives from all three levels of the California courts, the State Bar, and local bar associations, as well as local and state education organizations. The project included the California Task Force on K-12 Civic Learning, which was appointed by the Chief Justice and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson. The task force's final report is a blueprint to guide future policy discussions and possible legislation to improve K-12 civic learning in California. In addition, the Chief Justice, in collaboration with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction annually presents the Civic Learning Award to those schools that serve as models in promoting civics education. In April 2015, the Chief Justice was honored by the Pat Brown Institute of Public Affairs for bringing public attention to the crisis in civic education in the public schools.

Timeline of Key Professional Achievements and Speaking Appearances

2022

- The Judicial Excellence Award - California Judges Association and California Lawyers Association
- President's Award for Outstanding Service to the California Judiciary - California Judges Association
- Abby J. Leibman Pursuit of Justice Award – California Women's Law Center
- Esto B Broughton Award – Women in California Politics Foundation

2021

- Outreach Award *Judges in the Classroom* – California Judges Association
- Inductee – Asian Hall of Fame

2020

- President's Award – Chief Probation Officers of California
- Lifetime Achievement Award – Italian American Lawyers Association

2019

- Justice Vaino Spencer Leadership Award – National Association of Women Judges
- Rose Bird Memorial Award – California Women Lawyers
- Judge of the Year – Wiley W. Manuel Bar Association
- Fellows Award – American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division
- Sandra Day O'Connor Award for the Advancement of Civics Education – National Center for State Courts
- Community Victorious Award – Institute for Civic Engagement
- Judge of the Year – California Asian Pacific American Bar Association

2018

- Leadership Award – Asian Pacific Fund
- John Van de Kamp Justice through Laws Award – Conference of California Bar Associations/California Lawyers Association
- Civic Leadership Award – Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute

- Woman of the Year – Women of Stanford Law
- Roger J. Traynor Memorial Award, Appellate Justice of the Year – Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles

2017

- Maynard Toll Award - Access to Justice Awards – Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
- Commitment to the Legal Community Award – Arab American Lawyers Association of Southern California
- Remarkable Women of UC – President's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women, University of California
- Women of Influence Awards - Inspiration Award – Sacramento Kings Foundation
- Judge's Award – Asian American Bar Association to the Greater Bay Area
- Judicial Appreciation Award – South Asian Bar Association of Southern California
- Community College Distinguished Alumni Award – Faculty Association of California Community Colleges

2016

- Legal Impact Award – Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles
- Trailblazer Award – Filipino Bar Association of Northern California
- Morton A. Brody Distinguished Judicial Service Award – Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement, Colby College
- Distinguished Alumna/us Award – University of California, Davis, School of Law

2015

- Distinguished Alumni Award – Los Rios Foundation
- The Ernestine Stahlhut Award – Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles
- OCA Outstanding Citizen Achievement Award – Asian Pacific American Advocates
- Honorary Doctor of Law Degree – Santa Clara University School of Law
- The Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs Award – The Edmund G. “Pat” Brown Institute for Public Affairs at California State University Los Angeles
- Women’s Business Advocate Award – The Business Law Section of the ABA Women Business Advocate Subcommittee
- Justice and Human Rights Award – Santa Clara University School of the Law

2014

- Toastmasters Communication and Leadership Award, Toastmasters International District 39
- Women’s Leadership Award, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association
- Women’s Human Rights Award for Law, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- Judge of the Year Award, Western San Bernardino County Bar Association

2013

- Public Interest Excellence Award, Public Interest Law Foundation
- Justice Award, Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice
- Civic Action Award, California Council for the Social Studies

- San Francisco Board of Education (Honorarium)

2012

- Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, American Bar Association
- Beacon of Justice Award, Friends of the Los Angeles County Law Library
- Hero of Hope Award, My Sister's House
- Person of the Year Award, Metropolitan News-Enterprise
- Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce (Honorarium)
- Filipino Bar Association of Northern California (Honorarium)
- Outstanding and Influential Leadership Award, Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce

2011

- Woman of Distinction, California Legislative Women's Caucus (Honorarium)
- Distinguished Jurist, UC Davis School of Law
- Distinguished Alumna Award, Community College League of California
- Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws, Southwestern Law School
- Outstanding Judge, Pinoy Reporter
- Distinguished Lecturer, Golden Gate University School of Law
- Dedication to the Legal Profession & Inspiration to Others, Inland Empire Legal Association of Women
- Policy Impact Award, California Asian Pacific Islander Policy Summit
- Honorarium for Ongoing Support of Students, Sutter Middle School
- Japanese American Bar Association/Philippine American Bar Association (Honorarium)
- STARblazer Award, Philippine American Business Improvement And Development
- Legal Impact Honoree, Asian Law Alliance
- Asian Pacific American Women Lawyers Alliance Honoree
- Asian Law Alliance Legal Impact Honoree, Filipino American Community
- San Mateo County Bar Association (Honorarium)
- Sonoma County Bar Association (Honorarium)
- Admiration and Appreciation, The Armenian Bar Association

2010

- Inspire Award, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

2007

- Judge of the Year Award, Capitol City Trial Lawyers Association

2005

- President's Award, Sacramento Asian/Pacific Bar Association

2003

- Trailblazer’s Award, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

1998

- Sacramento Domestic Violence Coordinating Council Award of Appreciation, Indigent Defense Panel

Media Contact Information

Cathal Conneely

Public Information Officer

800-900-5980

cathal.conneely@jud.ca.gov

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Judge Lloyd Connelly Takes Over as Sacramento Court's CEO

Retired Judge Lloyd Connelly was met with a standing ovation by the judges and staff of Sacramento County Superior Court, after the bench voted unanimously last week to appoint him as the court's new executive officer.

MARIA DINZEO / August 29, 2017



SACRAMENTO, Calif. (CN) – Retired Judge Lloyd Connelly was met with a standing ovation by the judges and staff of Sacramento County Superior Court, after the bench voted unanimously last week to appoint him as the court's new executive officer.

“We have judges who attend those meetings by video and it was interesting to me to see judges in remote locations on their feet to honor the appointment of Judge Connelly as CEO,” Presiding Judge Kevin Culhane said in an interview Tuesday.

Connelly began his long and colorful career in the Sacramento City Council before being elected to the state Assembly in 1982, where he sponsored bills to protect consumers from insurance rate hikes and prohibit gun ownership by people with a history of mental illness and past convictions of misdemeanor gun offenses.

He was also chair of the Assembly Sub-Committee on the Administration of Justice and co-chair of the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

In 1993, Connelly was elected to the bench of the Sacramento Superior Court where he worked as a trial judge for 20 years, taking on a demanding criminal calendar.

“He handled some of the most serious criminal cases one could handle,” Culhane said.

Some of those cases included John Anthony Bertsch and Jeffrey Lee Hronis, who Connelly sentenced to death in 2000 for the 1985 kidnapping, rape and murder of 35 year-old Linda Ann Canaday, and Dundell Wright, who shot and killed Sacramento Police Department officer Bill Bean Jr. in 1999.

Connelly later took over the complex civil litigation and writ calendars, where he oversaw a massive deal between Imperial Valley farmers to sell water to the cities of San Diego County, hailed as the largest water sale between cities and farms in the United States.

“He has always been one of those deans of the court, in the sense that younger and less senior judges sought out his counsel and he served as a mentor for other judges as they undertook their judicial careers,” Culhane said.

In 2012, Connelly found himself at the center of controversy while presiding over a legal battle between former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the family of Luis Santos, slain by the son his political ally Fabian Nunez. Schwarzenegger commuted Nunez's son Esteban Nunez's sentence just hours before leaving office in 2011.

Connelly ruled that Schwarzenegger did not abuse his executive power by commuting the manslaughter sentence from 16 years to seven, but he wasn't too happy about it either – calling the governor's decision was "repugnant to the bulk of the citizenry of this state."

He added the law preventing abuse of the governor's power in such matters applied only to pardons, not commutations, two actions that Connelly said were "as different as a horse and an elephant."

Connelly retired from the bench in 2012, but after a few years signed up to become a member of the court's assigned judges program. His new assignment took him to the Carol Miller Justice Center, almost an hour away from Sacramento's main courthouse, where he presided over traffic, small claims and unlawful detainer proceedings. Connelly supported California Supreme Court Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye's [initiative](#) to allow drivers to fight their traffic tickets in court without having to pay the fine first.

"You have a good case. You have a good argument. You ought to have the right to make that argument," Connelly told a local Sacramento NBC affiliate in 2015. "You shouldn't have to pay first to have a judge hear that argument."

In March 2017, Sacramento's former court executive officer Tim Ainsworth retired. Abruptly, Culhane found he needed to find someone to act as head clerk while the court looked for a permanent replacement.

"I approached Judge Connelly and asked him if he would act as CEO during the period of recruitment," Culhane said. He has an affection and affinity for the court. These are folks who had been his colleagues."

In the intervening four months, the Sacramento judges watched Connelly thrive as he brought his past judicial and legislative expertise to the job of streamlining and modernizing the court's operations. This included learning to work with the Judicial Council's new caseload-based formula for funding and working with the sheriff and poverty agencies to address the homeless encampment outside the courthouse – a problem that continues to bedevil other courts including Orange County Superior Court.

Though the court received applications from all over the country, the choice seemed obvious to the court's judges.

"Ultimately when the recruitment committee sat down to make our recommendation it was unanimous to our bench that Judge Connelly was the perfect person," Culhane said.

As Connelly makes the transition from interim to permanent head clerk, he'll face a number of challenges including reconfiguring the court's family law calendar, processing complex civil cases, making sure the court's caseload numbers are accurate and identifying a funding source for the new Sacramento courthouse, which Culhane said he hopes will soon begin [construction](#).

"It's very complex and in exactly the right hands," Culhane said. "The thing about Judge Connelly is that he's got two characteristics that I've observed. He's a person of unquestioned integrity. He's well known in the judicial branch generally for excellent legal work on very complex cases, but he's also got this integrity and character. He's also very detail-oriented. His brain and his inquisitive nature don't stop. So I'm certain and our bench is certain we made the right the decision here."

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OCT 5

Retired judge Lloyd Connelly leading homeless housing effort for Mayor Steinberg

BREAKING NEWS (/BLOG-CIVIC-ENGAGEMENT/CATEGORY/BREAKING+NEWS), GETTING PEOPLE OFF THE STREET (/BLOG-CIVIC-ENGAGEMENT/CATEGORY/GETTING+PEOPLE+OFF+THE+STREET)

One of Sacramento's most distinguished public servants has joined Mayor Darrell Steinberg's office to oversee implementation of the City's new Comprehensive Siting Plan to Address Homelessness.

The Honorable Judge Lloyd G. Connelly, who most recently oversaw the ongoing construction of the new \$500-million courthouse being built in the downtown Railyards, is donating his time to the mayor's office. He will be working to fulfill the goals of the siting plan, which was passed unanimously by the City Council in August. It identifies sites and programmatic solutions to house more than 5,000 people at a time.

"Lloyd is mission-driven, collaborative, and a great person," Mayor Steinberg said. "We're fortunate that he has chosen to devote his time and his problem-solving expertise to this critical issue facing our city."

Judge Connelly served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1970 and received an Army Commendation Medal. He served as an administrative assistant for a Sacramento County Supervisor, and then as a law clerk for the Legal Center for the Elderly and Disabled. At age 27, he was elected to the Sacramento City Council, where he served for seven years.

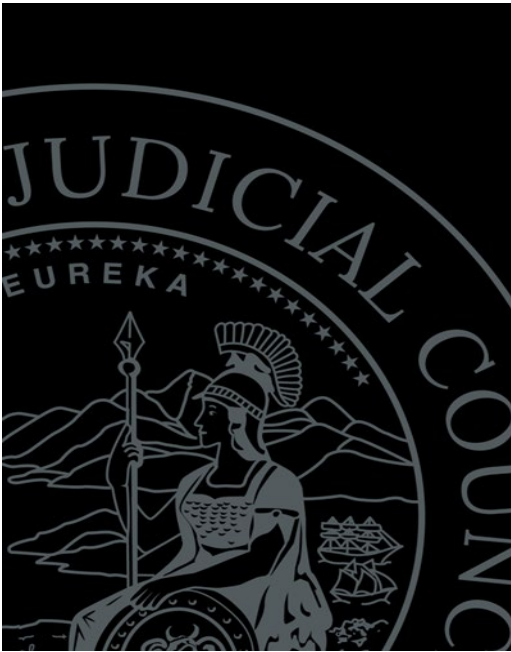
In 1983 Lloyd was elected to the state Assembly, where he served for nine years and was a member of the committees on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials, Insurance, Judiciary and Natural Resources. He was honored as "Legislator of the Year" (1985) by the Society of Professional Journalists and rated number one overall legislator in a California Journal survey in 1990.

In 1992, Lloyd was elected Judge of the Superior Court of Sacramento County and served on the bench for the next 20 years. He handled a demanding criminal calendar before taking over complex civil cases. In this capacity he oversaw a deal by Imperial Valley farmers to sell water to the cities of San Diego County. He has presided over numerous mental health court cases and is steeped in mental health issues and the role they play in unsheltered homelessness.

After his retirement, the Superior Court judges in 2017 voted unanimously to appoint him as the court's new executive officer. He subsequently secured the nearly \$500 million needed to build a new courthouse in The Railyards and has overseen its construction.

MARY LYNNE VELLINGA (/BLOG-CIVIC-ENGAGEMENT?AUTHOR=5AD4D46549BAD678F1A637C1)

homelessness (/blog-civic-engagement/tag/homelessness), Sacramento (/blog-civic-engagement/tag/Sacramento), siting plan (/blog-civic-engagement/tag/siting+plan), mayor's office (/blog-civic-er



Courthouse Naming Policy

ADOPTED BY JUDICIAL COUNCIL ON:
MAY 11, 2009

REVISED BY JUDICIAL COUNCIL ON:
JULY 21, 2023



Judicial Council of California

I. Purpose of the Policy

The Judicial Council of California (Judicial Council) is responsible for California's courthouses under the Trial Court Facilities Act of 2002 and related legislation, which also includes responsibility for construction of new courthouses and renovation of existing courthouses. It is the policy of the Judicial Council, acting through the Court Facilities Advisory Committee, Subcommittee on Courthouse Names, through its directives to Judicial Council staff, to name courthouses based on standards. This will provide consistency in identifying courthouses in California.

The naming of courthouses will follow the standards set forth in this policy in naming new courthouses, and in naming existing courthouses—including court facilities that are renovated.

II. Application of Courthouse Naming Standards

The Judicial Council's naming standards will be applied to newly constructed courthouses and renovated courthouses that the Judicial Council has financed—in whole or in part—and to existing courthouses, where the judicial branch is the facility owner or majority tenant.

III. Names for Trial and Appellate Courthouses

A. Definitions

Court facility refers to any building that the local court occupies to provide its main services, its branch services, or other services and operations. As used in this policy, the word *courthouse* is considered interchangeable with this term.

Court Facilities Advisory Committee (CFAC) is an advisory body to the Judicial Council on all facilities-related matters. The members of this advisory committee are appointed by the Chief Justice of California. The CFAC is charged with providing ongoing oversight of the judicial branch program that manages new construction and renovations for the superior courts and Courts of Appeal throughout the state. It oversees the work of the Judicial Council staff in its management of court facilities statewide and in its effort to implement the judicial branch's capital improvement program.

Subcommittee on Courthouse Names (the subcommittee) is the subcommittee of the CFAC charged with responsibility to review and consider options in naming specific new and existing courthouses. The chair of the Subcommittee on Courthouse Names is appointed by the chair of the CFAC. The members of the subcommittee are appointed by the subcommittee chair. The subcommittee is responsible for recommending to the CFAC names for courthouses and in doing so may consider comments from members of CFAC, or refer requests for naming to the Judicial Council where appropriate. The subcommittee's operating protocols, including the term of each member, will be established by the CFAC.

Case type can include but is not limited to the following caseload identifiers: family law, juvenile, criminal, civil, traffic, probate, small claims, mental health, and drug.

Location of a court facility refers to the building's physical location in either an incorporated (i.e., town or city) or unincorporated (i.e., county or region) geographical area.

B. Naming Standards for Trial and Appellate Courthouses

1. Courthouses will be named based on one of the following two categories:
 - a. Location and case type, which is the category most commonly used; or
 - b. A person, which is a rarely used category.

A courthouse name will not include the name of any business entity, institution, foundation, or other organization, whether for profit or not for profit.

2. An explanation of each category follows. For all name categories, the courthouse name must include “Superior Court” or “Court of Appeal” *and* “California.” In each case, the building name may include the term “Courthouse,” “Justice Center,” or “Hall of Justice.”
 - a. Naming Preference 1: Location and Case Type (Most Commonly Used). It is the preference of the Judicial Council to name courthouses after their location and, if applicable, case type. This convention supports the Judicial Council’s goal of enhancing access to justice because naming courthouses after the location and case type provides users with key information about where the courthouse is located and the type of proceedings conducted within the courthouse.

Examples of courthouse names under the preferred naming standard for trial courts are as follows:

Format Examples	Courthouses	Justice Centers	Halls of Justice
Example 1	El Centro Family Courthouse Superior Court of California County of Imperial	Selma Regional Justice Center Superior Court of California County of Fresno	East County Hall of Justice Superior Court of California County of Alameda
Example 2	El Centro Family Courthouse Superior Court of California Imperial County	Selma Regional Justice Center Superior Court of California Fresno County	East County Hall of Justice Superior Court of California Alameda County

Examples of courthouse names under the preferred naming standard for appellate courts are as follows:

Format Examples	Appellate Courthouse Names
Example 1	State of California Court of Appeal First Appellate District Courthouse
Example 2	California Court of Appeal Fourth Appellate District Division Three
Example 3	State of California Court of Appeal Fifth Appellate District

b. Naming Preference 2: A Person (Rarely Used). Naming a courthouse after a person must be carefully considered to protect the integrity and independence of the judicial branch. A courthouse may be named after a person upon consideration of *all* the following criteria:

- i. The person made recognizable, significant contributions to the state or national justice system.
- ii. There is a rebuttable presumption that the name of a living person or one who died fewer than 10 years before the naming of the courthouse should not be used. Ten years is a reasonable time during which facts bearing upon such a person's character would come to light.

If articulable circumstances exist that ensure full knowledge of the character of a living person or one who died fewer than 10 years before the naming of the courthouse, this presumption may be overcome. An example of such circumstances is if the person's character and reputation were previously investigated, extensively and repeatedly, in connection with the person's prior selection or appointment to position(s) of public service.

- iii. The person, or the estate of the person, or any otherwise related entity deemed to pose a potential conflict of interest by the subcommittee, does not have any case pending before any court, and no such case is reasonably likely to come before any court, in future litigation.
- iv. The naming does not present a potential conflict of interest as may be viewed by the public, government entities, or private businesses.
- v. Consistency with the California Code of Judicial Ethics.

Examples of persons who meet these criteria may include a former Governor of California, a former Chief Justice of California, a former member of the California or United States Supreme Court, a former appellate court justice, a former trial court judge, a former court executive officer, a former president of a state or local bar association, or a former state or federal legislator.

C. **Process for Naming Courthouses**

Courthouses will be named by the following process:

1. Requests for courthouse naming will be submitted to the chair of the subcommittee by the presiding judge or assistant presiding judge, or the court executive officer or the administrative presiding justice, or the clerk/executive officer of the Court of Appeal, or their designee, of the subject court. Concurrently, the chair of the subcommittee will in turn provide the request(s) to the local court or committee as to process and minimum requirements set forth in this policy.

2. The subcommittee will evaluate each proposed name under the standards set forth in this policy.
3. Upon consideration of any request, the chair of the subcommittee will propose requests for names under section 2(a) preference 1, and all requests under section 2(b) preference 2, for consideration by the CFAC.
4. Upon consideration, the CFAC shall present a recommendation on the name of a courthouse to the Judicial Council, which presentation will include the subcommittee's recommendation.
5. Where appropriate, the chair of the subcommittee will be delegated by the chair of CFAC to approve standard courthouse names under section 2(a) of this policy, on behalf of the CFAC of the Judicial Council. This approval shall be subject to ratification by the Judicial Council. Requests for those names must have been duly submitted under C.1 of this policy.

D. Designation of Courthouse Names in Building Signage and Plaques

Signage and plaques on buildings shall designate the duly approved names under this policy subject to the following requirements:

1. Standards: All signage and plaques must comply with the requirements of the *California Trial Court Facilities Standards*¹ and its addenda as pertain to signage, use of seals by courts,² and plaques.
2. Application of courthouse names: Subject to the foregoing, each state trial courthouse shall have reflected in its exterior signage designated under this policy: "Superior Court of California, County of [County name]" and the Great Seal of the State of California.

¹ Judicial Council's *California Trial Court Facilities Standards*, 2020.

² Gov. Code, §§ 68074, 68076 et seq.

**Court Facilities Advisory Committee's
Subcommittee on Courthouse Names**

As of August 11, 2023

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County of San Bernardino

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Judge of the Superior Court of California,
County of Fresno

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