

# Shining Stars in Arizona



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

—Margaret Mead, anthropologist



In June, the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education recognized 50 “shining stars”—attorneys who have given tirelessly to provide free legal services to low-income clients. At a reception at the Phoenix home of George & Ronnie Lyons, Arizona Chief Justice Charles E. Jones gave them their awards as the “Top 50 Pro Bono Attorneys in Arizona.”

These individuals give their time and legal expertise outside of their “regular” job to clients of the Volunteer Lawyers Programs of Community Legal Services, DNA–People’s Legal Services, the Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project and Southern Arizona Legal Aid.

All types of assistance are provided by these volunteer lawyers—from advice to extended representation—in all areas of the law—bankruptcy/debt collection, landlord/tenant, home ownership, family matters, estate planning, to name just a few.

Thabet Khalidi, one of the honorees from Tucson, explained why he provides volunteer legal assistance: “The fact of the matter is that we are a privileged profession with an opportunity to do some good as a means of giving back to society all that it has given us. None of us would be where we are today without the help of countless others. The only way to repay these kindnesses is to help others.”

Volunteer attorneys come from everywhere, as seen by the range of legal positions held by the honorees. Twenty of them are solo practitioners. Others work in a variety of firms, for the Arizona State Senate, the Arizona Title Agency and the ASU School of Law.

2003 is the third year that the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education has given this award to 50 attorneys. The Foundation’s President, Debbie Hill, expressed her appreciation for the honorees’ work, “These volunteer attorneys truly are shining stars and shining examples of the difference our profession can make. We salute the Top 50 Pro Bono Attorneys in Arizona.”

Name	Firm	City
Kenneth Abrams	Kenneth L. Abrams PC	Phoenix
Charles Arnold	Frazer Ryan Goldberg Arnold & Gittler	Phoenix
Barbara A. Bailey	Brown & Bain PA	Phoenix
John Balentine	Van O’Steen and Partners	Tucson
Dean Christoffel	West, Christoffel, Konigsberg and Zickerman, PC	Tucson
Michael J. Christopher	Snell & Wilmer	Phoenix
Dennis Clancy	Raven & Awerkamp PC	Tucson
Benjamin S. Cole	Navajo County Legal Defender	Holbrook
Joubert Davenport	Sole Practitioner	Tucson
Glen Davis	State Senate	Phoenix
Thomas Davis	Arizona State University	Gilbert
Fred Farsjo	Gabroy, Rollman & Bosse PC	Tucson
Janet Feeley	Sole Practitioner	Mesa
Jennifer Gadow	Fromm Smith & Gadow	Phoenix
Craig Gordon	Bojutz & Gordon PC	Tucson
Larry Haddy	Burch & Cracchiolo	Phoenix
Cole Hernandez	Goering, Roberts, Rubin, Brogna, Enos & Hernandez, PC	Tucson
Brooks Holcomb	Charles F. Myers PA	Phoenix
Lisa Johnson	Sole Practitioner	Phoenix
Mikkel “Mik” Jordahl	Sole Practitioner	Flagstaff
Thabet Khalidi	Sole Practitioner	Tucson
Sidney Kain	Sole Practitioner	Tucson
Wendy Lancaster	Wilcox & Wilcox	Phoenix
Pamela A. Liberty	Liberty, O’Neill & Bibbens	Tucson
Mary McDonald	Sole Practitioner	Glendale
Daniel P.J. Miller	Tucker & Miller	Phoenix
Carm Moehle	Sole Practitioner	Phoenix
Irval L. Mortensen	Sole Practitioner	Safford
Tom Neimeir	Sole Practitioner	Tucson
Barry G. Nelson	Law Offices of Barry G. Nelson	Tucson
David Ouimette	Mariscal Weeks McIntyre & Friedlander	Phoenix
Michael Palumbo	Jennings Strouss & Salmon	Phoenix
Nathan Parkey	Sole Practitioner	Tucson
Rich Peters	Sole Practitioner	Phoenix
Jeffrey Pollitt	Jensen & Pollitt	Phoenix
Denise Quinterri	Quarles & Brady Streich Lang	Phoenix
John Richardson	DeConcini McDonald Yetwin & Lacy PC	Tucson
Kenneth Royer	Law Offices of Kenneth G. Royer	Phoenix
Richard Rubin	Arizona Title Agency	Phoenix
Ellen M. Seaborne	Ellen Seaborne & Associates PC	Flagstaff
Denice Shepherd	Sole Practitioner	Tucson
Stephen Smith	Fromm Smith & Gadow	Phoenix
Thomas Swift	Sole Practitioner	Mesa
Carl Tootle	Sole Practitioner	Tucson
Patrick Traynor	Waterfall Economidis Caldwell Hanshaw & Villamana PC	Tucson
Robert Walston	Sole Practitioner	Mesa
Jeanne Benda Whitney	Cardinal & Stachel P.C.	Sierra Vista
Alan Wittig	Sole Practitioner	Mesa
Jacqueline Wohl	Sole Practitioner	Tucson
Jay Zweig	Gallagher & Kennedy	Phoenix



Chief Justice Charles Jones, George Lyon, Debra Hill



Charles Arnold, Pam Koester



AzFLS&E reception for Top 50 Pro Bono Attorneys, held at the Paradise Valley home of George and Ronnie Lyon.



Tom Swift, Ronnie Lyon, Beth Swift

Arizona's Volunteer Lawyers Program is composed of six programs across the state. To volunteer, contact the Coordinator for your county or interest.



**Apache, Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Navajo, Pinal and Santa Cruz Counties**

Amy Glicker  
Rural Pro Bono Coordinator  
Southern Arizona Legal Aid  
64 E. Broadway Blvd.  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
(520) 623-9465 x 157 or  
1-800-258-6789  
(520) 620-0443 FAX  
amy@sazlegalaid.org

**Coconino County**

Barbara Benavidez  
Pro Bono Coordinator  
VLP of DNA-People's  
Legal Services  
222 East Birch Street

Flagstaff, AZ 86001  
(520) 774-0653 or  
1-800-789-5781  
(520) 774-9452 FAX  
bbenavidez@dnalegalservices.org

**Maricopa County**

Pat Gerrich  
Director, Volunteer  
Lawyers Program  
Community Legal Services  
P.O. Box 21538  
Phoenix, AZ 85036-1538  
(602) 254-4714 or  
(602) 258-3434, x263  
(602) 254-9059 FAX  
pgerrich@clsaz.org

**Mohave County**

Xochilt Nelson  
VLP Coordinator of Mohave County  
Community Legal Services  
1720 Beverly Ave. Suite A  
Kingman, AZ 86401  
(928) 681-1177, x23 or

1-800-255-9031  
(928) 681-5998 FAX  
xnelson@clsaz.org

**Pima County**

Michele Mirto  
VLP Program Director  
Southern Arizona Legal Aid  
64 E. Broadway Blvd.  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
(520) 623-9465 x134 or  
1-800-258-6789  
(520) 620-0443 FAX  
michele@sazlegalaid.org

**Yavapai County**

Kerri Vaughn  
VLP Coordinator of Yavapai County  
Community Legal Services  
401 N. Mount Vernon  
Prescott, AZ 86301  
(928) 445-9240 or  
1-800-233-5114  
(928) 445-6312 FAX  
kvaughn@clsaz.org

**Yuma and La Paz Counties**

Jo Ann Reyes  
VLP Coordinator of Yuma/  
La Paz Counties  
Community Legal Services  
201 S. 1st Ave.  
Yuma, AZ 85364-2250  
(928) 782-7511 x18 or  
1-800-424-7962  
(928) 782-0037 FAX  
jareyes@clsaz.org

**Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project**

Stacy Taeuber  
Pro Bono Coordinator  
Florence Immigrant  
& Refugee Rights Project  
P.O. Box 654  
Florence, AZ 85232  
(520) 760-4175  
(520) 760-4175 FAX  
staeuber@dakotacom.net