

Superior Court of California

COUNTY OF VENTURA Hall of Justice 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009

> **Brenda L. McCormick** Executive Officer/Clerk and Jury Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 6, 2024

Contact: Robert Sherman Assistant Executive Officer (805) 289-8514

VENTURA SUPERIOR COURT SELECTS NEW COMMISSIONER

The Judges of the Ventura Superior Court have announced the selection of Courtney Lewis as the Court's newest commissioner. She fills the vacancy created by Commissioner Diana Weiss Aizman who was appointed to a judgeship on July 17, 2024. Commissioner Lewis' official start date will be Monday, August 19, 2024, and she will be assigned to Courtroom 10 where she will hear Traffic matters.

Ms. Lewis has served as a Senior Deputy District Attorney at the Ventura County District Attorney's Office since November 2020. In this role, she has been assigned to the Major Crimes-Homicide Unit, demonstrating her expertise and dedication to handling complex cases. Prior to this, she worked as a Deputy District Attorney at the Kern County District Attorney's Office from January 2011 to November 2020, where she gained extensive experience across various units, including Homicide, Family Violence, Traffic Safety, General Felony, Preliminary Hearing, and Misdemeanor units. She began her legal career as a Post-Bar Certified Law Clerk at the Kern County DA's Office, where she conducted preliminary hearings, wrote motions, and organized trial binders.

Ms. Lewis holds a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, California, where she was an active member of the Byrne Trial Advocacy Team and participated in the Hobbs District Attorney Practicum. She also earned a Master of Science in Criminal Justice from Lamar University in Beaumont, TX, and she graduated with high honors with a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Ms. Lewis has been recognized for her outstanding contributions to the field of criminal law, receiving the MADD Outstanding Prosecutor Award in July 2015 and the Mary Swallow Prosecutor of the Year Award in 2018, both in Kern County. Her community service activities while in Kern County included serving as: Project LEAD teacher; Homeless Court volunteer; Project B.E.S.T. Court Day coordinator; and Kern County DA Mentor.

Superior Court Commissioners hear matters including, but not limited to, Family Law, Juvenile Delinquency and Dependency, Child Support Services, Domestic Violence, Civil Harassment, Traffic, Criminal and Small Claims. They are required to have been admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of California for at least ten years and they serve at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge.