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## **Presiding Justice Laurence D. Kay To Retire from Court of Appeal**

### ***Native San Franciscan Has Served as Judge for 24 Years***

San Francisco—After a 24-year career on California trial and appellate courts, Presiding Justice Laurence D. Kay will retire from the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District, Division Four (San Francisco) effective August 31, 2005.

Presiding Justice Kay was appointed an associate justice of the Court of Appeal by Governor Gray Davis in December 2000 and was elevated to the presiding justice position in January 2002. While serving on the appellate court, he authored more than 40 published opinions and participated in hundreds of other cases.

Appointed to the Judicial Council of California in 2002 by Chief Justice Ronald M. George, Presiding Justice Kay served as vice-chair of the council's Policy Coordination and Liaison Committee and is outgoing chair of the Rules and Projects Committee.

He received the Trial Judge of the Year award from San Francisco Trial Lawyers in 1994 and the Appellate Justice of the Year award in 2004 from Consumer Attorneys of California. Presiding Justice Kay is a founding member and past president of the University of San Francisco Chapter of the American Inns of Court, a board member of the National College of Probate Judges, and a long-standing member of the executive committee of the Northern California Chapter of the Association of Business Trial Lawyers.

A native San Franciscan, Presiding Justice Kay was appointed to the San Francisco Municipal Court in 1981 and to the Superior Court of San Francisco County two years later. During his tenure on the superior court, he served as presiding judge of the criminal, appellate, and probate divisions and as presiding judge of the court. In addition,

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he established the widely recognized pro bono mediation programs for trust, estate, and conservatorship litigation.

The editor-in-chief of the first judicial benchbook on domestic violence, Presiding Justice Kay has authored numerous articles and presented programs for the American Board of Trial Lawyers on punitive damages, protective orders, and sealed documents.

He is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and Boalt Hall School of Law, where he was an associate editor of the *California Law Review*.

Following his retirement, Presiding Justice Kay will participate in alternative dispute resolution.

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