



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2017

17:033

CONTACT: Jon Hanian  
(208) 334-2100

### GOVERNOR APPOINTS VETERAN NATURAL RESOURCES LAWYER TO FOURTH DISTRICT BENCH

(BOISE) - Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter announced the appointment today of Boise attorney Peter Barton to the Fourth District Court vacancy left by the recent retirement of Judge Patrick Owen.

Barton, 48, has been a partner in the Boise law firm Givens Pursley LLP since 2011, focusing on environmental, mining, agribusiness and natural resources law, and on government regulations and administrative law.

"Peter clearly is a brilliant and accomplished litigator with a passion for the law and how it impacts people's lives," Governor Otter said. "His extensive knowledge and deep understanding of so many issues that are important to Idaho's economy and way of life, and that matter to our citizens, will make him a great addition to the Fourth District bench."

Barton, a Boston native, has a bachelor's degree in civil and environmental engineering from Duke University and a law degree from Harvard. Before joining Givens Pursley as an associate in 2006, he was an associate with a Washington, D.C., law firm, and clerked for U.S. District Judge Peter Dorsey in Connecticut. He previously worked at a Chicago-area civil and environmental engineering consulting firm.

"Environmental law at its root is the law about how people can live close together and share limited resources. As Idaho's population increases and as technology and science grows more complex, I want to use my environmental law, regulatory, and technology skills to help," Barton wrote in applying to succeed Judge Owen. "I became an engineer to join a profession that helps people and helps to build a better world. I became a lawyer for the same reason. I want to be a judge for the same reason."

Barton and his wife Laura have three sons and a daughter.