

Previous presidents of the High Court of Catalonia:

1989-1994 JOSÉ ANTONIO SOMALO GIMÉNEZ

Born in Madrid on 12 May 1929. Entered the judicial profession in 1957 and served as a judge in Castile, Catalonia and Majorca. Somalo was a labour magistrate in Barcelona in 1966. In 1988 he was appointed magistrate of the Supreme Court and president of the Territorial Court of Barcelona. He was the first president of the High Court of Barcelona, from 1989 until 1994 when he joined the 4th Chamber of the Supreme Court, which deals with labour and social security matters. Since 2000 he has served as counsel for Cajas de Ahorros Catalanas.

1994-2004 GUILLEM VIDAL ANDREU

Guillem Vidal i Andreu was born in Palma de Mallorca on 29 October 1941. In 1960 he moved to Barcelona to study law. In 1965 he became a judge after successfully sitting a competitive examination, thereby continuing the family tradition, as his father was also a magistrate. His first posting was in Mahón, where he remained for three years. In 1970 he was assigned to Sabadell, where he served for nine years. In 1979 he returned to Palma de Mallorca, serving first on the 3rd Examining Court and later on the Court of Palma. In 1987 he was appointed president of the Court of Palma and was president of the High Court of Catalonia for 10 years (1994 – 2004). He died in Palma de Mallorca on 23 March 2007.

2004-2010 M^a EUGÈNIA ALEGRET BURGUÉS

Magistrate Eugènia Alegret Burgués was born in Barcelona on 22 March 1956. She earned law degree in 1978 from the Universidad de Barcelona and entered the judicial profession by sitting a competitive examination in 1980. She served as a judge in Lorca, Fraga and Sant Feliu de Llobregat. In 1983 she rose to the rank of magistrate and worked in Baracaldo, Terrassa and on the 8th First Instance Court of Barcelona. In 1991 she began to serve on the Court of Barcelona and was president of one of its civil sections. In September 2004 she was chosen president of the High Court of Catalonia, becoming the first woman to preside over a high court.