

NEWS RELEASE

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

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Judge Ruechel Reappointed Presiding Judge for Navajo County

PHOENIX – The Arizona Supreme Court has reappointed the Honorable Michala Ruechel to Presiding Judge for the Superior Court in Navajo County. She will serve a two year term as Presiding Judge.

Presiding Judges in Arizona take on extra duties and serve as the chief executive officer of the county courts, overseeing all aspects of court business. The Presiding Judge oversees case assignments and court calendar and monitors performance of the courts to ensure that cases are processed in a timely manner.

It is truly an honor to be reappointed as the Presiding Judge for Navajo County. I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve under three outstanding Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justices including Justice Scott Bales; Justice Rebecca Berch; and Justice Ruth McGregor. I appreciate the confidence of the citizens of Navajo County, Chief Justice Bales and my fellow judges including Superior Court judges Judge Ralph Hatch; Judge Robert Higgins and newly appointed Judge Dale Nielsen and the Justices of the Peace including Judge Evelyn Marez; Judge Fred Peterson; Judge Stephen Price; Judge Dave Widmaier; and Judge elect B J Little. I look forward to the continuing opportunity to work with an outstanding Board of Supervisors; other elected officials and the Court Administrator in an effort to continue to improve the courts for the benefit of everyone.

A native of New Mexico, Judge Ruechel moved to Arizona as a young child, attending school here, including Arizona State University where she obtained her law degree. She has served the

judiciary in a variety of roles, first as Commissioner in the Child Support Division and then as a Superior Court Judge Pro Tempore. She was appointed to the Superior Court bench in 2006.

Judge Ruechel resides in Holbrook, Arizona with her husband and three children.

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