

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 22, 2025

**The Honorable Jessie R. Benavides Joins The Court of Chancery
as Magistrate In Chancery**

On September 22, 2025, the Honorable Jessie R. Benavides joined the Court of Chancery as Magistrate in Chancery. Although Magistrate Benavides plans to handle cases throughout the State of Delaware, her chambers will be located in the Kent County Courthouse in Dover, Delaware.

Magistrate Benavides is a Delaware resident and a graduate of Bayard Rustin High School in West Chester, Pennsylvania. She earned her undergraduate degree from McGill University and her law degree from Temple University, Beasley School of Law. After law school, Magistrate Benavides was a law clerk at the Delaware Department of Justice, completed an externship with the Honorable Paul R. Wallace of the Superior Court in New Castle County, and clerked for the Honorable James G. McGiffin, Jr. of the Family Court in Kent County.

Prior to joining the bench, Magistrate Benavides represented clients in a wide range of matters including family law, estate planning and administration, estate litigation, adult guardianships, personal injury, and other civil litigation matters. She also served as an attorney *ad litem* in multiple matters before the Court of Chancery. Magistrate Benavides has litigated matters in the Court of Chancery, Superior Court, Family Court, and the Justice of the Peace Court.

Magistrate Benavides is actively involved in the legal community. She is a member of the Delaware State Bar Association and previously served as Vice President for the Solo & Small Firms Section in Kent County. She also serves on the Commission on Continuing Legal Education and is a member of the Kent County and Sussex County Bar Associations, the Woman and the Law Section, and the Family Law Section. Magistrate Benavides is fluent in both written and spoken Spanish.

Magistrate Benavides occupies one of two newly funded Magistrate in Chancery positions designed to aid the court in its increasing workload.

“None can top Magistrate Benavides’ experience helping Delaware residents navigate the legal system during extraordinarily stressful moments in their lives. That skill and her knowledge generally will be an immediate asset to those who appear before our Magistrate Judges,” said Chancellor Kathaleen St. J. McCormick.