

# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



#### **ALTERNATIVE FORMAT**

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### FROM THE CHAIR

The Arizona Commission on Access to Justice is celebrating its 10th anniversary! Created by Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Order 2014-83 on August 20, 2014, the Commission has worked, and continues to work, to improve lives by promoting and expanding civil legal services in Arizona and by collaborating, educating, improving, and advocating for access to civil justice for all. Remarkably, we have four Commission members who have served since the beginning: Kip Anderson, Janet Regner, Kevin Ruegg, and Anthony Young. Thank you to these champions and to all current and former Commission members! We are far, far better because of your service and owe you a debt we can never repay.

2024 was another productive year for the Commission. To mention just a few highlights, 2024 saw:

- Nearly two million people being helped by accessing online legal resources, above and beyond representation by legal service providers for those most in need.
- The Commission unanimously approving an Arizona Code of Judicial Administration Section "Community-Based Justice Work Service Delivery Models" for both authorized community justice workers (nonlawyers providing specified legal services with lawyer supervision) and certified community legal advocates (nonlawyers providing specified legal services without lawyer supervision). As discussed below, the Commission will seek final approval and implementation of this proposal in early 2025.
- The Commission successfully commenting on proposed rule changes, and seeking a rule change, to improve access to justice in Arizona's courts.
- Continuing quarterly meetings of the Four Corners (Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Arizona) Access to Justice Commission representatives and expanding programming work of that group.

Recognizing there are many needs that remain unmet, we are proud of our work in 2024, some of which is summarized in this Annual Report. We look forward to an even more productive 2025 in improving and expanding access to justice in Arizona.

- Samuel A. Thumma, Commission Chair

### **COMMISSION MEMBERS**

Hon. Charles Adornetto
Maricopa County Justice Court
Kip Anderson
Superior Court in Mohave County
Hon. Alexander Ball
Pima County Consolidated Justice Court
Hon. Jeffrey Bergin
Superior Court in Pima Count
Pamela Bridge
Community Legal Services, Inc.
Sambo Dul
Arizona Governor's Office
Joel F. England
State Bar of Arizona

Hon. Anni L. Foster
Court of Appeals, Div. One
Kevin Groman
Association of Corporate Counsel
Hon. Anna Huberman
Maricopa County Justice Courts
Joe Kanefield
Snell & Wilmer, LLP
William Knight
National Homelessness Law Center
Hon. Joseph Kreamer
Superior Court in Maricopa County
Maria Morlacci
Office of the Arizona Attorney General

Hon. Maurice Portley (Ret.)
Casey Family Programs
Janet K. Regner
Public Member
Kevin Ruegg, PhD
Arizona Bar Foundation
Stacy Rupprecht Jane
James E. Rogers College of Law
Rodolfo Sanchez
DNA People's Legal Services
Dr. Rebecca Sandefur
Arizona State University
Kathy Schaben
Superior Court in Yuma County

Drew P. Schaffer
William E. Morris Institute for Justice
Jeff Schrade
Administrative Office of the Courts
Hon. Samuel A. Thumma
Arizona Court of Appeals, Div. One
Hon. Danielle J. Viola
Superior Court in Maricopa County
Hon. Valerie Wyant
Superior Court Clerk in Coconino County
Anthony Young
Southern Arizona Legal Aid

### **FOUR CORNERS UPDATE**

Representatives from the Four Corners Access to Justice Commissions (Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Arizona) continued our typically quarterly remote meetings in 2024. These meetings are delightful and inspiring information exchanges. Along with sharing innovation and successes, and lessons learned during these 90-minute meetings, we also have had a chance to do some programming as a result of our shared experiences.

In June 2024, we presented an American Bar Association Live Webinar titled "Digital Divides and Greening Legal Deserts: Lessons from the Four Corners States." This program focused on bridging digital divides and narrowing the justice gap, with discussion on tools to measure the justice gap, the effect of gaps and resulting challenges, efforts that have been successful, and how to measure success. At the October 2024 American Bar Association National Meeting of State Access to Justice Commission Chairs in California, we gathered in-person to learn and share. The meeting hosted various groups focusing on access to justice. Four Corners representatives presented a Table Talk breakout program titled "Well, That Was Easy?!? Regulatory Reform and Unbundling Legal Services in the Four Corners States." It was well-attended, informative, and well-received. Planning for sequels in 2025 are in the works.

### WORKGROUP UPDATES

- The Intergovernmental Collaboration Workgroup continued to expand partnership opportunities with state agencies, increase constituent access to information about their legal rights, and improve access to government services. Members tracked successful outcomes resulting from the 2023 State Agency Forum on Access to Justice; coordinated recognition of state agency progress towards access to justice goals with leadership from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Access to Justice and Legal Aid Interagency Roundtable; met with other states seeking to implement state agency discussions around access to justice; and participated in a panel presentation on Arizona's state agency forum and its outcomes with representatives from the State Bar of California and Department of Justice at the American Bar Association's Forum on Building Access to Justice.
- The Self-Represented Litigants in Limited Jurisdiction Courts Workgroup continued its work on producing videos and web content on a variety of legal topics for the Courts' Self-Service Center. The workgroup created sub-groups dedicated to garnishments, specialty courts, and post-conviction relief, with each group producing a video and landing page.

The workgroup created and published videos on Best Practices for Conducting Virtual Hearings, Consumer Debt, Restoration of Civil Rights, Specialty Courts, Garnishments, and Eviction Actions. In total, 18 videos were created, with each having its corresponding translation in Spanish. Also, one webpage was created dedicated to specialty courts. This webpage was translated into Spanish, along with other webpages for virtual hearings, consumer debt, criminal law, and garnishments, bringing it to a total of six webpages created in 2024. For 2025, the workgroup is planning on addressing updates to garnishment forms due to Proposition 209.

- Judicial and Attorney Engagement Workgroup
   continued to support the engagement of judicial officers
   in public service and volunteer opportunities by
   facilitating presentations regarding the expansion of
   Maricopa County's public service program for judges to
   other counties. Workgroup members also conducted
   outreach to public lawyers to develop further
   participation in the ABA legal answers program and
   connected senior lawyers to pro bono opportunities.
- Consistent with the focus of the Public Information and Messaging Workgroup, Commission staff created the A2J Today newsletter. The quarterly e-newsletter was first published in Spring 2024. A2J Today is shared with the Commission; Commission workgroups; presiding judges; limited jurisdiction court administrators and judges; superior court administrators, clerks, and judges; law librarians; state legislators; state agency heads; the Administrative Office of the Courts; the Conciliation Roundtable; and the Four Corners Commissions on Access to Justice.

Each issue of the e-newsletter includes a message from the Commission chair, updates from the Four Corners commissions, workgroup highlights, Commission member highlights, and other announcements and insights related to access to justice, including interviews with chat operators for AZCourtHelp, landlord/tenant law, civil legal aid, case law and rules, and community justice workers.

• In 2024, the Rules Workgroup began its first review of rule petitions. The workgroup, made up of appellate, superior, municipal and justice court judicial officers and several attorneys, reviewed 57 rule petitions filed with the Supreme Court. It reviewed petitions for their nexus to civil access to justice with the following questions: (1) Did it help or hinder access to justice? and (2) Did it make the legal process easier - especially for self-represented litigants? The workgroup presented its recommendations to the Commission, resulting in the Commission's submission of comments in support and in opposition, as well as general comments, to about half of the petitions filed. Of the fourteen supported by the Commission, eleven were approved by the Supreme Court, some with modifications, two were deferred to an upcoming agenda, and one was denied. The Commission also submitted comments in opposition to five petitions; three of which were denied, one was deferred, and one was withdrawn.

# COMMUNITY JUSTICE WORKERS TASK FORCE

At the February 2024 meeting, the Commission heard a presentation about the Alaska Legal Services Corporation Community Justice Workers Program. The Commission then passed a motion creating a task force to investigate and report back on the possibility of expanding and enhancing community justice opportunities in Arizona. The Commission chair appointed Task Force members Rodolfo Sanchez; Pamela Bridge; Anthony Young; Stacy Jane; Kevin Ruegg; Drew Schaffer; Janet Regner; Dave Byers; Will Knight; Rebecca Sandefur; Kevin Groman; and Joe Kanefield, with the Task Force chaired by Judge Sam Thumma. The Task Force met eight times during 2024, considering various aspects of the issue, and developed a draft Arizona Code of Judicial Administration (ACJA) section titled "Community-Based Justice Work Service Delivery Models." The Task Force unanimously approved that draft, which was then unanimously approved by the Commission at its November 2024 meeting. The draft ACJA section was then opened for public comments, and a related rule change petition was filed as well. See the draft ACJA section and comments and rule change petition as amended.

If approved by the Arizona Judicial Council and implemented, this ACJA section will set forth a framework for Community-Based justice Work Service Delivery Models applicable to and governing (1) "authorized community justice workers" (nonlawyers providing specified legal services in specified areas of the law as authorized by the section who are supervised by lawyers) and (2) "certified community legal advocates" (nonlawyers providing specified legal services in specified areas of the law as authorized by the section who are not supervised by lawyers). Arizona currently has both of these models in place. See Ariz. Sup. Ct. Admin. Orders 2024-250 (Dec. 18, 2024) ("Authorizing a Legal Services Community Justice Worker Program"); 2024-34 (Feb. 7, 2024) ("Authorizing a Housing Stability Legal Advocate Pilot Program," first adopted in January 2023); 2024-35 (Feb. 7 2024) ("Authorizing a Domestic Violence Legal Advocate Pilot Program," first adopted in June 2020). This ACJA section would not displace these current programs. Instead, it would provide a regulatory framework for programs in place now, those being planned and those to be planned in the future.

This proposal has attracted much positive interest, in Arizona and elsewhere, and has enormous potential to be a significant next step in Arizona's longstanding innovation efforts through regulatory reform to enhance access to justice. Approval and implementation of this proposal will be sought early in 2025.

The Rules Workgroup reviewed 57 petitions filed with the Supreme Court



### STATEWIDE LEGAL HELP

The Arizona Bar Foundation hosts online and telephone prequalification application systems for legal help programs across the state. The automated interview assesses the eligibility of those seeking legal assistance for free or reducedcost programs and directs them to the most appropriate service.

- The online and telephone systems received 61,523 requests for legal help - 36,487 online applications and 25,036 telephone applications.
- Approximately 83% of all processed applications were eligible for no-cost help from legal aid organizations and low-cost help from the Modest Means Project.
- Of those eligible for legal help programs, 75% qualified for free legal help from a legal aid provider and 25% qualified for reduced-cost programs.
- Top areas of legal needed include Family Law (44%), Housing - Landlord/Tenant (27%), Consumer (11%), and Employment (7%).

# **TOP PRO BONO ATTORNEYS**

Nancy Anger **Brooke Bedrick** Kayla Bernays Caleb Brown Luke Brown Tyler Carlton Ken Cohen **Jody Corrales** Robert Crawford Joubert Davenport **Greg Davis** Kevin Fine Jeanne Garcia Stuart Gerrich Robert Hahn Nathan Hannah **Edward Hermes** Valerie Hink Vianey Hurtado Steve Itkin Robert Ito Andrew S. Jacob Rahgan Jensen Scott Klundt Gary Kraft Christopher Lazenby

Peggy LeMoine Frances Susan McGinnis Michael McGrath Diane Mihalsky **Robert Murillo** Aisha Nanyanzi Kay Nelson Michelle Olson Judy O'Neil Fredrick Petersen Hannah Portell **Donald Powell Edwin Ramos** Veronica Rice Shawnna Riggers Kelly Rowe Kaitlyn Elise Salmans Ben Smith Grant Stratton Trish Stuhan Lauren Talkington Jessica Van Ranken

### ARIZONA BAR FOUNDATION

**Robert Walston** 

Andrew Whitehill

Kaytlyn Yrun-Duffy

Alex Winkelman

### Thank you

A special thank you to AZCourtHelp Live Chat volunteers who dedicated 329 hours helping Arizonans via 818 chats.

Volunteers helped live chat users navigate through civil, family, and traffic law issues.



AZCOURTHELP.ORG USFRS:

812,424

TOP CONTENT: - CASE FINDER - FIND MY COURT - AZ COUNTY FORMS FOR FILING **DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE** 

> LAWFORKIDS.ORG **USERS:**

> > 187,720

TOP CONTENT: - ULTIMATE AMENDMENT GAME - BILL OF RIGHTS OUIZ - KIDS VOTING AZ

AZLAWHELP.ORG **USERS:** 

**521,621** 

TOP CONTENT: - APPLICATION FOR LEGAL HELP - NAME CHANGE IN AZ - UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

**AZEVICTIONHELP.ORG USERS:** 

55,423

TOP CONTENT: - RENTAL ASSISTANCE - EVICTION FOR NON-PAYMENT - ALL ABOUT SECURITY DEPOSITS

LAWFORVETERANS.ORG **USERS:** 

230,783

**TOP CONTENT:** - MILITARY DISCHARGES - WHO IS A VETERAN - CHILD SUPPORT & MILITARY **BENEFITS** 

AZCOURTCARE.ORG **USERS:** 

27,401

**TOP CONTENT:** - INVOLUNTARY MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT PROCESS - MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT FORMS - MENTAL HEALTH COURT FAQS

LAWFORSENIORS.ORG **USERS:** 

67,974

**TOP CONTENT:** - DRIVER LICENSE RENEWALS - CAPITAL GAINS TAX - LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE

AZCRIMEVICTIMHELP.ORG **USERS:** 

19,584

**TOP CONTENT:** - OTHER LEGAL NEEDS (TORT/CIVIL ACTION) - IMMIGRATION - LEGAL INFORMATION & RESOURCES



VIDEOS: 128

**VIEWING HOURS: 1,184** 

### ARIZONA TAX CREDIT

Each year, Arizona taxpayers donate hundreds of thousands of dollars through the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit program. The donations allow taxpayers to support access to justice by directing the beneficiary of their tax credit. In 2024, approximately \$315,000 was raised through the tax credit program. More information about legal aid agencies approved by the Arizona Bar Foundation can be found at here. by the Arizona Bar Foundation can be found at here.

\$315,000 Raised in 2024

### LAW4AZ

Law4AZ harnesses the power of public libraries, as trusted community spaces, to become access-to-justice allies. Since 2020, Law4AZ has been training public library staff to connect their communities with self-help legal resources and referrals. Law librarians from the State of Arizona Research Library and the Coconino, Maricopa, Mohave, and Pima County Law Libraries facilitate public library Learning Groups through a nine-week curriculum.

The program alternates between facilitated Zoom sessions and independent learning on WebJunction's online curriculum, Creating Pathways to Civil Legal Justice. The law librarian subject matter experts facilitate the Zoom sessions to support the Learning Group's journey of discovery, provide Arizona-specific resources and insights, and develop a professional network students can draw from going forward.

In 2024, two new Learning Groups graduated from Law4AZ, including public library staff from Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Maricopa, and Mohave Counties. Their feedback affirmed that after Law4AZ, they know more about how to find Arizona legal resources, develop community partnerships for legal programming, and conduct legal reference interviews. Some student comments include: "Very clear helpful tips on offering legal information versus advice to patrons" and "I look forward to my coworkers and staff having the opportunity to complete it in the future."

In 2025, the facilitators are reviewing the curriculum with a fine-toothed comb, looking for areas for improvement. This "pruning" project will result in an updated curriculum tailored through experience to better meet the needs of Arizona public library Learning Groups. Responding to demand, we're also considering developing a companion curriculum for employees at agencies other than public libraries who also work directly with people with legal needs, such as employees at other government or social service agencies.

### MEMBER PUBLICATIONS

- A People-Centered Approach to Designing and Evaluating Community Justice Worker Programs in the United States, 51 Fordham Urb. L.J. 1509 (2024).
- Re-Regulating Justice: Realizing Housing Stability Through Community Legal Advocacy, 31 J. of Affordable Housing 393 (2024).
- Expanding Access to Justice Through Regulatory Reform and Innovation: Arizona Lessons from the Past, Present and Future, 93 U. Cinn. L. Rev. 410 (2024).
- Remote Court Hearings (Past, Present, and Future): Arizona's Next Steps for a New World to Enhance Access to Justice, 77 SMU Law Review Forum 116 (2024).
- Enhancing Access to Justice Through Generative Al: A Preliminary Agenda, 108 Judicature No. 1 at 43 (Summer 2024).
- The Diverse Landscape of Community-Based Justice Workers, Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System Blog. A Government Official Blocked Me on Social Media. Now What?, Arizona Attorney (Oct. 2024)
- "Disfavored Motions": The Legal Telephone Game, Arizona Attorney (Oct. 2024).

### **MEMBER PRESENTATIONS**

Commission members participated in various international, national and local presentations in 2024, including the following seminars and groups:

- · Academy of Arts & Sciences
- International Access to Justice Forum
- National Access to Justice Chairs' Conference
- Revolutionizing Rights: Al and the Future of Legal Equality -Thomson Reuters Institute Insights Podcast
- American Law Institute
- Numerous American Bar Association entities, including the Task Force on Law and Artificial Intelligence; the Judicial Division; the Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defense; the Management Information Exchange; the Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service; the Section of Civil Rights and Social Justice; the Commission on Homelessness and Poverty; and the Commission on Interest on Lawyers' Trust
- Western States Legal Deserts Summit, sponsored by the National Center for State Courts
- Place for Justice Webinars. This series of webinars, presented by Innovation for Justice, included programs addressing access to justice through legal empowerment and justice work through partnership practice in Arizona, Utah, and elsewhere. Arizona Supreme Chief Justice Ann A. Scott Timmer was featured as a keynote speaker.

- · Access to Justice Symposium, Hamilton County Clerk of Courts/University of Cincinnati College of Law
- The Future of Justice Work Conference, Arizona State University
- Vanderbilt Law School
- State Bar of Arizona Board of Governors
- Arizona Judicial Council
- Arizona Superior Court Presiding Judges
- Limited Jurisdiction Conference, Limited Jurisdiction Judges Association
- Arizona Judicial Conference
- Arizona Court Leadership Conference
- Legal Paraprofessional Summit
- Maricopa County Superior Court Leadership
- Maricopa County Law Firms on Innovation & Access to Justice
- Yuma County Bar Association

Members offered ATJ presentations more than 20 times in 2024

### TRANSITIONS. AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Commission member **Judge Joseph C. Kreamer** earned the 2023 Ellen Sue Katz Equal Justice Champion Award from the William E. Morris Institute for Justice. Nominees must demonstrate commitment to access to justice for Arizonans from historically marginalized communities. Judge Kreamer's dedication to access to justice can be seen in his previous work as chair of the Arizona Bar Foundation, chair of the Steering Committee and the Modest Means Program and his current work as chair of the Commission's Judicial and Attorney Engagement Workgroup. Congratulations, Judge Kreamer!

Commission member **Judge Anni Hill Foster** was named Volunteer of the Month for March 2024 by the Arizona Bar Foundation. Judge Foster was recognized for her dedicated work to the We the People civic education competition, being a participant of the Foundation's Board, and reviewing documents for the Foundation. Her efforts have greatly aligned with the Foundation's mission to promote access to justice. Congratulations, Judge Foster!

Commission Member **Marcus Reinkensmeyer** retired as Deputy Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts and completed his service on the ACAJ. Thank you, Marcus, for your service and all that you have done and continue to do. **Jeff Schrade**, newly appointed Deputy Director, has joined the Commission. Jeff has a rich history in access to justice efforts, including working at the Bar Foundation and leading the Court's Education Services Division—we look forward to your service on the Commission. Also new to the Commission is **Drew P. Schaffer**, Director of the William E. Morris Institute for Justice. Drew leads the charge to protect the rights of low-income Arizonans, and we are delighted for your service as a member of the Commission.

### **LEGAL AID PARTNERS, ONGOING EFFORTS**



Community Legal Services (CLS) is a non-profit law firm that has worked for over 70 years to increase fairness in the civil justice system on behalf of Arizona's most underserved communities. CLS provides services to Maricopa, Yavapai, Mohave, La Paz, and Yuma Counties. CLS now provides intake services through telephone, online interactions, and in-person hours throughout its service areas in order to meet the needs of the community.

CLS has expanded services and community reach through partnerships with Maricopa County, Expunge AZ, Statewide Legal Services funding, and many others. In order to meet the needs of the increasing eviction numbers, CLS created a Tenant Eviction Assistance Project, which provides additional paralegals and lawyers who offer legal assistance to tenants facing an eviction. CLS currently has a grant from the Legal Services Corporation to maintain legal kiosks throughout its service areas that allow individuals to receive online legal information, appear remotely for court, and meet virtually with advocates. See clsaz.org for more.



**DNA People's Legal Services** (DNA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit legal aid organization established in 1967, provides free civil legal services to low-income communities. DNA provides justice to vulnerable populations and offers high-quality legal representation and education while respecting tribal sovereignty and honoring cultural traditions. As a partner of the Arizona Commission on Access to Justice, DNA operates through six offices and a mobile office, serving thousands of low-income Arizonans each year by facilitating access to civil courts within tribal, state, and federal justice systems.

In 2024, DNA supported Arizona clients across various civil legal issues, including consumer, family, housing, employment, and public benefits matters. These services ranged from legal counsel and advice to brief services and full representation. For self-represented individuals, DNA supported and helped them navigate the complex legal justice system. Through its Volunteer Law Program and legal clinics, DNA also facilitated pro bono services for individuals who could not otherwise afford legal counsel. DNA also launched a Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC) program. This initiative offers a comprehensive suite of legal services to taxpayers engaged in disputes with the IRS, including consultations, brief advice, and full representation. The clinic provides representation in the U.S. Tax Court when necessary, ensuring robust support for those facing tax controversies.

DNA remains committed to one-on-one and community-based legal education, collaborating with federal, state, and local partners to address systemic legal barriers in Arizona. DNA also continues to foster partnerships and strengthen relationships with Native American and other underserved communities in Arizona. Through collaborations with social service agencies, partner organizations, and professional groups, DNA has strengthened community awareness of its services through outreach initiatives that provide legal information and empower individuals and communities. Learn more about DNA at **dnalegalservices.org**.



A beacon of hope since 1951, **Southern Arizona Legal Aid, Inc.'s (SALA)** dedicated team of attorneys and volunteers are a powerful voice for vulnerable low-income people struggling with legal issues in Apache, Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Navajo, Pima, Pinal, and Santa Cruz Counties, and on 11 of Arizona's 22 federally recognized Native American reservations. In 2024, the Veterans Hope & Justice Project and the Criminal Records Relief Project were established.

Legal problems are often the greatest obstacles to a veteran's health, housing, stability, and productivity. This project joined forces with existing and new nonprofit partners, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and veteran-serving advocates and organizations. The Criminal Records Relief Project works to set aside, seal, and expunge criminal records and restore civil rights through self-help assistance and in-court representation. Both provide free legal help with no income eligibility requirements. Also, clinics, outreach, and education events are held throughout the service area.

SALA's commitment to justice is reflected in its comprehensive services, and by addressing the legal needs of those who cannot afford private counsel, playing a crucial role in promoting fairness and equity in the judicial system. Learn more about SALA at sazlegalaid.org.

### THE SANDWICH CAMPAIGN

The Sandwich Campaign offers a friendly competition among Arizona's three Legal Service Corporation entities, with them vying for the top spot for innovative or unique projects with the prize being a sandwich lunch!

In 2024, DNA People's Legal Services (DNA), Community Legal Services (CLS), and Southern Arizona Legal Aid (SALA) submitted their access to justice projects for a chance to win lunch sponsored by Commission Chair Sam Thumma. At each of the Commission meetings in 2024, the three LSC groups were commended for their submissions, which exemplified the great work of these groups in their efforts to enhance access to justice.

SALA won for their Veterans' Hope and Justice Project, which is designed to address the civil legal needs of veterans and offer legal services specifically to veterans who are unhoused or at risk of being unsheltered. Services include, but are not limited to, eviction aid, referrals for transitional housing, and restorative justice; and this program also provides an opportunity for veterans to collaborate with the veterans' treatment court.

CLS won for their juvenile law phone clinic, which is a partnership between CLS and the Superior Court in Maricopa County. The clinic addresses the high need for legal assistance in juvenile law, and volunteer attorneys provide 30-minute phone calls for clients, assisting over 200 families.

Lastly, DNA won for their Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC), which provides representations, consultation, and taxpayer education services to underserved communities on subjects including, but are not limited to, earned income tax credit, child tax credit audits, collections, tax levies, and tax audits. Outreach to clients is conducted even in areas where DNA does not have an office, and DNA anticipates further growth of this clinic as additional DNA state- and Navajo-licensed attorneys begin representing taxpayers through this program.

Congratulations to all the Sandwich Campaign winners!!

## **COMMISSION MEMBER HISTORY**



Thank you to these champions and to all current and former Commission members!

Judge Sam Thumma ACAJ Chair

Mike Baumstark, Administrative Office of the Courts Judge Thomas Berning, Tucson City Court Judge Sean Earl Brearcliffe, Arizona Court of Appeals, Division II Judge Dean Christoffel, Superior Court in Pima County Milagros Cisneros, Federal Public Defender's Office Judge Bruce R. Cohen, Superior Court in Maricopa County Judge Maria Elena Cruz, Arizona Court of Appeals, Division I Barbara Dawson, Snell & Wilmer, LLP Judge David M. Haws, Superior Court in Yuma County Steven A. Hirsch, Quarles & Brady, LLP Judge Michael K. Jeanes, Superior Court in Maricopa County Ellen Katz, William E. Morris Institute for Justice Michael T. Liburdi, Arizona Governor's Office Judge James Marner, Superior Court in Pima County John Phelps, Pathfinder Executive Counseling Helen Purcell, Public Member Marcus Reinkensmeyer, Administrative Office of the Courts Steve Seleznow, Arizona Community Foundation Judge Rachel Torres Carrillo, Maricopa County Justice Courts Lisa Urias, Urias Communications Judge Lawrence F. Winthrop, Arizona Court of Appeals, Division I

Judge Janet Barton, Superior Court in Maricopa County







ARIZONA COMMISSION ON ACCESS TO JUSTICE