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NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT IN YAVAPAI COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 2016

Yavapai Superior Court Administrator Graduates from NCSC Fellows Program

On May 6, 2016, Yavapai County Superior Court Administrator, C. Rolf Eckel, graduated from the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) Institute for Court Management Fellows Program. Court personnel have to apply and be accepted into this program after successfully completing the Certified Court Manager and Certified Court Executive programs offered by the NCSC. Participants are able to attend these sessions in Phoenix thanks to an agreement between the NCSC and the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts Judicial Education.

In order to become a "Fellow," Rolf had to complete the Court Project Phase which included writing a comprehensive research paper that outlines issues and possible solutions in the author's home Court. Rolf's paper was titled, "*Age Matters: 21st Century Security in Historic Courthouses.*" This paper was written using Rolf's own personal experiences in trying to enhance security measures at our historic Prescott Courthouse without compromising the historical beauty of this old building. Rolf enlisted the help of a focus group comprised of subject matter experts in our community to help identify key factors in securing a court facility. This focus group listed important needs and then ranked them according to feasibility and importance. Rolf also created an online survey tool that was sent to folks across the state. This survey provided valuable information for Rolf's research.

Rolf's paper was in the top five of those submitted. Rolf secured several grants in order to travel to Washington DC for the presentation of his paper at the National Center for State Courts. The commencement ceremony took place at the United States Supreme Court in Washington DC.

Presiding Judge David Mackey stated: "We are very proud of Rolf's accomplishment as well as the hard work that he put into his research and that he puts into his position every day as Court Administrator for Yavapai County Superior Court."

If you are interested in reading his paper, it is available at <http://www.ncsc.org/Education-and-Careers/ICM-Fellows/ICM-Fellows-Papers/ICM-Fellows-Papers-2016.aspx>