

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE
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FOR RELEASE
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COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE RELEASES 2015 ANNUAL REPORT AND
ANNOUNCES THE ELECTION OF ANTHONY P. CAPOZZI, ESQ. AS CHAIRPERSON AND
JUSTICE IGNAZIO J. RUVOLO AS VICE-CHAIRPERSON

The Commission on Judicial Performance has released its 2015 Annual Report, which details the commission's activities and statistics from that year. The Annual Report is available on the commission's website at <http://cjp.ca.gov>.

The commission announces the election of Anthony P. Capozzi, Esq. as Chairperson of the Commission and Justice Ignazio J. Ruvolo as Vice-Chairperson at its meeting on March 23, 2016.

Mr. Capozzi is an attorney who has owned and operated the Law Offices of Anthony P. Capozzi since 1979, primarily focusing his practice in the area of criminal law. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1967 and his law degree from the University of Toledo College of Law in 1970. Mr. Capozzi served as a law clerk to the Honorable Omer Poos, a United States District Court Judge for the Southern District of Illinois, from 1970 to 1973. From 1973 to 1979, he was a Supervising Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of California, Fresno Division. Mr. Capozzi is admitted to the Ohio, Illinois and California bars. He has served as president of the Fresno County Bar Association and the Federal Bar Association, San Joaquin Valley Chapter; lawyer representative and co-chair of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference; co-chair of the Bench Bar Coalition; elected member of the Board of Governors, State Bar of California, 2000 to 2003; president of the State Bar of California, 2003 to 2004; member of the Access and Fairness Commission, 2004 to 2005; and member of the Judicial Council of the State of California, 2005 to 2010. Mr. Capozzi has served as the legal and political analyst for ABC Channel 30, KFSN-TV in the Central Valley since 2005. He has served as chair of the Law School Advisory Committee for the State Bar accredited law schools and served as secretary of the Board of the Central California Blood Center. Since 2005, Mr. Capozzi has been a fellow of the American Board of Criminal Lawyers. In June of 2010, he received an Honorary Doctorate of Law degree from the Southern California Institute of Law. In March of 2013, he was inducted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. In June of 2015, he was awarded the Bernie E. Witkin Lifetime Achievement Award from the Fresno County Bar Association. Mr. Capozzi was appointed to the commission as a lawyer member by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on April 6, 2010, and reappointed by Governor Edmund G. Brown on December 23, 2013; his term ends February 28, 2017.

Justice Ruvolo has served as the presiding justice of Division Four of the Court of Appeal, First Appellate District since 2006; he served as an associate justice in Division Two from 1996 to 2006. Prior to his appointment to the appellate bench, Justice Ruvolo was a superior court judge in Contra Costa County. Justice Ruvolo has served on the State Bar Commission for the Revision of the Rules of Professional Conduct, and the San Francisco Bar Association's Ethics Committee. Justice Ruvolo has been a member, vice-chair, and chair of the California Judges Association's Judicial Ethics Committee, a member of the American Bar Association's Litigation Section Committee on Professional Responsibility, chair and special advisor to the State Bar of California's Committee on Professional Responsibility and Conduct, and founder and chair of the Contra Costa County Bar Association's Ethics Committee. Justice Ruvolo also has been a member of the Judicial Council's Task Force on Jury Instructions, Advisory Committee on Civil and Small Claims Actions, and Appellate Advisory Committee; the Center for Judicial Education and Research's Planning Committee; and the California Judicial College. Before being appointed to the superior court bench, Justice Ruvolo was a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice and an attorney with a Bay Area law firm. He was honored with a formal commendation from the Director of the U.S. Marshal Service, the Trial Judge of the Year Award by the Alameda Contra Costa Trial Lawyers Association, and received Appellate Justice of the Year Awards from both the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association and the Italian American Bar Association of Northern California. He has served as an adjunct professor at University of California, Hastings College of the Law, Golden Gate University School of Law, and the John F. Kennedy School of Law. Justice Ruvolo received his undergraduate degree from Rutgers College in 1969, graduated magna cum laude in 1972 from the University of San Diego School of Law, where he served as editor-in-chief of the San Diego Law Review, and he received a Masters of Law degree from the University of Virginia. Justice Ruvolo was appointed to the commission as the Court of Appeal judicial member by the Supreme Court May 1, 2013; his current term ends February 28, 2017.

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The commission is composed of three judges, two lawyers, and six public members. The chairperson is Anthony P. Capozzi, Esq.

For further information about the Commission on Judicial Performance, see the commission's website at <http://cjp.ca.gov>.