PRESS RELEASE
August 6, 2019

The United States District Court for the Southern District of California is pleased to announce the appointment of Magistrate Judge Allison H. Goddard to the Court. Judge Goddard will fill the position left vacant when Judge Nita L. Stormes retired. Chief Judge Larry Alan Burns administered the oath of office to Judge Goddard on Thursday, August 1, 2019.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Goddard was a civil litigator for 19 years, focusing on business disputes, class actions, and intellectual property disputes. She has served as class counsel in seventeen cases, including three class actions that went to trial. She has successfully argued multiple appeals, including two appeals before the California Supreme Court. As a civil litigator, she represented a wide variety of clients, from individual consumers and employees to Fortune 500 companies.

Judge Goddard is an active member of the legal community. She was President of the San Diego Chapter of the Federal Bar Association in 2009, and served as a Lawyer Representative for the Southern District of California from 2011 to 2013. She is a Master of the Louis M. Welsh Inn of Court, and coaches a high school mock trial team in the County of San Diego’s annual Mock Trial competition. She was included on the Daily Journal’s Annual List of Leading Women Lawyers
in California in 2018, and received an Outstanding Trial Lawyer Award from Consumer Attorneys of San Diego in 2017.

Judge Goddard was born in Nashville, Tennessee, and moved to San Diego in 1994. She graduated from Boston College in 1993, and from the University of San Diego School of Law in 2000.