

NEWS RELEASE

Arizona Supreme Court
Administrative Office of the Courts



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Arizona Supreme Court Statement on the Passing of Former Governor Jane Dee Hull

PHOENIX – The Arizona judiciary was saddened to learn of Arizona Governor Jane Dee Hull and Dr. Terry Hull’s passing and shares its condolences with their family. In addition to her service as Governor, Jane Hull served honorably in the Arizona legislature and as Secretary of State.

Governor Hull enjoyed a positive reputation in Arizona’s judiciary for the diverse and qualified judges she appointed to Arizona’s courts during her tenure, appointing a higher percentage of women to Arizona’s courts than the governors in the twenty years before her term. As a Republican, Governor Hull was recognized in 1998 for being the first governor in Arizona’s merit selection process to appoint a justice outside her own party, when appointing Ruth V. McGregor to the Arizona Supreme Court. Two of Governor Hull’s three appointments to the Supreme Court were women. Governor Hull was clear that while diversity was important, judicial philosophy and qualifications were paramount.

Former Arizona Chief Justice Ruth McGregor stated, “Governor Hull will be remembered for her integrity, her thoughtfulness, and her concern for all of Arizona. It was my privilege to work with her as she supported and assisted the courts in improving our justice system. In appointing judges under Arizona’s merit selection system, she set aside political partisanship and appointed judges on the basis of merit. Arizona has lost a great citizen and a great leader.”

Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Lisa Flores was general counsel to Governor Hull and stated, “Governor Hull understood well the roles of each branch of government and held the judiciary in high regard. After she became governor, one of her first meetings was with justices, judges, and staff at the appellate court building. She recognized a need to repair a rocky relationship between the executive and judicial branches. During her time as governor, she set a record for the number of judges and justices she appointed, including 45 appointments to the Maricopa County Superior Court. Her appointments reflected her belief in merit over political party, and in the need for diversity in every sense — gender, ethnicity, area of practice, and age. I am so happy I had the opportunity to work for her.”

Governor Hull appointed 67 outstanding judges, including appointments to the superior court, the court of appeals, and the supreme court. Ann A. Scott Timmer was appointed by Governor Hull to the Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One, before becoming Chief Judge of that court and before her appointment to the Supreme Court where she currently serves as Vice Chief Justice.

Governor Hull was instrumental in helping Arizona's courts secure funding to rebuild the juvenile detention centers in Arizona into modern, well-run facilities, and in funding the treatment necessary for juveniles in the justice system. Her service to the state is appreciated and will be felt for years to come.

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