

Goal 5: Improving Communications and Community Participation

Loft—Legacy Teen Center, Apache County Juvenile Probation Department

The Apache County Juvenile Probation Department opened the LOFT- Legacy Teen Center ("LOFT") in 2017 after renovating the unused Apache County Detention Center, with the mission to proactively engage with high schoolers in the rural area of St. Johns, Arizona. On average the LOFT serves 30-40 teens daily.

Membership is free and is restricted to high school age teens. As of September 2018, the LOFT has 315 active members, and the St. Johns police chief reports that juvenile "call-outs" have almost been eliminated since the LOFT opened. Since the LOFT has been in operation, the city of St. Johns has seen a 55% reduction in juvenile referrals and a 97.5% decrease in costs to the county. Plans are currently in place to begin construction on the "LODGE - Legacy Teen Center" to serve the youth in the neighboring communities of Springerville and Eagar.

Pro Bono Award

Shawn K. Aiken

Shawn Aiken has arbitrated and mediated cases concerning almost every aspect of commercial law. Mr. Aiken is a three-time Best Lawyers "Lawyer of the Year" (Phoenix), earning that recognition twice for mediation (2012 and 2015) and, most recently, arbitration (2019).

Mr. Aiken's approach to resolving litigated matters begins with case assessment and risk analysis. He aims to help the parties reach resolution through varied approaches, including, at the end of the mediation session, if the parties desire, adoption of binding or non-binding techniques that assure final agreement. The Maricopa County Superior Court has appointed Mr. Aiken as special master on several cases over the past five years. He is also an Approved Compensated Mediator for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Arizona.

Learn more about this year's nominees. Many inspiring, innovative programs and projects are featured at www.azcourts.gov/awards.

Special thanks to the Judicial Branch Strategic Agenda Awards Committee :

- ◆ *Chairman Judge Louis Dominguez, Presiding Judge, Surprise City Court*
- ◆ *Presiding Judge Monica Stauffer, Superior Court in Greenlee County*
- ◆ *Chief Judge Peter Eckerstrom, Arizona Court of Appeals, Division Two*
- ◆ *Presiding Justice of the Peace Keith Russell, East Mesa Justice Court*
- ◆ *Hon. Juan Pablo Guzman, Clerk of Superior Court in Santa Cruz County*
- ◆ *Steve Peru, Public Member, Arizona Judicial Council*
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2018 Strategic Agenda Awards

Presented
Wednesday, October 24, 2018

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2515 East Butler Avenue
Flagstaff, AZ 86004

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Welcome

Pro Bono Award

Appreciation to
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Bales

Strategic Agenda
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Presented by Judge
Louis Dominguez,
Committee Chair

Goal 1: Promoting Access to Justice

Traveling Court, Flagstaff Justice Court and Flagstaff Municipal Court

Traveling Court was established after Flagstaff Justice Court identified a need for access to justice in Tuba City and its surrounding areas. With Coconino County being the 2nd largest jurisdiction in Arizona, individuals from those areas are not always able to travel to Flagstaff to take care of outstanding matters with the court.

Traveling Court was brought to Tuba City in 2011. Judges and staff travel twice a year to Tuba City and hold court for those unable to appear in Flagstaff. In 2016, Flagstaff Municipal Court joined in traveling to Tuba City to handle its court matters. The Traveling Court is for anyone who may have an open criminal or traffic case with the Flagstaff Justice Court or the Flagstaff Municipal Court, including cases with outstanding warrants. Individuals can also use this opportunity to ask the judge to cancel their warrants and appear in court without the fear of being arrested.

The first time Court was held, some individuals were reluctant to attend in fear they would be arrested and that this event was a "ploy" to arrest individuals with warrants. Since then, over 165 individuals have been seen, and participant feedback has been extremely positive.

Goal 2: Protecting Children, Families, and Communities

Mohave County Juvenile Probation Department, Superior Court in Mohave County

The Mohave County Juvenile Probation Department is recognized for its Juvenile Health and Wellness Court (JHAWC) and Opportunity School programs. The goal of JHAWC is to assist juveniles in finding community-based services to help maintain and stabilize mental health issues while reinforcing acceptable behaviors. To properly address mental health needs, the JHAWC works in collaboration with the juvenile justice system and mental health professionals. Mental Health providers report seeing more follow-through from youth and families, resulting in more youth that are properly diagnosed, treated, and that attend counseling sessions without incident.

In July 2017, the Juvenile Detention Center was transformed into a Juvenile Justice Support Center when it expanded the use of the building creating an Opportunity School. Students that are on long-term suspension or expelled from the Kingman Unified School District can continue their education and receive school credits.

The Opportunity School is a division of the Gloria Duesk Compass School and is accredited by the Arizona Department of Education and is also an accredited GED testing site. To date, 170 youth have obtained their GED.

Goal 3: Improving Court Processes to Better Serve the Public

Yuma County Law Library Self-Represented Litigant Services, Superior Court in Yuma County

The Yuma County Law Library recently completed a re-design with a dedicated space that better serves self-represented litigants. The project was a collaborative effort with the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts and the Arizona Foundation for Legal Information and Services and Education to join Coconino County and serve as a hub for expanded services for self-represented litigants through legal clinics and informational talks.

Additional services unrelated to this project that the Law Library has initiated include "Lawyer in the Library," consisting of 15-minute scheduled consultations with pro bono attorneys, and a miniature version of Maricopa County's Navigator program which provides litigants with assistance in escorts, copying, and other support to help them complete their actions. The Law Library project targets the needs of the many self-represented litigants in Yuma County.

Goal 4: Enhancing Professionalism within Arizona's Courts

Ms. Beth Beckmann, Chief Staff Attorney, Court of Appeals, Division Two

Beth Beckmann is nominated for her nearly 30 years with the Court of Appeals and as chief staff attorney for 20 years. Ms. Beckmann frequently works with the community of appellate practitioners to improve understanding of the appellate process and effective appellate advocacy. She regularly presents on topics such as appellate jurisdiction, juvenile appeals, changes to the rules of civil procedure and appellate procedure, and legal research.

Her presentations are given to appellate attorneys, appellate court staff, and superior court law clerks and court staff, improving the performance of Arizona's courts at all levels. Ms. Beckmann also works to improve the administration of justice through her work with several committees. She currently staffs the Supreme Court Task Force on Rule 32.