

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE BOARD 2415 1ST AVENUE, MS L242 SACRAMENTO, CA 95818 LEGAL: *NMVB@NMVB.CA.GOV* MEDIATION: *NMVBMEDIATION@NMVB.CA.GOV* WEBSITE: *WWW.NMVB.CA.GOV* MEMBERS: ARDASHES KASSAKHIAN, President JACOB STEVENS, Vice-President ANNE SMITH BOLAND ASHLEY DENA KATHRYN E. DOI BISMARCK OBANDO BRADY SCHMIDT



New Motor Vehicle Board Public Notice

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Administrative Law Judge Merilyn Wong. Judge Wong proudly served the Board for over 40 years, in various capacities as a Hearing Officer and Administrative Law Judge presiding over merits hearings and mandatory settlement conferences.

Judge Wong was an exceptionally conscientious, caring and thoughtful friend to her colleagues, and dutiful public servant to the people of California. Judge Wong often spoke of the Board's tremendous value to the industry and, ultimately, the motorists served by the industry participants who appeared before her. She took her role to heart, and compelled fair and efficient resolutions between parties through a powerful command of her settlement conferences. She thrived in this role, and served as the Board's designated Mandatory Settlement Conference Administrative Law Judge during her final years.

Through her decades of service, Judge Merilyn Wong earned a reputation as a kind, thoughtful, and extraordinarily effective hearing officer and mediator. Even if one might disagree with her position on a particular issue there was never any doubt as to whether she fully listened, endeavored to understand, and truly and deeply cared about her role, and this Board's work.

The Board and staff offer their heartfelt condolences to Judge Wong's family, friends, and colleagues. We will carry on in her honor the best way we can by respecting the Board and valuing its mission the way Judge Wong always did and strive to match the care she put into her work, knowing that we each have the power to make a positive difference.

At this time, no additional information is known concerning a memorial. If you have any questions, please contact the staff at (916) 445-1888 or <u>nmvb@nmvb.ca.gov</u>.