



Second Judicial District Court Judge Stan Whitaker Retired After More Than 18 Years on the Bench

After more than 18 years of service, Judge Stan Whitaker retired from the bench on December 20, 2024. Judge Whitaker was appointed to the Criminal Division of the Second Judicial District Court on July 7, 2006.

“I am truly honored to have had the opportunity to work alongside so many dedicated judges in this court and the hardworking employees who show up every day, putting in tremendous work to serve the public and support our judges,” said Judge Whitaker. “I appreciate the opportunity to have served the public and am grateful for all I have learned from my colleagues over the years.”

Judge Whitaker earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas and his law degree from the University of New Mexico. He began his career at a civil litigation firm before joining the District Attorney’s Office. Before becoming a district court judge, he served as a Domestic Violence Special Commissioner in the Family Court Division of the 2nd Judicial District Court and worked as an assistant United States Attorney with the U.S. Attorney’s Office. From 2018 to 2021, he served as Chief Judge of the Second Judicial District Court, where he provided strong leadership and successfully managed court operations during the Covid-19 pandemic.

"I am honored to have worked alongside Judge Whitaker," said Chief Judge Marie Ward. "His dedication to justice and service has been a true asset to this court. His leadership and commitment have made a lasting impact, and his service will be greatly 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.*