Judges Elect Carolyn Kuhl Presiding Judge
And Daniel Buckley Asst. Presiding Judge

By a unanimous vote, the judicial officers of the Los Angeles Superior Court have elected Assistant Presiding Judge Carolyn B. Kuhl to be their Presiding Judge for the 2015-16 term and Judge Daniel J. Buckley to serve as the Assistant Presiding from 2015-16, announced current Presiding Judge David S. Wesley.

Both races were uncontested and on Sept. 10, 2014, Judges J. Stephen Czuleger, Scott M. Gordon and William A. MacLaughlin canvassed the nomination forms in accordance with California Rules of Court 1.5(j) - Uncontested Offices.

Judge Kuhl has served as the Assistant Presiding Judge of the LASC since 2012 and has been a superior court judge since 1995. Before becoming the Assistant Presiding Judge, she served as the Supervising Judge of the civil departments of the LASC, a position she also held from 2003 through 2004. Previously, she was Managing Judge of the complex litigation program for six years.

She was a Member of Judicial Council, the policy-making body for the California state court system, from 2006 through 2009. She was a member of the statewide Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions from 2001 through 2003.

Judge Kuhl served on the Governing Committee of the Center for Judicial Education and Research, and is a Member of the American Law Institute and serves on the Council of the Institute. She serves on the Board of Overseers for the Rand Institute. She is a Member of the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association Litigation Section and has served on the Board of the Association of Business Trial Lawyers.

Prior to taking the bench, Judge Kuhl was a partner in the law firm of Munger, Tolles & Olson. From 1981 through 1986 she served in the United States Department of Justice as Special Assistant to the Attorney General, Deputy Assistant Attorney General (Civil Division), and Principal Deputy Solicitor General, preparing and arguing

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cases before the United States Supreme Court. She was a law clerk to the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy when he sat as a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Kuhl graduated with distinction from Duke Law School, was an editor of the Duke Law Journal, and received an A.B. cum laude from Princeton University.

Judge Buckley is in his second year as Supervising Judge of the civil departments and manages all civil cases in LASC’s courthouses. He was appointed by Gov. Gray Davis and took his oath on May 3, 2002. Before his present assignment at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse in Los Angeles, Judge Buckley sat in the Pomona Courthouse, where he served as the Supervising Judge of the East District, and over the years handled misdemeanor, general civil, felony trial, felony master calendar and probate courts.

Judge Buckley chairs the Technology Committee and is actively involved in the Court’s efforts to improve its technology. He has served on a number of internal LASC committees, including the Executive Committee.

He has been an adjunct professor at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, Loyola Law School, Southwestern Law School, and Notre Dame Law School. He teaches a number of judicial education classes on evidence, ethics, technology and new judges’ orientation.

He has served on the Judicial Council Advisory Committee on Financial Accountability and Efficiency, the Court Technology Advisory Committee, as well as the Technology Task Force. As of October, he will be a member of the Judicial Council. He previously served on the Ethics Committee of the California Judges Association.

Judge Buckley was a partner at Breidenbach, Buckley, Huchting, Halm & Hamblet, where he worked from 1980 to 2002, and served as managing partner for seven years. He is a member of the American Board of Trial Attorneys.

He earned both his Doctor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts degrees from the University of Notre Dame and was admitted to the California bar in December 1980.