



Public Information Office
United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

Office of the Circuit Executive · 95 7th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 · (415) 355-8800 · (415) 355-8901 Fax

NEWS RELEASE

April 30, 2014

Contact: David Madden (415) 355-8800

New Judges for Southern District of California, Eastern District of Washington

SAN FRANCISCO – The United States Senate today confirmed President Obama’s nominees for judgeships on federal trial courts in Washington and California.

Attorney Stanley Allen Bastian was confirmed as a district judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington by a vote of 95-0. He will fill a judgeship vacant since June 7, 2012, when District Judge Edward F. Shea assumed senior status.

San Diego County Superior Court Judge Cynthia Ann Bashant was confirmed as a district judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California by a vote of 94-0. She will fill a judgeship vacant since March 29, 2013, when Judge Irma E. Gonzalez assumed senior status.

Judge Bashant, 54, has served on the San Diego Superior Court since 2000, handling both criminal and juvenile matters. From 2010 to 2013, she served as presiding judge for the Juvenile Court. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Bashant held several positions in the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California including assistant U.S. attorney from 1989 to 2000, chief of the Border Crimes Section from 1997 to 1998, and deputy chief of the Narcotics Section from 1995 to 1997.

Prior to her public service, Judge Bashant practiced civil litigation in San Diego as an associate with Baker & McKenzie from 1988 to 1989 and with Macdonald Halsted & Laybourne from 1986 to 1988. She was also an adjunct professor at Western State University, now Thomas Jefferson School of Law, from 1988 to 1991.

A San Francisco native, Judge Bashant received her A.B. from Smith College in 1982 and her J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, in 1986.

The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California had 8,190 new case filings in fiscal year 2013. The court is authorized 13 judgeships and currently has no vacancy.

Mr. Bastian, 56, has been the managing partner since 2012 at the law firm of Jeffers, Danielson, Sonn & Aylward, P.S., in the central Washington community of Wenatchee, where his practice focuses on civil employment matters. He joined the firm as an associate in 1988 and became a shareholder in 1992. Prior to that, Mr. Bastian worked as an assistant city attorney and criminal prosecutor for the Seattle City Attorney's Office from 1985 to 1988. He worked as an associate at the law firm of Bergman & Bauer in Seattle from 1983 to 1984 and as a public defender in Renton, Washington, in 1984.

Mr. Bastian served as president of the Washington State Bar Association from 2007 to 2008, and as chair of the non-profit Equal Justice Coalition of Washington from 2010 to 2013.

Born in Seattle and raised in Portland, Oregon, Mr. Bastian received his B.S. from the University of Oregon, Phi Beta Kappa, in 1980, and his J.D. from the University of Washington School of Law in 1983. He served as a law clerk to Judge Ward Williams of the Washington State Court of Appeals from 1984 to 1985.

The U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington had 1,236 new case filings in fiscal year 2013. The court is authorized four judgeships and currently has one vacancy.

Appointed under Article III of the Constitution, federal district court judges are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior.

###