

Speaker Biography

Honorable Elizabeth D. LaPorte

Judicial Experience

Appointed April 4, 1998; reappointed 2006. Presides over civil cases for all purposes including trial, with the parties' consent, including patent, trademark, copyright and other business litigation, employment, civil rights and environmental cases. Conducts settlement conferences and resolves discovery disputes. Conducts initial proceedings in felony matters and misdemeanor trials.

Administrative Law Judge for the California Department of Insurance (1991-1996). Unanimously affirmed by the California Supreme Court. 20th Century Ins. Co. v. Garamendi, 8 Cal. 4th 216 (1994).

Legal Experience

San Francisco City Attorney's Office (1996-1998); Chief of Special Litigation Turner & Brorby (1983-1991); Partner, and previously associate. Varied civil trial practice, with some appellate practice.

Law Clerk to Honorable Marilyn Hall Patel, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California (1982-83)

Education

J.D., Yale Law School (1982); M.A. in Politics and Economics, St. Anne's College, Oxford, England (1977); B.A., Princeton University (1975)

Awards

Named a Lawyer of the Year by *California Lawyer* 1996; Marshall Scholar (1976-1977)

Activities, Publications, and Public Speaking

Serves on the Board of Governors, Association of Business Trial Lawyers, Northern California Chapter; the Executive Committee of the Litigation Section of the Bar Association of San Francisco; and the Jury Trial Improvement Committee of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; Former Chair, Ninth Circuit Executive Board of Magistrate Judges.

Author of "Managing the Runaway Patent Case" in the Summer 2003 issue of the *Northern California ABTL Report*; contributor to forthcoming *California Civil Discovery Practice* (CEB 4th ed.).

Regularly speaks and participates in panels concerning various litigation and settlement topics, including most recently: Perspectives on Patent Law and Innovation, a Federal Circuit Bar Association event (2005); the Advanced Forum on Document Retention and E-discovery (2005); the Thirtieth Annual Intellectual Property Institute for the State Bar of California (2005); the 2005 Advanced Patent Law Institute; and Settling Patent Disputes at Association of Corporate Patent Counsel meeting (February 2006). Also presided over mock patent trial and pretrial proceedings at a November 2004 seminar in Tokyo.