Inslee appoints new judge to Pierce County Superior Court bench

By Alexis Krell

The News Tribune

May 07, 2020 01:43 PM, Updated May 07, 2020 02:42 PM

Gov. Jay Inslee appointed Lakewood Municipal Court Judge Susan Adams to the Pierce County Superior Court bench Thursday.

Adams replaces Judge G. Helen Whitener, whom Inslee appointed as a state Supreme Court justice last month.

Adams graduated from the University of Puget Sound School of Law. She has been Lakewood’s Municipal Court judge since 2017.

She also worked as a deputy prosecutor for Pierce County from 1991 to 2005 and as the founding director of the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center from 2005 to 2017.

“Susan has the experience to step onto the court and be ready on day one,” Inslee said in a press release. “She already has judicial experience, and her other professional leadership experience will be of great benefit to the Pierce County bench.”

Adams is part of the Clover Park Rotary in Lakewood and has served on the board of St. Francis House in Puyallup.

She received the Women of Influence Award from the Tacoma Business Examiner in 2015.

Adams is the third Pierce County Superior Court judge Inslee has appointed in the past two months. There are 22 judges on the bench.
Lakewood Municipal Court Judge Susan Adams has been appointed to the Pierce County Superior Court bench. Lakewood Municipal Court Courtesy

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Alexis Krell covers local, state and federal court cases that affect Pierce County. She started covering courts in 2016. Before that she wrote about crime and breaking news for almost four years as The News Tribune’s night reporter.

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