

KLEIN, Joan Dempsey

PRESIDING JUSTICE, COURT OF APPEAL, Second Appellate District, Division Three

Appointment/Election: Appointed [succeeding Presiding Justice John J. Ford, retired] by Governor Brown Jr. March 10, 1978, confirmed by Commission on Judicial Appointments April 15, 1978, oath April 27, 1978, confirmed by electorate Nov. 7, 1978, and reconfirmed by electorate Nov. 11, 1990, and again on Nov. 5, 2002.

Other Judicial Office: Judge, Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Jan. 6, 1975 (effective date) to April 15, 1978, elected Nov. 5, 1974. Judge, Municipal Court, Los Angeles Judicial District, Los Angeles County, Feb. 25, 1963 (date of oath) to Jan. 6, 1975, appointed Feb. 8, 1963 by Governor Brown, Sr. Presiding Judge, 1974.

Past Employment: Deputy Attorney General, Calif. State Dept. of Justice, Los Angeles, Calif., 1955-63; Former teacher and professional swimmer, among others.

Memberships/Awards: Member: National Assn. of Women Judges, 1979— (Founding President, 1979); Calif. Judges Assn., 1980—; Los Angeles County Bar Assn.; Calif. Women Lawyers Assn., 1974— (Founding President, 1974-75); Women Lawyers Assn. of Los Angeles; and UCLA Law Alumni Assn. Former Chair, Advisory Committee to Commission studying employment of women in Calif. Highway Patrol, 1974-76. Former member: Judicial Criminal Justice Planning Committee, 1974-76; Calif. Council on Criminal Justice, 1971-74. Recipient: “Woman of the Year Award” (1992) from Metropolitan News; “Woman of Vision” Award (1991) from Valley Presbyterian Hospital; “Roger J. Traynor Memorial Award,” as Appellate Justice of the Year (Jan. 1991) from Los Angeles Trial Lawyers Assn.; “Twenty Five Year Service Award” from Calif. Judges Assn., Sept. 25, 1988; Award from Los Angeles County Commission for Women, Oct. 21, 1987 (for her “dedicated service to improve the quality of life for women in Los Angeles”); Haven Hills Annual Community Service Award, 1986 (“for her work in behalf of women, and women’s causes, and for her many philanthropies”); “Professional Achievement Award” (1975), from Univ. of Calif., Los Angeles, Alumni Assn.; Resolution (1974), from Los Angeles County Bar Assn. Board of Trustees for “her skillful efforts to solve people’s problems in her year [1974] as presiding Judge of the Municipal Court”; and “Ernestine Stahlhut Award” (1973) from Women Lawyers Assn. of Los Angeles. Named: “Appellate Justice of the Year” (1990) by Los Angeles Trial Lawyers Assn.; and “Woman of the Year” (1975) by Los Angeles Times; “Woman of Achievement” (1973) by Los Angeles Sunset District of Calif. Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs; “Municipal Court Judge of the Year” (1972) by Calif. Trial Lawyers Assn.; and “Alumna of the Year” (1963) by Univ. of Calif., Los Angeles, Alumni Assn.

Teaching/Lectures/Panelist: Participant, 4th Annual Calif. Institute for Trial Advocacy Skills, 1979.

Noteworthy Cases: Significant decisions include: *Nordlinger v. Lynch*, (1990) 225 Cal.App.3d 1259, 275 Cal.Rptr. 684; *Rojo v. Kliger*, (1989) 209 Cal.App.3d 10 (review granted by Supreme Court); *Smith v. Superior Court*, (1984) 151 Cal.App.3d 491, 198 Cal.Rptr. 829 (establishing tort cause of action for intentional destruction of evidence).

Education: LL.B. (1955), Univ. of Calif., Los Angeles (Westwood), School of Law; B.A. (1947), San Diego State College [now Univ.], San Diego, Calif.

Personal: Born Aug. 18, 1924; San Jose, Calif.; Married. Two sons and three stepdaughters.

Interests: Enjoys tennis, swimming, and travel.

Admission: Admitted to Calif. Bar June 17, 1955.