



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **GOVERNOR APPOINTS BARBARA BUCHANAN TO FIRST DISTRICT COURT**

(BOISE) – Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter announced the appointment today of Bonner County Magistrate **Barbara Buchanan** to succeed First District Judge Steve Verby.

Judge Verby is transitioning to senior status on the district bench this month.

Buchanan, 54, of Sandpoint, is the first woman appointed to a judgeship in the First Judicial District. She was among four nominees whose names were submitted to Governor Otter by the Idaho Judicial Council.

Buchanan, who has served 18 years as a magistrate, is a Moscow native who received her bachelor's and law degrees at the University of Idaho. She and her husband Richard have two daughters and a foster daughter.

Judge Buchanan said she looks forward to serving as the only district judge for Bonner and Boundary counties.

"The Idaho court system is in a period of change. We are embarking on an innovative new program to deliver justice more quickly, efficiently and effectively," she said in applying for the position. "I am excited to be part of that process."

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