

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO



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FIRST INDIAN-AMERICAN JUDGE APPOINTED TO SAN FRANCISCO SUPERIOR COURT, THE HONORABLE VEDICA PURI, ANNOUNCES HER RETIREMENT

Judge Vedica Puri, a trial lawyer for 24 years before being appointed to San Francisco Superior Court as its first Indian-American judge, announces her retirement from the bench. A skilled utility player, Judge Puri has handled almost every civil and criminal assignment ranging from civil trials, settlement conferences, law and motion, probate, housing and family to felony preliminary hearings and trials.

Presiding Judge Rochelle East says: Judge Puri has been an invaluable asset to the San Francisco bench. A consummate trial judge, she applied her experience and skills in civil and criminal trials, settlements, and bench trials to a variety of legal disciplines. She willingly handled some of the most challenging departments at our court, all with her outstanding demeanor and common sense. The entire bench joins me in wishing her a happy and fulfilling retirement.

Among other accomplishments over the years, Judge Puri was assigned the first jury trial after the Covid shut down. About this experience Judge Puri said, "I came to this Court and very quickly we faced an unprecedented pandemic. I deeply respect my fellow judicial colleagues and the veritable army of clerks, staff, court reporters, interpreters, deputies and management that led us out of those dark days." Citing the City's motto Judge Puri concluded: "San Francisco is

considered golden in peace and iron in war. I am honored and privileged to have served the resilient, intelligent people of this beautiful City.”

Governor Jerry Brown appointed Judge Puri in January 2019. She was the first Indian-American judge appointed to serve on the San Francisco bench. Immediately prior to her judicial appointment, Judge Puri was a partner at Pillsbury & Coleman LLP. Her retirement will be effective March 3, 2025.

A Bay Area native, Judge Puri is a graduate of Santa Clara University, School of Law and earned her bachelor’s degree from St. Xavier’s University.

The San Francisco bench is comprised of 52 judges and one commissioner.

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