

*(Sent on behalf of Los Angeles Superior Court Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile)*

Dear Colleagues,

It is with immense regret that I must sadly advise you that we lost our colleague and good friend Commissioner Matthew St. George, who passed away on Friday, April 19, 2019. Matt will be deeply and profoundly missed by those of us who knew him and valued his kindness, caring and friendship.

Commissioner St. George had been a commissioner of our Court since 2009. He sat at the Alhambra courthouse, Stanley Mosk and then in Santa Monica, where he presided over arraignments, traffic infractions, unlawful detainer, family law cases and most recently in a small claims court assignment. He was a gifted and extremely talented commissioner and lawyer, who was a beloved friend to many of us.

Matt had an amazing and distinguished legal career. Before joining the Court, he was in the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office for 24 years. He served as a supervisor in both the Civil and Criminal branches of the City Attorney's Office. He was an associate at the Law Offices of Jay Kohon for four years and Harris & Donovan for one year. Commissioner St. George held a B.A. cum laude from the University of Notre Dame and a M.A. cum laude from the University of Southern California, and he was on the Dean's List when he received his J.D. from Loyola Law School.

Matt founded the Gay and Lesbian student group at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, and he was one of the early leaders of Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR), now the Los Angeles LGBT Bar Association. He was active with the International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges, including working on the updated incorporation. He was also active with the Los Angeles County Bar Association and the State Bar of California where he served as the Chair of the State Bar Conference of Delegates. He also served as the President of the California Court Commissioners Association, and he served as the Secretary/Treasurer of the California Judges Association.

On a personal note, Matt was always a mentor to me and many others for many years and I remember fondly how he taught me how to do Name Change Petitions and how to post tentative rulings on the Court's website. He was always patient and understanding, and he showed great humility.

Once details about services for Matt are available, I will send a courtwide notification via email.

Please join me in expressions of heartfelt condolences to Matt's husband, Roy Williams, and their families. Furthermore, please keep Matt and his family in your thoughts and prayers in this time of sorrow and grief.

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 (Metropolitan News)

## Commissioner Matthew St. George Jr., 70, Former Bar Leader, Dies

By a MetNews Staff Writer

Services are pending for Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner Matthew St. George Jr., who died Friday of cancer at age 70.

St. George was hired by a vote of the judges of the court in 2009. He was previously a deputy Los Angeles city attorney for 24 years—serving as first vice president of the Los Angeles City Attorneys Association in 2008—and was in private practice for four years before becoming a public lawyer.

In 1999, St. George chaired the State Bar Conference of Delegates (now, the California Conference of Bar Associations). Over a period of several years, he was a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's delegation to the conference.

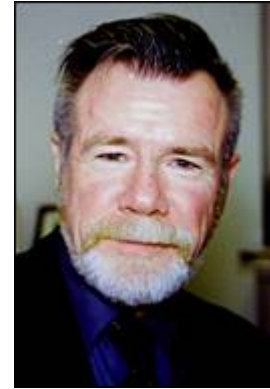
He was the primary proponent in 2006 of a resolution urging adoption of a measure, as the 28th Amendment to the United States Constitution, reading: "All persons shall have an inalienable right to privacy in their person and their property and shall not be deprived of this right without due process of law." St. George in 2004 championed a resolution in favor of California recognizing same-sex marriages.

It was widely anticipated in 2002 that St. George—who was the establishment-backed candidate, and then a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association Board of Trustees—would be elected to the State Bar Board of Governors (now called the Board of Trustees). He was defeated by an outsider, then-Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney Steven J. Ipsen, by the slim margin of 3,082 to 3,055.

St. George was president of the California Court Commissioners Association in 2013 and was secretary/treasurer of the California Judges Association in 2017-18.

While at Loyola, from which he received his law degree in 1979, St. George founded the Gay and Lesbian student group; was a president of Los Angeles Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR), now the Los Angeles LGBT Bar Association; and was active in the International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges.

He is survived by his husband, Roy Williams, and family members.



**MATTHEW ST.  
GEORGE**  
1948-2019