

**As the United States of America celebrates its 250th anniversary,
we resolutely publish a Declaration of Judicial Independence:**

When in the course of current events, it becomes necessary to respond to unjust public criticism that threatens a fair and impartial judiciary, and to the increasingly dangerous and personal attacks on individual judges, we reaffirm our sworn commitments that compel this Declaration.

That we are retired California State court judicial officers, having sworn an oath to support, defend, and bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

That we took this obligation freely and we will never seek release from our sacred commitment notwithstanding that we are now retired from the job of daily judging.

That we have seen an increase in propaganda intended to reduce respect for the judiciary, to influence the independent decision-making of individual judges, to threatening their physical safety and the safety of their families.

That these assaults on our judiciary are also assaults on our democracy, our cherished system of government, and they undermine the rule of law.

That we are further witnessing the consequences of the public's declining confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary.

That an independent judiciary, free from political influence or threat from any source, is essential to the preservation of the Constitution and to the rule of law that it enshrines.

That equal justice under law cannot be assured for anyone if it does not apply equally to everyone.

We, therefore, pledge that we are committed to speak out against this existential threat to the independent third branch of government. We will stand united in support of California's judges and to the system of justice they serve. We will not allow irresponsible and false attacks on California's judiciary to go unanswered.

We, therefore, pledge to use every lawful and appropriate means necessary to protect not only California's independent judiciary, but liberty and justice for all of those whose lives depend upon its existence.

**Judge Brett Alldredge (Ret.)
Tulare County Superior Court**

**Judge Suzanne Bolanos (Ret.)
San Francisco Superior Court**

Judge George Eskin (Ret.)
Santa Barbara County Superior Court

Judge Paul Fogel (Ret.)
Alameda County Superior Court

Judge Stephen Kaus (Ret.)
Alameda County Superior Court

Judge Anita Santos (Ret.)
Contra Costa Superior Court

Justice Richard Aronson (Ret.)
Fourth District Court of Appeal

Judge Joyce Hinrichs (Ret.)
Humboldt County Superior Court

Judge Monica Bachner (Ret.)
Los Angeles Superior Court

Justice Victoria Chaney (Ret.)
Second District Court of Appeal

Judge Anita Dymant (Ret.)
Los Angeles Superior Court

Judge Diana Gould-Saltman (Ret.)
Los Angeles Superior Court

Judge Lynn Duryee (Ret.)
Marin County Superior Court

Judge Garrett Olney (Ret.)
Plumas County Superior Court

Judge Craig Riemer (Ret.)
Riverside Superior Court

Judge Jackson Lucky (Ret.)
Riverside Superior Court

Judge John Pacheco (Ret.)
San Bernardino Superior Court

Judge Brenda Harbin-Forte (Ret.)
Alameda County Superior Court

Judge David Krashna (Ret.)
Alameda County Superior Court

Judge Barry Goode (Ret.)
Contra Costa Superior Court

Justice Terrence Bruniers (Ret.)
First District Court of Appeal

Judge William Palmer (Ret.)
Kern County Superior Court

Judge Paul Bacigalupo (Ret.)
Los Angeles Superior Court

Comm. Douglas Carnahan (Ret.)
Los Angeles Superior Court

Judge Stuart Rice (Ret.)
Los Angeles Superior Court

Judge Michelle Rosenblatt
Los Angeles Superior Court

Judge Thomas Cahraman (Ret.)
Riverside Superior Court

Judge John Darlington (Ret.)
Nevada County Superior Court

Judge Sherrill Ellsworth (Ret.)
Riverside Superior Court

Judge James Mize (Ret.)
Sacramento Superior Court

Judge Raoul Thorbourne (Ret.)
Sacramento Superior Court

Judge Tara Reilly (Ret.)
San Bernardino Superior Court

Judge Janet Frangie (Ret.)
San Bernardino Superior Court

Judge Christopher Warner (Ret.)
San Bernardino Superior Court

Judge Margie Woods (Ret.)
San Diego Superior Court

Judge Stephanie Sontag (Ret.)
San Diego Superior Court

Judge Ina Gyemant (Ret.)
San Francisco Superior Court

Judge Lee Baxter (Ret.)
San Francisco Superior Court

Judge Ellen Chaitin (Ret.)
San Diego County Superior Court

Judge Harold Kahn (Ret.)
San Francisco Superior Court

Judge James Slater (Ret.)
Santa Barbara Superior Court

Judge LaDoris Cordell (Ret.)
Santa Clara Superior Court

Judge Patricia Lucas (Ret.)
Santa Clara Superior Court

Judge Rise' Pichon (Ret.)
Santa Clara Superior Court

Judge Brian Van Camp (Ret.)
Sacramento Superior Court

Judge Cynthia Ludvigsen (Ret.)
San Bernardino Superior Court

Judge Bryan Foster (Ret.)
San Bernardino Superior Court

Judge Laura Halgren (Ret.)
San Diego Superior Court

Judge Harry Elias (Ret.)
San Diego Superior Court

Judge Bonnie Dumanis (Ret.)
San Diego Superior Court

Judge Lee Baxter (Ret.)
San Francisco Superior Court

Judge Kathleen Kelly (Ret.)
San Francisco Superior Court

Judge Kay Tsenin (Ret.)
San Francisco Superior Court

Judge Frank Ochoa (Ret.)
Santa Barbara Superior Court

Judge Phil Pennypacker (Ret.)
Santa Clara Superior Court

Judge Thelton Henderson (Ret.)
U.S. District Court, Cal. N.D.

Judge Nancy Shaffer (Ret.)
Santa Clara Superior Court

Judge Gary Nadler (Ret.)
Sonoma County Superior Court

Judge Arthur Wick (Ret.)
Sonoma County Superior Court

Judge David Long (Ret.)
Ventura County Superior Court

Judge Rebecca Riley (Ret.)
Ventura County Superior Court

Judge Gary Paden (Ret.)
Tulare County Superior Court

Judge Manuel Covarrubias (Ret.)
Ventura County Superior Court

Judge David Rosenberg (Ret.)
Yolo County Superior Court