

NEWS RELEASE

Arizona Supreme Court
Administrative Office of the Courts



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Arizona to Celebrate Law Day

PHOENIX – Every year during the first week of May, Americans celebrate Law Day. It is an opportunity for all Americans to reflect on the rule of law and the foundations of our country’s legal system. Law Day reminds all Americans that participation and support is needed to maintain our fragile system of democracy.

Law Day activities and celebrations will take place around Arizona next week, with many on May 1. Arizona’s Supreme Court Justices will participate in various events related to the day, including Justices Ann A. Scott Timmer, Andrew Gould, and Clint Bolick making appearances in area schools to discuss this year’s theme: “Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society.”

A selection of Law Day-related events happening around Arizona:

- Pima County is hosting a Law Day event for high school students at the Pima County Board of Supervisors Hearing Room on Monday, April 29, starting at 10:00 a.m.
- Former Arizona Chief Justice Rebecca White Berch will take part in Maricopa County’s Law Day event on May 1 at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. Justice Berch will be joined by a panel of scholars and journalists. Tickets may be available through <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/maricopa-law-day-2019-tickets-59357634282>.
- Cochise County will hold its 17th annual Law Day Celebration at the Douglas High School, beginning at 9:00 a.m. on May 1. The public is welcome to attend. <https://www.azcourts.gov/Portals/201/Press%20Releases/2019/040319LawDayCochise.pdf>.
- The State Bar of Arizona is hosting a free legal clinic on Saturday, May 4. More information is available at <https://www.azbar.org/legalhelpandeducation/lawday/>.

For those in the greater Phoenix area, the Arizona Capitol Museum offers an exhibit providing an overview of the Arizona Supreme Court and some of Arizona’s most well-known cases. The exhibit is located on the third floor of the State Capitol Building. <https://azlibrary.gov/azcm>

Schools, courts, governments, and others around the nation will take part in mock trials, discussions, lectures, and activities that commemorate the United States' commitment to the rule of law. The American Bar Association states that Law Day was conceived in 1957 by its president at the time, Charles Rhynes, who wanted a national day to commemorate the country's commitment to the rule of law. President Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed May 1 as Law Day the following year. Three years later in 1961, Congress passed a joint resolution making May 1 the official date for the national celebration of Law Day.

“This year’s Law Day theme offers a chance to learn from lawyers, judges, journalists, and members of the public who can talk about vital freedoms enjoyed by Americans and how they support democracy and a government responsible to ‘We, the people,’” said Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Scott Bales. “Law Day helps promote awareness of the importance of the rule of law in America, but there is much work to be done. Preserving our liberties depends on public understanding and participation. I encourage everyone to get involved and learn more about our courts and laws.”

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