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Supreme Court Justices Welcome New Members of the Arizona Judicial Council

PHOENIX – Two new public members and a judge were welcomed onto the Arizona Judicial Council at its most recent meeting. The Arizona Judicial Council assists the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice in developing and implementing policies and procedures for the administration of the state’s courts. Membership includes judges, court administrators, attorneys and public members.

Presiding Judge John Nelson of the Superior Court in Yuma County was selected by the Chief Justice to represent rural counties on the Council. Presiding Judge Nelson was appointed to the Superior Court in 1998 and became Presiding Judge in 2011. He was reappointed Presiding Judge in October 2013.

Judge Nelson is a graduate of Idaho’s Ricks College, Brigham Young University, and the University of Tennessee Law School. He started his career as a prosecutor in the Yuma County Attorney’s Office before leaving for private practice. He worked in private practice for 22 years as a solo practitioner and as a partner in several firms until he was appointed to the bench in January 1998.

Flinn Foundation President and Chief Executive Officer, Jack B. Jewett, will serve as one of the Council’s 10 public member positions. Jewett brings the Council a wealth of leadership experience in healthcare, education and public policy. Mr. Jewett served Tucson Medical Center for 13 years in senior public policy and government relations roles before he was named Vice
President for University Advancement at California State University, Monterey Bay in 2007. He returned to Arizona in 2009 when he was selected to lead the Flinn Foundation.

Mr. Jewett served on the Arizona Board of Regents from 1998 to 2006, including a term as president. He also served in the Arizona House of Representatives from 1983 to 1992.

Victor Flores will fill another public member position on the Arizona Judicial Council. He is a native Arizonan who hails from the mining communities of Hayden and Winkelman. For more than 20 years, Mr. Flores has worked in government relations and community affairs for both of the state’s largest utilities, Salt River Project and Arizona Public Service.

Mr. Flores’ record of community service includes a variety of roles as an appointee to gubernatorial and mayoral task forces, commissions and committees. In addition, he has served on the governing boards of several charitable and non-profit board of directors, including the Valley of the Sun United Way, Children’s Action Alliance and Valle del Sol.

The Arizona Judicial Council was created in accordance with Administrative Order 90-13 and Arizona Code of Judicial Administration §1-104, to assist the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice in the development and implementation of policies and procedures for the administration of all courts, uniformity in court operations and coordination of court services that will improve the administration of justice throughout Arizona.

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