

## Chief Justice's Outstanding Contribution to the Arizona Courts Award (continued)

court was one of two LJ courts designated to conduct their own competency hearings. The pilot resulted in legislation allowing LJ courts to handle these proceedings. Judge Finn has been an active member of the ABA National Conference of Specialized Court Judges, previously serving as its Chair, House of Delegate member, and currently a member of the Executive Committee as well as many other ABA committees.

For 20 years, Judge Finn chaired the Governor's Office of Community and Highway Safety DUI Conference. Among many other awards, Judge Finn was given an award of Merit with a Proclamation from Governor Jane Hull in 2005 honoring her work with the Governor's Office of Highway Safety for her leadership on DUI and highway safety.

Judge Finn is one of three generations of attorneys. Her father, Herbert B. Finn, a Yale Law School graduate, is known for his civil rights work in cases that were predecessors to the landmark Brown vs. Board of Education case. Her mother, Ruth G. Finn, graduated summa cum laude in 1970 from the founding class of the Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law at Arizona State University. Continuing the Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law tradition are Judge Finn (1972), her sister, Alice Finn Gartell (summa cum laude 1989), and her son, Jesse Finn Turner (2005) making the family the first third generation family in the school's history.

### Selected Achievements:

- Past Dean of Supreme Court Judicial College of Arizona & of New Judge Orientation
- Main author of first Benchbook on Orders of Protection/Injunctions Against Harassment
- Chair of Domestic Violence Forms Workgroup
- Founding member of West Valley Judicial Coalition
- Chair of Glendale Criminal Justice Group
- Founder and Chair of Glendale Domestic Violence Taskforce
- National Franklin Flaschner Award from American Bar Association as outstanding limited jurisdiction judge in the nation (1998)
- James A. Walsh Outstanding Jurist Award, State Bar of Arizona (1999)
- Outstanding 100 Women & Minority Judges in Arizona's History (2000)
- Martin Luther King Living the Dream Award (2002)
- Outstanding Woman of the Year in Public Sector, YWCA (2002)
- Award of Merit and a Proclamation from Governor Janet Napolitano for more than 25 years of service with Arizona Phoenix Opportunities Industrialization Center (2008)
- Citizen of the Year, National Association of Social Workers (2011)
- Judge Michael Ryan Award for Judicial Excellence, State Bar of Arizona (2013)
- Lifetime Achievement Award, Arizona Coalition to End Sexual & Domestic Violence (2013)
- Inducted into Maricopa County Hall of Fame, making her and her father the first father-daughter duo inducted (2015)



**2018 Distinguished Service Awards**  
Presented June 20, 2018  
JW Marriott Starr Pass • 3800 W Starr Pass Blvd, Tucson, Arizona

**Wednesday, June 20**

**Administration of Justice Award  
presented by David K. Byers**

**Judge of the Year Award  
presented by Vice Chief Justice Robert Brutinel**

**Chief Justice's Outstanding Contribution to the Arizona Courts  
Award presented by Chief Justice Scott Bales**

## Administration of Justice Award

**David Withey** had an especially productive year providing legal support for judicial branch administration of justice initiatives. He was deeply involved in the crafting of rules for the denial of bail eligibility, an initiative stemming from the Task Force on Fair Justice for All. He led the effort to create rules authorizing child removal following legislative changes.

During Withey's service as general counsel for the Administrative Office of the Courts, he has been instrumental in developing the branch public records and meeting policies, the Arizona Code of Judicial Administration, the Presiding Judges' Manual, and the Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees. Municipal court administrators and judges are familiar with Withey's work on the reference document outlining municipal court governance roles and responsibilities.

He currently serves as Chief Counsel; advising the Chief Justice, presiding judges, and the Administrative Director and staff regarding legal and ethical issues that arise in the administration of the judicial branch.

Since 1992, Withey has staffed the State, Tribal, and Federal Court Forum, which meets three times per year and engages judges and other members from the three jurisdictions in cooperation and coordination on a variety of issues. He also serves as a member of the Judicial Ethics Advisory Committee.

Prior to his employment at the Supreme Court and AOC, Withey graduated from the College of Wooster in Ohio, taught school in New Mexico, graduated from law school at A.S.U., provided legal aid services for the Fort Apache Reservation, and performed assistant general counsel duties for the Department of Corrections.

## Judge of the Year Award

**Judge Joseph Olcavage** systematically embraced and adopted the reforms outlined by the Task Force on Fair Justice for All. He conducted a thorough examination of existing court procedures and modified them in order to adopt the recommended reforms to court-ordered fines, penalties, fees, and pretrial release procedures.

Defendants could reestablish a payment plan and have their license suspension lifted. A community restitution program in lieu of fines was instituted for indigent parties. Advisory counsel is available for the DUI arraignment calendar, and Monday through Friday in jail court to argue conditions of release for defendants who cannot post bond. The court migrated from IVR notifications to text messaging. The court started delaying the issuance of warrants and defaults for 14 days with notification to the defendant to appear in court to resolve the matter.

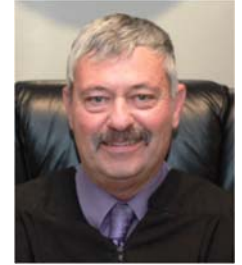


**David Withey**  
Chief Counsel  
Arizona Supreme  
Court  
Administrative Office  
of the Courts

Judge Olcavage has served as a judge for 27 years and as the Presiding Judge of the Scottsdale Municipal Court for the last six years. He has continually accepted roles in legal education. Within the legal community, he participates in New Judge Orientation as a mentor judge, a table mentor, and a faculty member.

He has also presented at the Arizona Judicial Conference, the Governor's Office of Highway Safety DUI Conference, the Southern Arizona Judicial Staff Conference, the Arizona Magistrates Association and the Scottsdale Bar Association. Judge Olcavage currently serves on the Committee on Judicial Education and Training.

Judge Olcavage started his legal career as a defense attorney. From there he became a prosecutor for the City of Scottsdale. Just prior to assuming the bench, he worked in the Scottsdale City Attorney's Office focusing on employment law.



**Hon. Joseph Olcavage**  
Scottsdale Municipal  
Court

## Chief Justice's Outstanding Contribution to the Arizona Courts Award

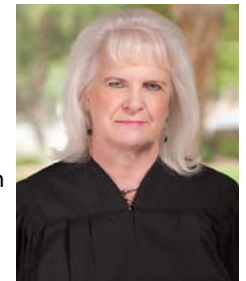
**Judge Elizabeth (Ellie) R. Finn** is Arizona's longest serving judge having been a judge for thirty-nine years. For her entire career, she has been at the forefront of issues that affect the citizens of her court. She is among the state's leading experts on domestic violence law and practices. She has also been a leader at finding ways to improve the handling of DUI cases and is respected as an expert on matters involving the interaction between courts and MVD, frequently teaching MVD courses to judges.

Few people have done more than Judge Finn to advance justice for two special populations: victims of domestic violence and those suffering from mental health conditions.

Judge Finn has never met a leadership role that she didn't fully embrace with passion. She was a founding member and the first Chair of the Supreme Court Committee on the Impact of Domestic Violence and the Courts.

She launched Arizona's first city domestic violence Treatment Court without probation resources and managed over \$1.5 million in domestic violence grant awards.

In 2013, she implemented a Mental Health Court at Glendale City Court and in 2016 her



**Hon. Elizabeth Finn**  
Glendale Municipal  
Court