



# State of New Mexico

## *Office of the Governor*

**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

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### **Governor Bill Richardson Appoints New District Court Judges**

SANTA FE - Governor Bill Richardson today announced the appointment of 4 new judges to serve various counties in New Mexico. Two judges will serve in new positions that Governor Richardson, working with the Legislature, created during the recent legislative session to deal with heavy DWI and domestic violence caseloads in the state's busiest courts.

"I am proud to appoint qualified and committed people to the bench in order to uphold the law and help move New Mexico forward," said Governor Bill Richardson

Governor Richardson has made the following appointments:

**Kenneth H. Martinez**  
**Second Judicial District Court (Bernalillo County)**

Kenneth H. Martinez, a graduate of Manzano High School in Albuquerque, received his J. D. from the University of New Mexico. He worked as Assistant District Attorney in the Eleventh and Second Judicial Districts and later as Deputy District Attorney supervising the Violent Crimes Division in Bernalillo County. For the past 12 years, Martinez has worked in private practice, specializing in criminal defense work and civil litigation.

"Through his experience as a prosecutor and as a defense attorney, Kenneth Martinez has a unique set of skills that will serve the public well on the bench," said Governor Richardson.

Martinez's seat on the district court begins this month, which is when the law authorizing eight judgeships becomes effective.

**James Thomas Martin**  
**Third Judicial District Court (Dona Ana County)**

After graduating from the New Mexico Military Institute, James Thomas Martin went on to receive a bachelors degree in Business from New Mexico State University and a law degree from the University of New Mexico. Martin has served as Branch Chief for the U.S. Attorney's Office since 1991. From 1981-1987, he served as Sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve.

"James T. Martin possesses the intelligence, integrity and dedication to his community that will serve him well as a judge," said Governor Bill Richardson.

Martin replaces Judge Grace Duran, who resigned in late May.

**Matthew G. Reynolds**  
**Seventh Judicial District Court (Catron, Torrance, Sierra, & Socorro Counties)**

Matthew Reynolds has worked as a solo practitioner in Truth or Consequences since October 1992. He has also served as an associate for Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe in Anchorage and Assistant District Attorney in Kodiak, Alaska. Reynolds holds a law degree with honors from the University of Wyoming, a masters degree in Theology and a bachelors degree in Classical Languages from the University of Notre Dame.

"Matthew Reynolds has shown humanitarianism and passion for his profession. He will make a valuable addition to the bench," said Governor Richardson.

Reynolds replaces Judge Thomas Fitch, who resigned in April.

**Robert S. Orlik**  
**Ninth Judicial District Court (Curry, Roosevelt Counties)**

Robert Orlik, a resident of Clovis, has worked in private practice since 1978. He also served the Ninth Judicial District as Chief Public Defender from 1977-1978 and as Judge Advocate General for the United States Air Force. Orlik is a graduate of Rutgers University School of Law in Camden, New Jersey and received his bachelors degree from Rutgers College.

"As a leader in the business community, Robert Orlik displays a sense of fairness and compassion. I am confident he will handle his new responsibilities with the utmost respect for justice," said Governor Richardson.

Orlik begins as district court judge this month, under the new law that created this position.