Superior Court of California
County of Placer

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NEWS RELEASE

POSTED AND FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 13, 2026

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PLACER SUPERIOR COURT ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF NEW COURT COMMISSIONER

The Placer Superior Court is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Michelle R. Albright of Newcastle, California as the newest Court Commissioner, effective January 11, 2027. Ms. Albright fills a vacancy created by the departure of Commissioner Mariam Baxley in November 2026.

Ms. Albright joins the court with nearly 20 years of diverse legal experience, including 14 years representing family law litigants, most recently as Counsel at Murphy Austin LLP. In addition to her family law background, Ms. Albright has practiced tax law, labor and employment law, and criminal law, as an Attorney Supervisor at the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, an attorney with the California Department of Personnel Administration (now CalHR), a Deputy District Attorney at the Placer County District Attorney's Office, and in private practice. In addition to her legal practice, Ms. Albright is an adjunct professor at Lincoln Law School and UC Davis Law School. She is currently Chair of the Placer County Bar Association's Family Law Executive Committee, served on the Placer County Bar Association Board of Directors from 2016-2023, including holding the office of president, and has been a trustee on the Placer County Law Library Board since 2015.

"Ms. Michelle Albright's diverse experience in private practice and public service and across multiple case types makes her an excellent addition to the Placer County bench. We welcome her extensive family law knowledge, which will be immediately evident as she begins hearing cases in January 2027," said Presiding Judge Jeffrey Penney.

Ms. Albright was admitted to the State Bar of California in 2007. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication from the University of California, Santa Barbara and her Juris Doctorate, with Great Distinction, from the University of Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

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