N E W S   R E L E A S E

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NAPA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT ANNOUNCES NEW COURT COMMISSIONER

NAPA, CA—The Napa County Superior Court is pleased to announce the selection of local attorney Doug Skelton for the position of Court Commissioner. Mr. Skelton fills this critical vacancy, which primarily handles cases involving families and self-represented litigants, created when the Honorable Robert Stamps was elevated to the position of superior court judge earlier this summer.

Mr. Skelton has practiced criminal and juvenile defense law in Napa County since 2013. Beginning with the Napa County Public Defender's Office as a Deputy Public Defender, he has subsequently been in private practice for ten years. Mr. Skelton has been recognized as a Northern California Rising Star by Super Lawyers. Prior to pursuing his legal career, Mr. Skelton earned his Bachelor of Science degree from University of La Verne in 2009. In 2012, he achieved his Juris Doctorate at University of San Francisco School of Law.

"On behalf of the entire Napa bench, I'm thrilled to welcome Doug as our next Court Commissioner. He was the clear choice after a highly competitive recruitment process and his experience working in the Napa community will prove invaluable as he transitions from private practice to the public sector," said Presiding Judge Cynthia P. Smith. Mr. Skelton will take the bench in mid-September. "I'm truly honored the Napa judges chose me to take on this important role. This position is a dream for me, and I look forward to providing fair and impartial treatment to those appearing in my courtroom. It will be a sincere privilege to serve the people of Napa County and those who come to the court for resolution of their problems," said Mr. Skelton.

For any additional questions, please contact the Court Executive Office at 707-299-1100.