

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE
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FOR RELEASE
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COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE ANNOUNCES THE ELECTION OF
HON. MICHAEL B. HARPER AS CHAIRPERSON AND
DR. MICHAEL A. MOODIAN AS VICE-CHAIRPERSON

The commission announces the election of Hon. Michael B. Harper as Chairperson of the Commission and Dr. Michael A. Moodian as Vice-Chairperson, at its May 6-7, 2020 meeting.

Judge Harper succeeds Nanci E. Nishimura, Esq. Judge Harper has served on the Trinity County Superior Court since his appointment in 2014. He was retained by voters in a 2016 election. Since 2018, he has served as presiding judge of the Trinity County Superior Court. Judge Harper's court assignments have included civil, small claims, dependency, and criminal cases. He has served as the court's assistant presiding judge and presiding judge of the Juvenile Court, and administers the Peer Court. Judge Harper also provides judicial assistance, as required, to neighboring superior courts in Humboldt and Shasta Counties. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Harper served for 20 years conducting investigations and prosecutions as Trinity County District Attorney, and as deputy district attorney for Trinity, Sacramento, and Placer County District Attorneys' Offices. He graduated from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Moodian is a faculty member of Chapman University's Attallah College of Educational Studies, and he serves as a member and former Chair of the Santa Margarita Catholic High School Consultative School Board, a member of the UC Irvine Olive Tree Initiative Advisory Board, and former chairperson of the World Affairs Council of Orange County. He edited a textbook in 2009 that examines the application of cultural comprehension to organizations and the measurement of intercultural competence. The book is cited by the Association of American Colleges & Universities in establishing national learning standards. Dr. Moodian has presented his research at various national and international conferences and has served as an expert commentator on several television and radio programs. Based on his interest in local history, he wrote a short book on the ranch history of South Orange County and North San Diego County. Dr. Moodian often speaks to K-12 and community groups on South Orange County's indigenous American activity, the Portolá Expedition, Mexican governance of the land, and 20th century ranching activity. Additionally, he was one of

18 Americans (and the only California resident) selected by the European Union to travel to Brussels in 2012 as a citizen diplomat to discuss education policy with EU officials. Dr. Moodian earned a Doctor of Education degree in Organizational Leadership from Pepperdine University, and a Master of Arts degree in Communications and Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and Sociology from California State University, Fullerton.

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The commission is composed of six public members, three judges, and two lawyers. The chairperson is Hon. Michael B. Harper.

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