



State of Arizona

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Governor Jan Brewer Names Maricopa County Superior Court Judge

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today appointed Deputy County Attorney Suzanne Cohen to the Maricopa County Superior Court.

“Suzanne is a highly-regarded and exceptionally-accomplished attorney who has prosecuted some of the most serious and high-profile cases in Arizona history,” said Governor Brewer. “Additionally, her non-legal professional background has equipped her with a strong understanding of business and commercial law. Suzanne will be a great addition to the bench and a valuable asset to the citizens of Maricopa County.”

Ms. Cohen has been a Deputy Maricopa County Attorney since 2000 – a role in which she has prosecuted felony cases such as murder, kidnapping, child abuse and sexual assault. Notably, Ms. Cohen has handled capital cases, including the “Baseline Killer” case – one of the most horrific and prominent serial murder and rape cases in Arizona history. As a Deputy County Attorney, Ms. Cohen also served as the Bureau Chief to the General Trial Group and the Family Violence Bureau. In these roles, she supervised numerous attorneys and was responsible for assisting with crime scene investigations and search warrants.

Prior to becoming a Deputy County Attorney, Ms. Cohen’s career included work with: the Riverside County District Attorney’s Office in Blythe, California (1998-1999); Aetna (1993-1997 and 1989-1991); and Travelers Insurance (1991-1993). While attending law school, she worked full-time as an insurance underwriter.

Ms. Cohen has received numerous commendations for her legal work. She received a Special Recognition Award from the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office (2012), a Maricopa County Distinguished Service Award (2011) and the Governor’s Award as Outstanding Sexual Assault Prosecutor (2006). She also was named Felony Prosecutor of the Year by the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys’ Advisory Council (2011-12), Violent Crimes Prosecutor of the Year by Maricopa County (2007) and was commended for Outstanding Advocacy in a Capital Case by the Association of Government Attorneys in Capital Litigation (2011-12).

Over the past six years, Ms. Cohen has taught various courses for the National District Attorneys Association, the Arizona Bar Association and the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys’ Advisory Council.

Ms. Cohen has been licensed to practice law in Arizona since 1999. She earned her undergraduate degree from Randolph-Macon Women’s College (1989), and graduated near the top of her class from Golden Gate University School of Law (1997).

The Governor’s appointment of Suzanne Cohen was made to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge John A. Buttrick.

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