

NEWS RELEASE

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Contact: Heather Murphy
Telephone: (602) 452-3656
Cell: (602) 448-8412
hmurphy@courts.az.gov

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Three 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 Prescott, Phoenix, and Tucson. 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.

The new Fellows are:

- Heather Seets, Alternative Dispute Resolution Program Manager, Superior Court in Yavapai County, Prescott, Arizona. She conducted research and presented on *Victim Offender Mediation and Dialogue in Adult Criminal Cases*.
- Keith B. Kaplan, Assistant Court Administrator, Criminal Division, Phoenix Municipal Court, Phoenix, Arizona. His thesis and presentation was entitled *Model for the Successful Implementation of Court Technology*.
- Laura Spain, Deputy Court Administrator, Tucson City Court, Tucson, Arizona. Her research and presentation was on *Achieving Excellence: Mastering Quality Assurance at Tucson City Court*.

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: caseload 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:

Heather Seets, Superior Court in Yavapai County, Keith B. Kaplan, Phoenix Municipal Court, and Laura Spain, Tucson City Court.



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