



HON. CYNTHIA LOO is a Commissioner for the Superior Court of California, County of Mariposa and presides over family law, child support and domestic violence matters. From 2000-2013 she was a jurist with the Los Angeles County Superior Court and heard primarily juvenile and family law matters.

In January 2005 she received the "Outstanding Judicial Officer of the Year" award from the LA County Juvenile Court's Bar Association. On April 26, 2008, the *Los Angeles Times* noted "she earns high marks from attorneys on all sides for her handling of juvenile cases ... Loo is an asset to juvenile court, an assignment that ought to be highly sought but seldom is."

Cynthia is a 1990 graduate of the University of Southern California School of Law. While in law school, Cynthia was a legal intern at AYUDA, a non-profit agency assisting low-income individuals in juvenile, family law, immigration, domestic violence and unlawful detainer matters. She was an intern and research attorney for the late U.S. District Court Judge Edward Rafeedie, as well as a law clerk at the ACLU and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

She worked from 1991-1999 at the Children's Law Center of Los Angeles representing abused children. Prior to her judicial duties as a referee, she volunteered with the Legal Aid Foundation of LA's Unlawful Detainer Equal Access Project as well as the LA County Superior Court / LA County Bar Association's Domestic Violence Project, where she returned to volunteer in 2013.

Cynthia was an adjunct law professor at the Peoples College of Law (PCL) from 2005 to 2013 where she has taught criminal procedure, juvenile law, family law and evidence. PCL is a non-profit law school that trains socially conscious community lawyers and was opened in part to give those historically denied access to legal training, such as working people, women, and people of color, an opportunity to go to law school. Tuition is affordable because the professors donate their salaries back to the law school.

She received a "Teachers Making A Difference Award" at the 2011 Cherry Blossom Festival and a "Community Leadership Award" by the Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center. Cynthia was bestowed the "Youth Advocacy Award" at the 2012 Annual Stonewall Hero Awards, and honored in 2013 for her leadership, empowerment and intervention of misguided youth by the Nu Alpha Delta Multi-Cultural Sorority. On February 28, 2014, Cynthia was honored with the 2014 Public Service Award from the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Los Angeles County.

Cynthia is currently the Chair of the State Bar's influential Council on Access and Fairness and the immediate past chair of its Judicial Committee. She is co-chair of the Multicultural Bar Alliance - the approximately 19 women and minority bars in the LA area, and President of the Asian Pacific American Women Lawyers Alliance.

She has spoken to numerous community groups such as the Altadena NAACP, Asian Pacific Women's Center, East LA Parent Project, Antelope Valley Coalition Against Injustice, Western Justice Center Foundation, Asian Youth Center, St. Peter Armenian Church Youth Ministries, Rotary Club, Power of Love Christian Fellowship, OUTLaw, Los Angeles Chinese-American Sheriff Advisory Committee, and the Los Angeles County Department of Probation. She has spoken regarding juvenile law, domestic violence, gang violence, "Three Strikes" Law, elimination of bias and diversity in the legal profession.

Cynthia has been requested to submit articles to publications such as *Gavel to Gavel*, LA County Superior Court's judicial magazine; *The Bench*, official magazine of the California Judge's Association; *Valley Lawyer*, official publication of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association; *Los Angeles Lawyer*, the magazine of the LA County; *CWL News*, a publication of California Women Lawyers; and *Citations*, official magazine of the Ventura County Bar Association.

Cynthia was appointed to the Superior Court in 2000 and initially was assigned to hear family law and juvenile matters. On April 13, 2006, the *Daily Journal* noted "[H]er sensitivity to the community's needs slowly won people over, lawyers said. 'They embraced her for her compassion and judicial nature ... She wasn't just a person who comes out of the back room and disappears and is not responsive to the community.'"

From 2005-2013 she presided over juvenile cases in the Eastlake Juvenile Courthouse in East Los Angeles. In an article in which she was profiled in *LA Youth*, it concluded, "One day in one court isn't enough for me to understand the whole court system, but by the time we left, I had learned a lot about the mercy a judge can have. Judge Loo wasn't only fair; she was respectful, and she wanted to help teenagers live meaningful lives."