



COLORADO

Gov. John Hickenlooper

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Office of Gov. John Hickenlooper

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Gov. Hickenlooper appoints judges to the 3rd Judicial District Court, Las Animas County Court, and Pueblo County Court

DENVER – Friday, Sept. 14, 2018 – Gov. John Hickenlooper today appointed John C. McKisson III as a district court judge to serve in the 3rd Judicial District Court. McKisson fills a vacancy occasioned by the retirement of the Honorable Claude W. Appel.

McKisson is a County Court Judge in Huerfano County, a position he has held since 2017. His docket is comprised of criminal, traffic, and civil cases. Previously, he was a probation officer with the 3rd Judicial District Probation Department (2013-2016); an Assistant District Attorney and the Huerfano County Office Head for the District Attorney's Office in the 3rd Judicial District (2010-2013); an Administrative Assistant for the Office of the Independent Medical Monitor in Jackson, Michigan (2008-2009); and an attorney with the Law Office of J. Clay McKisson PLLC in DeWitt, Michigan (2006-2008). McKisson earned his B.S. from Ohio University in 2000 and his J.D. from Thomas Cooley Law School in 2005.

McKisson's appointment is effective Jan. 8, 2019.

Also today, Gov. Hickenlooper appointed John D. Mochel as a judge on the Las Animas County Court in the 3rd Judicial District. Mochel fills a vacancy occasioned by the retirement of the Honorable Bruce Billings.

Mochel currently serves as an Assistant General Counsel at DaVita Incorporated, a position he has held since 2017. His practice consists primarily of litigation, contract law, and healthcare law. Previously, he served as an Associate General Counsel at Orthofix Incorporated, (2014-2017); a Legal Compliance Officer at Aetna (2014); a U.S. Marine Corps Judge Advocate (2010-2014); and a Pro Bono Attorney at Steptoe & Johnson PLLC (2009-2010). Mochel earned his B.B.A. from Baylor University in 1999, his J.D. from West Virginia University Law School in 2010, his L.L.M. from George Washington University Law School in 2011, and his M.B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2015.

Mochel's appointment is effective Jan. 8, 2019.

The governor also appointed Roberto A. Silva to the Pueblo County Court in the 10th Judicial District. Silva fills a vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Honorable Valerie Haynes.

Silva currently serves as the Managing Attorney of the Colorado Legal Services Pueblo Office, a position he has held since 1999. Silva represents clients in protection order, divorce, child custody, consumer collections, and housing cases. Previously, he worked as an attorney with Pikes Peak Arkansas River Legal Aid (1998-1999); a Deputy District Attorney with the 16th Judicial District Attorney's Office (1996-1998); a Staff Attorney with Pueblo County Legal Services (1994-1996); and a New Account Representative with Janus Funds (1992-1994). Silva earned his B.S. from the University of Texas El Paso in 1977 and his J.D. from Cornell University in 1992.

Silva's appointment is effective immediately.