



**Superior Court of California
County of El Dorado**

2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667

PRESS RELEASE

September 8, 2023

Shelby Wineinger, Court Executive Officer

(530) 621-7414

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**El Dorado County Superior Court
Appointment and Swearing in of Hana Balfour**

Placerville, CA, September 8, 2023:

On August 18, 2023, Hana Balfour, of Sacramento County, was appointed to the El Dorado County Superior Court by Governor Gavin Newsom. Judge Balfour will fill the vacancy created by the retirement of the Honorable Dylan Sullivan. Judge Balfour will be sworn in on September 21, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. by Assistant Presiding Judge Michael J. McLaughlin in Department 1 of the Main Street Branch.

Judge Balfour was appointed after having served as the Court Commissioner for El Dorado County Superior Court since October 3, 2022. She will continue to preside over matters in Department 8 of the Fair Lane Branch hearing cases involving Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency, Guardianships, Child Support, Domestic Violence and Civil Harassment, and Traffic.

Prior to serving as the Court Commissioner, Judge Balfour was the Managing Attorney with the Parent Advocates of Sacramento where she represented parents and children in all aspects of dependency proceedings for over 20 years. Judge Balfour served on many committees contributing to court improvement, most significantly, participating in the establishment of the Sacramento Family Treatment Court and serving on its steering committee. Sacramento's Family Treatment Court is a model drug treatment court in the nation, and Judge Balfour was a speaker at multiple presentations for courts from around the country towards their efforts to establish a treatment court. She has organized and presented numerous Continuing Legal Education programs for dependency practitioners. She has also testified before the legislature regarding dependency related legislation. In addition to her court appointed work, Judge Balfour's legal practice included probate guardianships, adoptions, family law and appellate work via appointment by the Central California Appellate Project. Prior to this employment, she served in the Public Defender Office for the County of Sacramento.

Judge Balfour received her Juris Doctorate from McGeorge School of Law and is a member of the Traynor Society having graduated with honors. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California, Davis where she was also an All-American gymnast.

For more information, please visit the Court's website at <http://www.eldorado.courts.ca.gov>.

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