



PRESS RELEASE

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SUPERIOR COURT OF
CALIFORNIA
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Michael A. Sachs
Presiding Judge

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SAN BERNARDINO SUPERIOR COURT LAUNCHES NEW COMMITTEE TO ELIMINATE BIAS IN THE COURTROOM

SAN BERNARDINO, CA—Pursuant to the Standards of Judicial Administration, Standard 10.20(b), the San Bernardino Superior Court (SBSC) will launch a new community outreach committee (Committee) on eliminating bias within the courtroom chaired by Judge John M. Pacheco and Judge Khymerli S. Apaloo.

In a statement released from the California Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, "...Being heard is only the first step to action as we continue to strive to build a fairer, more equal and accessible justice system for all."

The Committee will collaborate with local bar associations to sponsor and support educational programs designed to eliminate bias, develop and maintain an informal procedure for receiving complaints related to bias in the courtroom, including but not limited to bias based on disability, gender, race, religion, ethnicity, and sexual orientation. The Committee will also develop and propose a Local Rule of Court outlining this informal procedure. Members may include, but are not limited to, judges, lawyers, court administrators, and representatives from minority, women's, gay and lesbian bar associations and from organizations that represent persons with disabilities. Interested members of the public are encouraged to submit a letter of intent to outreach@sb-court.org by September 30, 2020 to start the application process explaining why they would like to join the Committee.

"Discrimination and racism will not be accepted nor tolerated," said Presiding Judge Michael A. Sachs. "SBSC will continue to advance initiatives that achieve our mission of providing equal access to justice for all regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability or socio-economic status."

For media related inquiries, please contact Julie Van Hook, Communications and Public Affairs Officer (909) 708-8779 or courts-pio@sb-court.org.

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