

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CLERK'S OFFICE

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ISSUED BY: Catherine Cornwall, King County Clerk
ISSUE DATE: April 21, 2025
ISSUE NO: 25-010



CLERK'S ALERT

Benjamin Santos to Be Sworn In as Superior Court Judge

King County Superior Court looks forward to welcoming its newest judge. Presiding Judge Ketu Shah will swear in Benjamin Santos at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, in the Presiding Courtroom (E-942) of the King County Courthouse in downtown Seattle. He will fill the position being vacated by Judge Annette Messitt, who retired from the bench March 31, 2025, and take on a civil caseload.

“Benjamin Santos brings tremendous knowledge and experience to the King County Superior Court bench,” said Presiding Judge Ketu Shah. “Our court, and the people of King County, will benefit greatly from his service.”

Santos has more than two decades of experience as a senior deputy prosecutor in King County. At the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Santos has led the Misdemeanor and Special Assault units and currently serves as Assistant Chief Deputy in the Juvenile Division.

Santos has prosecuted a broad range of cases. He has collaborated with partners in the justice system to address the statewide sexual assault kit backlog and explore evidence-based strategies for reducing juvenile recidivism.

Santos earned a bachelor's degree from Washington State University. He earned his law degree from American University in Washington, D.C.



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