

## **JUDGE WENDY S. LINDLEY**

Superior Court of California, Orange County  
Santa Ana, California

The Hon. Wendy S. Lindley has been a judicial officer in the State of California since 1994, appointed to Orange County Municipal Court by Governor Pete Wilson on January 5<sup>th</sup> of 1994. Later, she succeeded upon majority vote of judges in the county to convert Municipal Courts to Superior Courts, effective August 10, 1998, thereby becoming a Superior Court Judge. Currently, Judge Lindley presides over the Adult Drug Court, Criminal Mental Health Court, DUI Court, Combat Veterans Court and the Homeless Outreach Court, all of which she played a crucial role in establishing. She has created and presided over many of the Orange County Collaborative Courts, which feature a multi-agency approach to sentencing and rehabilitation of non-violent offenders. Her experiences with both substance abusers and the mentally ill have sensitized her to the need for early intervention, and the importance of providing supportive services. She recognized that a failure to divert the mentally ill or addicted population from the criminal justice system contributes to an escalation in the level of crimes committed by mentally ill individuals and addicts, and creates barriers to re-entering society. Her Combat Veterans Court addresses issues of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder(PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), substance abuse and Military Sexual Trauma (MST) in an attempt to restore the veteran to the person they were prior to their life changing combat experience.

Judge Lindley was instrumental in the creation of the Community Court Building located in Santa Ana, California. The Community Court houses all of the Collaborative Court programs over which she presides. Co-located in the Community Court are numerous service providers, including Vocational Rehabilitation, Social Services Agency, Health Care agency, Veterans Administration, and Legal Aid. Services are provided for anyone in the community who needs them. Offices are located on-site in order to provide immediate access for participants and to facilitate staff collaboration. Judge Lindley has served on many committees and lectured extensively on therapeutic justice. She has lectured and conducted training for the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. Her Veterans Court is currently a Mentor Court which provides training for professionals from all over the United States.

Member/Awards: California Judges Association, 1994- ; Orange County Bar Association, 1993- ; Orange County Women Lawyers, 1994. Orange County Hispanic Bar Association 1996. House of Ruth Recognition of Significant Service, 1995. Judges Award Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County, 1996. Leadership Award Human Services Department Saddleback College, 1999. Citizen of the Year Rotary Club Monarch Beach, 2001; Spirit of Giving Award for Excellence Mission Hospital, 2002; Thomas F. Ridley award, 2004, Mental Health Association. Jun Morrison-Tom Gitchhoff Foundation award, 2004, from Western Society of Criminology. California County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association, California Public Policy Award 2005; Judge of the Year Orange County Women Lawyer 2005. Joan Dempsey Klein, Distinguished Jurist Award. California Women Lawyers, 2006. Distinguished Contributor to Psychology Award, California Psychological Association, 2008.

She graduated from the University of Southern California (BS, 1972) and Pepperdine Law School (JD, 1978).