In September 2020, Judge Stout was appointed as the Chief Judge of the Bishop Paiute Tribal Court. He was one of the original members of the Judicial Council’s Tribal Court/State Court Forum as a state court judge and recently reappointed as a Tribal Court judge.

Judge Stout retired in 2018 from the Superior Court of California, County of Inyo; after serving 21 years on the bench. Since his retirement, he has also served in the Chief Justice’s Temporary Assigned Judges Program, sitting primarily in Sacramento, El Dorado, Placer, Inyo, and Mono counties. He is a former member of the Judicial Council of California; Co-chair of the Judicial Council’s Family & Juvenile Law Advisory Committee; member of the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Children in Foster Care; Domestic Violence Practice and Procedures Task Force; and Chair of CJER’s Rural Courts Education Committee. He was also a member of the State Bar of California’s Commission on the Revision of the Rules of Professional Responsibility.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, he served appropriately 10 years as the Assistant District Attorney of Inyo County, and nearly 10 years as the Inyo County Public Defender. He is a former member of the Board of Directors of the California Public Defenders Association.

Presiding Judge Hinrichs began her first term as the presiding judge of the Superior Court of Humboldt County on January 1, 2015. She began her term as chair of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee on September 15, 2019.

Presiding Judge Hinrichs received her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of the Pacific. Prior to taking the bench as a judge, Judge Hinrichs served as a commissioner. She is currently an advisory member of the Judicial Council and serves on the Executive Planning Committee and the Legislative Committee. In addition, since her appointment to the bench in 2009, Judge Hinrichs has been a key member of several Judicial Council advisory bodies. She is currently a member of the Workload Assessment Advisory Committee and a member of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee.

Presiding Judge Hinrichs was instrumental in the creation of Dependency Family Wellness Courts, two of which are cross-jurisdictional collaborative courts, one with the Yurok Tribal Court and one with the Hoopa Tribal Court; one is under the sole jurisdiction of the Superior Court of Humboldt County, for non-tribal families. Humboldt Superior Court has additionally had a Homeless Court since 2006, which has recently been revised. Judge Hinrichs has worked to develop community partnerships, developments which have played a significant role in improving both access and outcome for individuals who find themselves in court.
10th Annual Judicial Gathering
For California
Champions 2021

Vida Castaneda

Ms. Castaneda is a Senior Analyst in the Tribal/State Programs Unit with the Center for Families, Children & the Courts at the Judicial Council of California since 2005. Ms. Castaneda provides educational and technical assistance on the Indian Child Welfare Act and family violence issues that impact tribal communities, as well as staff to the Tribal Court-State Court Forum of California. She is multi-ethnic and descendant of the Chumash, Ohlone, Tarahumara and Zapotec tribes. She received her undergraduate degree in 1998 from San Diego State University with a major in Sociology and a minor in American Indian Studies. In 2000, she received a Master’s in Social Welfare from UC Berkeley specializing in Title IV-E/Public Child Welfare. Prior to 2005, Ms. Castaneda was a child protective services worker on the mental health specialized caseload and ICWA cases in San Francisco County.

Featured Speakers

Residential Schools & Congregate Care

Hon Brett Lee Shelton is a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwestern South Dakota, and a Senior Staff Attorney at the Native American Rights Fund. His work at NARF focusses on the Indigenous Peacemaking Initiative, Boarding School Healing work, and Sacred Places protection.

He received his law degree from Stanford University, and a Master of Arts from the University of Kansas. While at Stanford Law School, he was honored by the Foundation of the State Bar of California with an Exceptional Merit Award for Public Service Leadership, and he received the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Award and Scholarship, the John Milton Oskison award for best Native American graduate student paper, and was named Indian Graduate Student of the Year. He is currently licensed to practice law in various courts including California, Colorado, South Dakota, the Oglala Sioux Tribe, and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, as well as multiple United States federal courts

Murdered & Missing Indigenous Women & People

Annita Lucchesi serves as the founding Executive Director of Sovereign Bodies Institute. She is of Cheyenne descent and currently lives on her Cheyenne homelands in Montana. She is a survivor of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and trafficking. Outside her role at SBI, Annita is pursuing a PhD at the University of Arizona’s School of Geography, Development, & Environment, and is a Graduate Scholar at UA’s Collaboratory for Indigenous Data Governance.