

# 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](mailto:hmurphy@courts.az.gov)

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## **AzCourtHelp.org earns Top Honors from the Arizona Association of Counties**

PHOENIX – Number one and two came earlier this year. Friday was the day for number three and four – [AzCourtHelp.org](http://AzCourtHelp.org) just racked up two new awards and the virtual legal resource center is barely one year old! The Arizona Association of Counties' Summit Award for Court Administration and Management. Moments later, [AzCourtHelp.org](http://AzCourtHelp.org) earned the top honor: Innovation of the Year recognizing the role that the internet resource plays in linking the courts to the people.

Arizona's new statewide virtual legal resource center, [AzCourtHelp.org](http://AzCourtHelp.org) was launched to address the gap between those needing legal help and the courts. [AzCourtHelp.org](http://AzCourtHelp.org) offers free assistance to all people who have legal questions or need assistance in resolving disputes.

The virtual legal resource center is especially helpful to self-represented litigants who would otherwise not have access to legal resources in their area. An estimated 80 percent of litigants need some level of assistance to protect their rights, proceed with a legal claim, or access legal help. Even basic information such as what court to visit for a particular issue can be confusing to the public.

[AzCourtHelp.org](http://AzCourtHelp.org) features rich content on all types of legal questions ranging from divorce and custody to landlord/tenant issues, civil disputes, and criminal charges. Live webinars on popular topics are available throughout the month at [AzCourtHelp.org/public-events](http://AzCourtHelp.org/public-events).

A host of accessibility features allow text to be read aloud or translated. Users with visual impairments can adjust text size or contrast.

Four months ago, the National Association for Court Management (NACM) presented this year's Top 10 Court Technology Solutions Awards during its annual conference last week with the top honors going to [AzCourtHelp.org](http://AzCourtHelp.org). The NACM award honors courts that make the best use of technology to improve court services and access to the public. [AzCourtHelp.org](http://AzCourtHelp.org) beat entries from Dubai, Rwanda, and several US states.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) presented Coconino County with its 2017 Achievement Award for its role in launching [AzCourtHelp.org](http://AzCourtHelp.org), also in July.

Stakeholders that contributed to the development of the [AzCourtHelp.org](http://AzCourtHelp.org) include:

- Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts,
- The Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education
- Coconino County Law Library,
- Coconino Superior Court,
- Arizona State Library, Archives, & Public Records,
- The Office of the Arizona Attorney General, and
- The Department of Economic Security's Division of Child Support Services.

This is the latest in a series of collaborations between Arizona's courts and the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services. Past programs that gained national recognition include, [AzLawHelp.org](http://AzLawHelp.org), [LawForKids.org](http://LawForKids.org), [LawForSeniors.org](http://LawForSeniors.org), and [LawForVeterans.org](http://LawForVeterans.org).

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