



Hon. Parlen L. McKenna

Administrative Law Judge
Alameda, California

Department of Homeland Security
United States Coast Guard



Judge McKenna is the senior active Administrative Law Judge for the United States Coast Guard. He has been in the Coast Guard's Administrative Law Judge Program since 1990. He was the Acting Chief Administrative Law Judge from January 2012 to June 2013. Coast Guard Administrative Law Judges hear and decide Merchant Mariner Credential Suspension and Revocation cases, as well as cases initiated by Department of Homeland Security components and other agencies the Coast Guard supports.

He is a graduate of California State University at Sonoma, and the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. Judge McKenna was admitted to practice in California and New Mexico, as well as U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of California and New Mexico.

Judge McKenna has held a number of high level positions in both government and private industry throughout his career. These include: corporate trial counsel, Hughes Airwest; Chief Counsel-International, Civil Aeronautics Board; Vice President and General Counsel, Pacific Express Airline Holding Company; AT&T corporate trial counsel; Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Department of Labor; Chief Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Department of the Interior; and, Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Coast Guard.

Judge McKenna has held a number of important positions in the American Bar Association including Conference Chairman, Judicial Division; Secretary, Judicial Division; Chairman, Ethics Committee; and numerous other committee chairman positions over the years. Judge McKenna has also served as an appointed member of the Administrative Conference of the United States. As the Acting Chief Administrative Law Judge for the Coast Guard, Judge McKenna is one of two (primary and alternate) voting Agency Executive Committee members of the Federal Administrative Law Judge Conference (FALJC).

The American Bar Association awarded Judge McKenna the first Certificate of Highest Honor and Distinction for "Outstanding Leadership and Invaluable Service which have Enhanced both the Conference and the Administrative Judiciary."