



# news

Colorado Judicial Branch  
Michael L. Bender, Chief Justice  
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## **Martinez appointed as Second Judicial District Chief Judge**

DENVER – Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael L. Bender announced today that he has appointed District Court Judge Michael A. Martinez as the new chief judge for the second judicial district (Denver County).

Judge Martinez replaces retiring Chief Judge Robert S. Hyatt, who was appointed to the Denver District Court bench in 1987 and served as a Denver County Court Judge from 1984 to 1987. The appointment is effective Jan. 10, 2014, when Chief Judge Hyatt steps down from the bench.

“I would like to thank Chief Judge Hyatt for his dedication to the Judicial Branch and for his years of service; he will be missed,” Chief Justice Bender said. “I am pleased to appoint Judge Martinez to this role. I am confident he has the experience and skills necessary to be an effective leader for the Denver District Court.”

Judge Martinez was appointed to Denver District Court in September 2000. He has worked in all divisions of the Court, including civil, criminal and domestic relations. Currently, Judge Martinez serves as the Presiding Judge of the Civil Division.

Prior to his appointment to the Denver District Court, Judge Martinez served as a Magistrate in the 17th Judicial District (Adams and Broomfield Counties) and in the Denver County Court. In his legal career, he worked as a trial lawyer in the public and private sectors, holding positions with the Denver City Attorney's Office, the Regional Transportation District and in private practice.

Judge Martinez received his B.A. from the University of Colorado, and his J.D. from the University of Denver College of Law. He is also active in the community, having served on numerous boards, committees and commissions.

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