



# *Superior Court of California County of Fresno*

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **NEW CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER APPOINTED BY SUPERIOR COURT**

**For More Information Contact:  
Sherry Spears, Media Coordinator (559) 488-3467**

Superior Court Presiding Judge Edward Sarkisian, Jr. today announced the appointment of Fresno County's new Chief Probation Officer. Linda M. Penner, currently serving as the Director of the Probation Department's Juvenile Division, will replace Chief Larry R. Price who will retire on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Probation Department provides services and programs for adult and juvenile offenders, operates the Juvenile Hall and the Elkhorn Juvenile Boot Camp, and provides probation services to the Superior Court. With a budget of approximately \$51,000,000, it has a staff of approximately 600 employees, including Probation Officers, Juvenile Counselors and other professional and support staff.

A graduate of San Joaquin Memorial High and Fresno State University, Ms. Penner has worked for the County Probation Department since 1977. Starting in the Victim/Witness program assisting victims of crime, she has worked in almost every area of the Department. Her assignments have included adult probation, sex offender supervision, and various juvenile related programs. She has been the Division Director of both the Adult and Juvenile Divisions of the Probation Department.

Judge Sarkisian stated, "Larry Price set the gold standard as Chief Probation Officer. Ms. Penner's wide breadth of experience in every facet of the Probation Department, and her long-standing ties to the Fresno County Justice System, will provide this critical department with a continuity of dynamic leadership and commitment to excellence established by Chief Price over the past nine years. With the opening next year of the new Juvenile Justice Campus currently under construction at American Avenue south of Fresno, the Probation Department will be entering a new era. Ms. Penner is superbly qualified to maintain the standard of excellence of an outstanding county department through the exciting times that lie ahead." Ms. Penner will assume the duties of the Chief Probation Officer on April 1, 2005.

**## end ##**