



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

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NEWS RELEASE

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Senate Confirms Kymberly K. Evanson for Federal Judgeship in Western District of Washington

SAN FRANCISCO – The United States Senate today voted 50-42 to confirm President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.’s, nomination of Kymberly K. Evanson to serve as a U.S. district judge for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington.

“We are very excited for Kymberly to join the bench. Her many years of experience with the federal court in trial and appellate litigation matters would greatly benefit the legal community and the bench,” said Chief District Judge David G. Estudillo of the Western District of Washington. “Her great professional and personal background will be an asset to the District. Her joining the bench in our Seattle division will also provide much-needed relief to our senior judges,” he concluded.

Evanson was nominated for the judgeship on July 13, 2022, and had her hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Nov. 15, 2022. The committee reported her nomination to the Senate on Dec. 8, 2022. Evanson’s nomination was pending and thus was returned to the president when the Second Session of the 117th Congress adjourned on Jan. 3, 2023. She was renominated on Jan. 23, 2023, and her nomination was placed on the Senate Executive Calendar on February 9. Following her oath, she will fill a judgeship vacant since Jan. 1, 2020, when District Judge Ricardo S. Martinez assumed senior status. Evanson will maintain chambers in Seattle.

Evanson has been a partner at Pacifica Law Group LLP in Seattle since 2015 and was an associate in 2011 when she joined the firm at its founding. At Pacifica, she has represented public, private and not-for-profit clients in a variety of trial and appellate litigation matters, including cases arising under the First Amendment, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and state and federal constitutions and statutes. Before joining Pacifica, she was an associate from 2009 to 2011 in the Appellate, Governmental and Constitutional Law Group of K&L Gates LLP (formerly Preston, Gates & Ellis) in Seattle.

Born in Longview, Washington, Evanson earned her Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, from Seattle University, in 1999 and her Juris Doctor, cum laude, in 2007 from Georgetown University Law Center, where she was an articles and notes editor of the Georgetown Journal of

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Gender and the Law. Following law school, she clerked for District Judge Emmet G. Sullivan of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia from 2007 to 2008.

Evanson has volunteered with legal organizations including the Seattle Clemency Project, the American Civil Liberties Union of Washington and the International Municipal Lawyers Association. She also served as a board member of Legal Voice in Seattle from 2016 to 2022. Additionally, from 2017 to 2022, she served as co-chair of the Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington's Constitution Day Committee and as a volunteer attorney for its Federal Civil Rights Clinic since 2013.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington had 3,234 new case filings in calendar year 2022. The court is authorized seven judgeships and has one vacant judgeship.

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

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