

JUDGE TAMILA EBRAHIMI IPEMA

Superior Court of California, County of San Diego
Carlsbad, California

The Honorable Tamila Ebrahimi Ipema was born and raised in Tehran, Iran. She received her Bachelor's degree in English Literature from Damavand College in Tehran in 1978. In August 1978, Judge Ipema came to the U.S. in pursuit of higher education. She received a Master's degree in Humanities and English in 1985, and her J.D. in 1988 from the University of Louisville in Kentucky. Judge Ipema received her LL.M. degree in International and Comparative Law from Georgetown University School of Law in 1994.

Judge Ipema worked as an immigration defense attorney before accepting a position with the U.S. Department of Justice as Assistant District Counsel for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, serving as a trial attorney in Los Angeles, Arlington, and Baltimore for a period of five years. From 2000 to 2005, Judge Ipema served as a judicial research attorney, and also as a supervising research attorney for the Los Angeles Superior Court.

In 2005, the Judges of the Los Angeles Superior Court appointed her to the position of Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner. She presided over small claims, traffic, misdemeanor, unlawful detainer, and family law matters in Los Angeles County. In 2008, the Judges of the San Diego Superior Court appointed Judge Ipema to the position of San Diego Superior Court Commissioner. There, she presided over small claims, unlawful detainer, traffic, and misdemeanor matters.

In 2009, Judge Ipema was appointed by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to the position of Judge of the San Diego Superior Court, and from 2009 to 2011, she presided over family law in the Vista Courthouse. Since 2012, she has been presiding over criminal trials in Vista and Chula Vista Courthouses.

Judge Ipema was Seminar Leader at B.E. Witkin Judicial College (a 2-week program) from 2007 through 2011, and a seminar leader at the New Judge Orientation (1-week program) in 2011. She also designed courses as a member of the Studio video working group for the California Judicial Education, serving as co-faculty for a video course in 2011 entitled "Welcome to Family Law" an educational program for Judges new to family law. Since 2009, she has taught several courses per year on Judicial Conduct/Demeanor/Fairness/Self-Monitoring for Bias/ADA to temporary judges in San Diego. In addition, Judge Ipema trained temporary judges in Los Angeles on the above subjects as well as other topics, including small claims and civil non-jury trials from 2006 to 2008. From 2008 to 2011, she was an instructor at the Judicial Research Attorney Institute.

Judge Ipema was a Judicial Master at Fiorenzo V. Lopardo Inns of Court, Chapter 303 in Vista in 2009 and 2010; team topics included Elimination of Bias and Cultural Defenses in civil and criminal cases. She was also appointed by the Chief Justice of California Supreme Court, Chief Justice Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakauye, to the Judicial Council's Access and Fairness Advisory Committee. She is a member of the Racial and Ethnic Fairness Advisory Subcommittee, as well

as the Collaborative Courts subcommittee. She is a member of the Education Committee at the San Diego Superior Court.

The Honorable Tamila Ebrahimi Ipema chaired the first Color of Justice and MentorJet program for the National Association of Women Judges in San Diego in 2011. This program is being continued on annual basis. The third Annual Color of Justice Program is scheduled to be held in San Diego on October 24, 2013. She is co-chair for the NAWJ's 2014 Annual Conference also taking place in San Diego, in October of 2014.