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Office of Gov. John Hickenlooper

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Gov. Hickenlooper appoints Barbara Zollars as Rio Grande County Court judge in 12th Judicial District

DENVER — Thursday, Aug. 13, 2015 — Gov. John Hickenlooper today announced the appointment of Barbara Zollars as Rio Grande County Court judge in the 12th Judicial District (Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande and Saguache Counties). She will fill the vacancy created by the appointment of the Honorable Patrick H. Hayes, Jr. to the District Court bench in the 12th Judicial District.

Ms. Zollars is a partner at The San Luis Valley Law Firm. She specializes in criminal defense and some of her practice consists of civil matters such as civil protection orders, civil litigation, landlord-tenant, and administrative hearings. Previously, Ms. Zollars was the Office Head for the Colorado State Public Defender regional offices in Alamosa (2002-2008), Fort Collins (1996-2002), and Silverthorne (1993-1996) and was a Deputy Colorado State Public Defender in the regional offices of Greeley (1990-1993) and La Junta (1988-1990). Ms. Zollars also worked as an Assistant County Attorney for Boulder County from 1987 to 1988. Prior to moving to Colorado, Ms. Zollars was the founder and director of the Legal Action Center at the Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle (1980-1986) and was an employment rights commissioner for the City of Seattle (1982-1985). Ms. Zollars earned her undergraduate degree from Seattle University and her Juris Doctor from the Seattle University School of Law.

The appointment is effective immediately.

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