

# Flanagan wins seat in judicial contest

BY MARTHA BELLISLE

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Reno lawyer Patrick Flanagan succeeded in unseating Washoe District Judge Bridget Robb Peck on Tuesday for a post he had sought since it first became open with the retirement of Judge Peter Breen.

Peck was appointed by Gov. Kenny Guinn in May to replace Breen, and Flanagan was one of three lawyers nominated to Guinn by a judicial selection

committee.



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Patrick Flanagan

Flanagan could not be reached late Tuesday, but Peck said she conceded the race.

"I'm a little surprised," she said. "But Pat's a good candidate. He apparently had a message that the voters liked."

"In these races, all you can do is work as hard as you can, which I did, and run a clean race, which I'm proud of," she added. "For me, this was a no-lose situation. If I did not succeed in the race, I could still go back to a job that I love."

Flanagan ran on his experience handling both criminal and civil cases. He said he had served at every level of the court system, from traffic violations to death penalty cases at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Peck said her strong point was complex civil cases.

She said she hoped to help the court with its growing civil caseload.

Flanagan, a former president of the Washoe County Bar Association, State Bar of Nevada and Washoe Legal Services, said the experience taught him to be a strong leader, something the Washoe District court needs.

District court judges serve for six-year terms and earn \$130,000 annually.