



SUPERIOR COURT
of
SANTA BARBARA
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**SANTA BARBARA SUPERIOR COURT
SELECTS NEW COMMISSIONER
ELIZABETH DIAZ**

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Presiding Judge Pauline Maxwell is proud to announce the appointment of Elizabeth Diaz as the new Santa Barbara Superior Court's Commissioner. Ms. Diaz will officially take the oath of office in December, with the exact date to be announced. Ms. Diaz is the first female Mexican American court commissioner in the history of the Santa Barbara Superior Court.

A Santa Barbara native in both education and service, Ms. Diaz earned her Juris Doctorate from the Santa Barbara College of Law in 1998 after completing her undergraduate studies in Law and Society at UC Santa Barbara.

Judge Maxwell emphasized Ms. Diaz's remarkable contributions to the legal field, particularly during her 12 years as an attorney with Legal Aid and her tenure as the Family Law Facilitator for the Santa Barbara Superior Court. Ms. Diaz has an outstanding record of providing legal representation for litigants in domestic violence and restraining order matters, as well as helping self-represented litigants prepare paperwork for their court proceedings, consistently demonstrating a profound commitment to justice and accessibility.

Selected from a highly competitive pool of applicants after a rigorous interview process, Ms. Diaz earned praise for her deep expertise and professionalism. "Ms. Diaz has the experience, dedication, and demeanor needed to excel as a Superior Court Commissioner," Judge Maxwell remarked. "Her commitment to serving our community will undoubtedly continue in her new role."

Superior Court Commissioners play a vital role in the judicial system, presiding over matters such as family law, child support, domestic violence, and civil harassment cases. To qualify for this position, candidates must have at least ten years of experience as practicing attorneys and be active members in good standing with the State Bar of California.