Hon. Susan M. Breall Judge of the Superior Court of California City and County of San Francisco



Susan M. Breall is a judge in the Superior Court for the City and County of San Francisco. Currently, she presides over dependency matters in the Unified Family Court. She has been a Superior Court Judge for 19 years.

Prior to her assignment to the dependency court, Judge Breall presided over a juvenile delinquency court for three years. She also previously ran San Francisco's domestic violence court. As part of her juvenile delinquency assignment, she created the first Girls Court in San Francisco. This court handles all delinquency cases involving girls who are at risk of sexual exploitation and trafficking.

In 2006, Judge Breall was appointed by Chief Justice Ronald George to the California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery Task Force. In 2011, she was invited by Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to participate and speak at the 2011 international Human Trafficking Summit, which Justice O'Connor hosted at Arizona State University.

Since 2017, Judge Breall has been the Co-Chair of the San Francisco Collaborative Against Human Trafficking, a coalition of over 50 government and law enforcement agencies, non-profit organizations and faith-based groups committed to ending modern-day slavery. She has been faculty on several national judicial trainings on human trafficking that were sponsored by the National Center for Juvenile and Family Court judges, Rights 4 Girls, and the U.S. Department of Justice.

Judge Breall's previous assignments have included presiding over both adult and juvenile drug court, felony settlement court, long cause preliminary hearings, and serious adult criminal jury trials. Prior to her appointment to the bench in 2001, she was Chief of the Criminal Division of the San Francisco district Attorney's Office for all crimes of violence against women, children, elderly and intimate partners.

Judge Breall has done numerous trainings for police and prosecutors throughout the United States. In 1997 she was invited to the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina where she conducted domestic violence trainings for the Federation of Bosnian Judges on police investigations, interview techniques and evidence gathering for domestic violence cases. In 1998, she conducted trainings for all the police officers in the United States Virgin Islands on legal issues affecting battered immigrant women.