



**20**

**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE  
AWARDS**

**25**

**Court Judicial Conference**

JW MARRIOTT SCOTTSDALE CAMELBACK INN

**June 25, 2025**





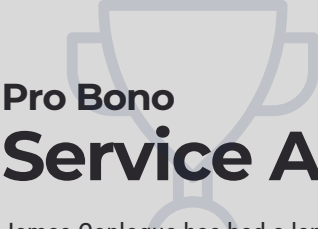
# Administration of Justice Award

Mark Meltzer began his legal career as a deputy district attorney in San Bernardino County, California, before moving to Arizona, where he worked as a criminal defense attorney and civil litigator. Since 2008, he has been with the Administrative Office of the Courts. He currently serves as Senior Court Policy Manager where he contributes to numerous significant projects and works on updating and restyling the Court’s rules across many areas, including civil, criminal, family law, probate, juvenile, and appellate procedure.

Mark says it has been a privilege to collaborate with Arizona’s judges, attorneys, and other stakeholders throughout these efforts. He comes from a family of legal professionals—his wife, daughter, and son-in-law are all attorneys—and his son works as a meteorologist for the National Weather Service.

## MARK MELTZER

Administrative Office of the Courts



## Pro Bono Service Award

James Conlogue has had a lengthy and varied legal career, serving as a judge on the Cochise County Superior Court from 1994 to 2020, including seven years as Presiding Judge. He handled a wide range of cases—criminal, civil, family law, probate, juvenile—and was a Juvenile Drug Court Judge for 20 years. Judge Conlogue also established innovative programs like the Early Resolution Court and Deferred Incarceration Program. He is currently a Senior Court Commissioner and an instructor at Cochise College’s Law Enforcement Training Academy. Southern Arizona Legal Aid credits him with volunteering at 281 legal aid clinics and helping 633 clients through their legal issue since his retirement in 2020.

Educated at Arizona State University and the University of Arizona, he has been recognized for his pro bono work and leadership with multiple awards, including the 2024 Outstanding Pro Bono Attorney of the Month and the 2007 Arizona Judicial Officer of the Year. Adding to his list of accolades is the Pro Bono Service Award he is receiving today. He is a fourth generation and has been married to his wife Barbara for 43 years.



## JIM CONLOGUE

Superior Court in Cochise County

# Judge of the Year Award

Recently retired Judge Margaret H. Downie has had a distinguished legal and judicial career spanning over two decades. She began as a judge on the Maricopa County Superior Court in 1997, where she served in various roles including Civil Presiding Judge and Associate Presiding Judge, earning honors such as Judge of the Year and the Distinguished Service Award. In 2008, she was appointed to the Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One, where she led community outreach efforts and received the Career Achievement Award from the Arizona Women Lawyers' Association.



## HON. MARGARET DOWNIE

Presiding  
Disciplinary Judge,  
Retired

Judge Downie also contributed extensively to judicial ethics and regulation, serving as Executive Director of the Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct and later as Presiding Disciplinary Judge for the Arizona Supreme Court until her retirement in 2025. In retirement, she looks forward to more traveling, outdoor activities, and following Formula 1 racing.

## Outstanding Contributions to the Courts Award

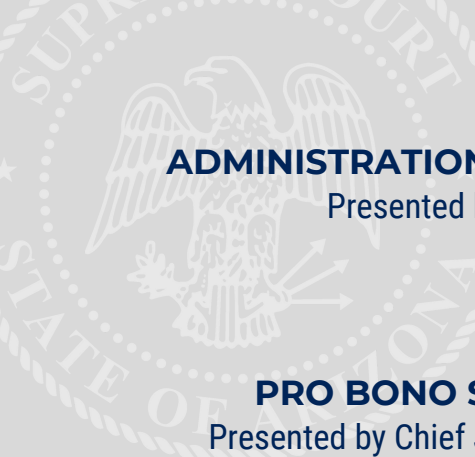
Tucson native Jonathan Paton has dedicated his life to public service, military leadership, and international engagement. Jonathan graduated from the University of Arizona with honors in German and Russian, complemented by advanced studies and immersive experiences abroad in Kazakhstan, Germany, and Russia. His military career began in 1999 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve. He later entered the political arena, serving in the Arizona House of Representatives from 2004 to 2008, and the Arizona State Senate from 2008 to 2010.



## JONATHAN PATON

Government Affairs  
Arizona Judges  
Association

Beyond his military and political consulting work, Jonathan remains passionate about languages, brewing craft beer, fitness, and writing. His diverse experiences reflect a commitment to leadership, cross-cultural understanding, and service to his community and country.



## **ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AWARD**

Presented by David K. Byers



## **PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD**

Presented by Chief Justice Ann Scott Timmer



## **JUDGE OF THE YEAR**

Presented by Vice Chief Justice John R. Lopez



## **CHIEF JUSTICE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO ARIZONA COURTS AWARD**

Presented by Chief Justice Ann Scott Timmer



# **PROGRAM**

## **Distinguished Service Awards**

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