

# NEWS RELEASE

Arizona Supreme Court  
Administrative Office of the Courts



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## **Judge David Gass Earns Diversity and Inclusion Leadership Award**

PHOENIX – The Board of Governors of the State Bar of Arizona named Judge David Gass of the Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One, as the 2020 recipient of the Diversity and Inclusion Leadership Award. Judge Gass shares the Award with Ashley Villaverde Halvorson, a private practice partner in the law firm Jones, Skelton & Hochuli, P.L.C. The award recognizes “an attorney, judge, employer, organization, or bar association that significantly advances diversity and inclusion in the Arizona legal community through creative, strategic, or innovative efforts.”



Judge Gass clerked for former Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Ruth V. McGregor before working in private practice at the Phoenix law firm of Lewis and Roca, LLP. Judge Gass’s prior public service includes working as Counsel at the Arizona House of Representatives and serving as Director of Legislative Affairs for the Arizona Attorney General’s Office. Judge Gass was appointed to the Superior Court in Maricopa County in 2009, where he served until his appointment to the Court of Appeals, Division One in 2019.

Judge Gass’s previous awards include the 2005 Arizona State University College of Law Alumni Association recognition for outstanding service, the 2014 Michael D. Ryan Award for Judicial Excellence from the State Bar of Arizona Public Lawyers Section, the 2018 Pete Dunn Above and Beyond Award as outstanding ambassador of the judges in Arizona, and the 2018 Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law Judicial Officer of the Year. In addition, Judge Gass is on the Arizona Town Hall Training Committee and works with Arizona Anytown Youth Leadership.

For a complete list of the 2020 State Bar Annual Awards recipients, see <https://azbar.org/about-us/board-of-governors/state-bar-annual-awards/>.

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