

NEWS RELEASE

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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Four Court Professionals Become Fellows at the Institute for Court Management

PHOENIX – The latest Arizona court professionals to graduate from the Institute for Court Management Fellows program work for courts in Flagstaff, Pinal County, and Phoenix. The Fellows program is the highest certification and most demanding program of court management and the only program of its kind in the United States.

The final step of the Fellows process includes a three-day master class held in Washington, DC, during which participants present and reflect upon the results of their court research and improvement projects. Successful participants are recognized at a graduation ceremony held at the United States Supreme Court and awarded certification as a Fellow of the Institute for Court Management. Of the 28 graduates from the United States and Canada, four are from Arizona.

The new Fellows are:

- Jeff Schrade – Director of Education Services, Arizona Supreme Court whose project was “*Arizona’s Court Leadership Pipeline*”
- Maia Rodriguez – Administrative Senior Manager of Flagstaff Justice Court Flagstaff whose project was “*Justice Court: What Causes Delay in the Life of a Case?*”
- Elsa Montiel – Chief Deputy, Pinal Clerk of the Superior Court whose project was “*Kaizen in the Courts*”
- Araceli Ambert – Management Analyst, Maricopa County Juvenile Court whose project was “*Reports vs Reality: Improving Performance Measurement*”

Mike Malone, who previously worked in court administration at Pinal County’s Justice Courts and Phoenix Municipal Courts, also graduated. Mike now works in court administration for Tacoma, Washington.

To become eligible for a fellowship, applicants must have completed the Certified Court Manager process and the successor program, Certified Court Executive. Both of these programs demand rigorous study covering a broad array of topics including: caseflow management; court performance standards; managing financial resources; technology projects; court-community communication; strategic planning and more.

The National Center for State Courts, based in Williamsburg, VA, sponsors the Institute for Court Management.

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Photo Left to Right:

Maia Rodriguez – Flagstaff Justice Court; Elsa Montiel – Chef Deputy, Pinal Clerk of Court; John Meeks, Vice President of the Institute for Court Management at the National Center for State Courts; Dan Straub, Dean of the ICM Fellows Program; Jeff Schrade, Director of Education Services, Arizona Supreme Court AOC; Araceli Ambert – Analyst, Maricopa County Juvenile Court.



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