



## **Second Judicial District Court Judge Debra Ramirez Retired After More than a Decade on the Bench**

After more than a decade of dedicated service on the bench, Judge Debra Ramirez retired from the bench on December 30, 2024. Judge Ramirez began law school in 1980, when she became one of the first group of women admitted to the University of Oklahoma College of Law. After earning her degree, she practiced law in Colorado before making New Mexico her home in 1991.

Judge Ramirez had an accomplished and decorated career. She worked with the New Mexico Center for Civic Values, assisting with the New Mexico Violence Legal Help Line program and served as Special Commissioner in the Family Court Division of the Second Judicial District Court.

Judge Ramirez was honored by the State Bar Young Lawyers Division and was awarded the Young lawyer of the Year for her outstanding work with volunteers. In 2021, she was honored with the Domestic Violence Resource Center's 2021 Purple Ribbon Award. She was also awarded the Patriotic Employer Award for service to the Guard and Reserve by President Joe Biden. Judge Ramirez joined Second Judicial District Court as a Special Commissioner in 2009, and took the bench in 2014.

"It has been an honor to work with such incredible judges and staff over the years. I feel truly blessed to have had such a successful career," said Judge Ramirez. "I will certainly miss my time with the court."

"Judge Ramirez has been a treasure to our court," said Chief Judge Marie Ward. "Her wisdom, dedication, and compassion have positively impacted many, and she will be deeply missed."

***About the Second Judicial District Court:*** *The court is located in Bernalillo County in the State of New Mexico. There are 30 judges who hear cases in four divisions; civil, criminal, family and children's court. The Second Judicial District Court is a court of general jurisdiction which holds jury trials and handle cases in tort, contract, real property rights, estate, domestic relations, mental health, appeals from administrative agencies and lower courts, miscellaneous civil matters, criminal prosecutions, adoptions, child welfare, and juvenile delinquency.*