



COLORADO
Gov. John Hickenlooper

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Gov. Hickenlooper appoints new justice to Colorado Supreme Court

DENVER — Wednesday, May 30, 2018 — Gov. John Hickenlooper today announced the appointment of Carlos Armando Samour, Jr. to the Colorado Supreme Court. Samour fills a vacancy created by the retirement of the Honorable Chief Justice Nancy E. Rice.

“Judge Samour complements Colorado’s Supreme Court both professionally and personally. He has presided over some of Colorado’s highest profile cases in recent history and has distinguished himself, without exception, as being fair and impartial regardless of the magnitude of the case,” said Governor John Hickenlooper. “He has been educated completely in Colorado having attended Columbine High School, University of Colorado Denver and University of Denver’s law school. And of course he is a lifelong Broncos fan.”

Judge Samour is currently the Chief District Court Judge in Colorado’s 18th Judicial District. He has been Chief Judge since 2014 and a District Court Judge since 2007. He has presided over civil, criminal, domestic relations, dependency and neglect, and juvenile cases including the James Holmes trial and Lima Marin court proceedings.

Prior to his service on the 18th Judicial District Court bench, Judge Samour was a Deputy District Attorney in the Denver District Attorney’s Office (1996-2006); an Adjunct Professor at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law (2002); an associate at Holland & Hart LLP (1991-1996); and a Law Clerk for Judge Robert H. McWilliams, Jr., United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (1990-1991). Judge Samour earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado Denver in 1987 and his Juris Doctor from the University of Denver College of Law in 1990.

Samour’s term is effective July 2, 2018. He was appointed from a pool of exceptional judicial candidates that included Judges Maria Encarnacion Berkenkotter, former Chief Judge of the Twentieth Judicial District and Karen Brody, District Judge in the Second Judicial District. This is Gov. Hickenlooper’s fifth appointment to the Colorado Supreme Court.

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