

Justice, California State Court of Appeal; District 4, Division 3

David Sills – Presiding Justice
Eileen Moore – Associate Justice
William Bedsworth

David Sills: Recommend

Judicial Index Average: 9

Activist - Constructionist Rating: Activist 60%; Constructionist 40%

Qualifications Rating: 9

Background

72 years old

Was Married to Maureen Reagan, the daughter of Ronald Reagan from 1964 to 1968

Lives in Irvine

Qualifications

1990 – Present – Presiding Justice, Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division Three (20)

1985 – 1990 – Superior Court Judge (5)

1976 – 1985 – Elected to the Irvine City Council for three terms and served as mayor for four years during this period

1965 – 1985 – Private law practice in Orange County (12)

BS, Bradley University (7)

LLB, University of Illinois College of Law, 1961 (7)

Active Duty, US Marine Corps, 1960, and 1962-1965, Reached rank of Captain

Judicial Philosophy

Appointed as Judge to California's Superior Court in 1985 by George Deukmejian (40)

Appointed to Court of Appeal in 1990 by George Deukmejian (40)

Member of Republican State Central Committee 1966 – 1968 (20)

Chairman of the Republican Associates of Orange County, 1968-1969 (13)

Wrote an Opinion in the late 1980s that it is illegal for the Santa Ana Police to strike (10)

Wrote an Opinion in the late 1980s that the City of Stanton had illegally tried to zone an adult book store out of business (50)

Challenged Nolan Frizelle (R-Huntington Beach) in the GOP Primary for State Assemblyman in 1982 but lost (15)

Often frames his opinions with rhetorical flourishes that place the dispute in a broader public policy context (35)

Rulings:

Ruled that employment decisions made on the basis of salary – even if they fall disproportionately on older workers – does not amount to age discrimination (15)

Ruled that a parent may not be denied custody of his child on the sole basis that he denies having molested her (15)

Shea v. DMV – Ruled that the agency could not use unsupervised trainees to analyze drunken drivers' blood-alcohol tests (15)

Marriage of Chandler – Argued that a trial judge should be allowed to require the establishment of a college trust fund as part of a child support order (13)

In Clark v. Superior Court, ruled that deadbeat parents sued for child support aren't entitled to taxpayer-financed lawyers (10)

Eileen Moore: Do not recommend

Judicial Index Average: 6

Activist - Constructionist Rating: Activist 67%; Constructionist 33%

Qualifications Rating: 8

Background

66 years old

Born and raised in Philadelphia

Lives in Long Beach

Qualifications

2000 – Present – Fourth District Court of Appeal, Division 3 (10)

1989 – 2000 – Orange County Superior Court (10)

1984 – 1989 – United States District Court, Central District of California (4)

BA, University of California, Irvine, 1975, Cum Laude (7)

JD, Pepperdine University School of Law, 1978 (7)

Masters of Laws in the Judicial Process, University of Virginia, 2004 (8)

Trial Judge of the Year in 1993 by Orange County Women Lawyers
Trial Judge of the Year in 2000 by Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles

Served as a combat nurse in Vietnam

Judicial Philosophy

Appointed to Fourth District Court of Appeal, Division Three by Gray Davis in 2000 (95)

Appointed to Orange County Superior Court in 1989 by George Deukmejian (40)

Said her training at Pepperdine School of Law provided her with the basic training of viewing a problem ethically and morally, not just legally. “Above all else, what I learned there was to rise above the technicalities of the legal system and to do what is fair and just, even when it is legal to do otherwise.” (90)

Says she became a judge in 1989 because, “After practicing law for 10 years, I thought it was time to practice public service again.” (75)

“As a judge, I hold sacred the oath I took to follow the Constitution, conscious of how important our system is to all of us.” (20)

In 2009, she sat in for Chief Justice Ronald M. George on the California Supreme Court to hear a class action suit against tobacco firms. The decision was 4-3 in favor of consumers, with Justice Moore voting in the majority (the liberal justices – with Moreno, Kennard, and Werdegar). The *Tobacco II* complaint alleged that the tobacco industry defendants violated the Unfair Competition Law by conducting a campaign of deceptive advertising and misleading statements about the addictive nature of nicotine, and the relationship between tobacco and disease (80)

William Bedsworth: Recommend

Judicial Index Average: 7

Activist - Constructionist Rating: Activist 51%; Constructionist 41%

Qualifications Rating: 8

Background

62 years old

Born in Long Beach and grew up in Gardena

Lives in Laguna Beach

Married with three children

Served as a National Hockey League Goal Judge for 15 years

Qualifications

1997 – Present – Fourth District Court of Appeal, Division 3 (13)
1986 – 1997 – Elected to an open seat on the Orange County Superior Court (10)
1971 – 1986 – Orange County District Attorney’s Office (11)

Bachelors, Loyola Univerisity, 1968, Cum Laude (8)
ED University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall), 1971 (9)

Has shown a knack for turning out crisp and clever opinions

Judicial Philosophy

Appointed to Fourth District Court of Appeal by Pete Wilson (80)

Has contributed to Pete Wilson’s gubernatorial campaign (80)

Considered to be one of the Justices with the best sense of humor – Writes a monthly column titled “Criminal Waste of Space” in the Orange County Lawyer Magazine – Coined the “Dave Barry of the Judiciary” (50)

He takes a no-nonsense approach, wraps it in a dry wit, and serves it up in a way that is clear, concise, and easy to apply out on the streets (50)

Rulings:

Exclusions of homosexuals from jury violates right to a jury drawn from the community (90)

Playground owners must protect children from errant automobiles (80)

No public policy prohibits firing based on fighting in self-defense (70)

Endorsed Craig Robison for California Superior Court Judge (Orange County) in 2006