

Arizona Women Lawyers Association

Southern Arizona Chapter

January 2005



MAGISTRATE JUDGE NANCY FIORA HONORED AT HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

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Each year, our holiday luncheon offers Southern Arizona AWLA members and their guests an opportunity to mingle and visit with people they may not have seen for quite sometime, some since last year's luncheon. This year's holiday luncheon, held on December 14 at the Arizona Inn, was no exception, with 136 people in attendance.



*Hon. Nancy Fiora
and new Chapter
Pres. Terri Roberts*

Of course, the highlight of each holiday luncheon is the presentation of the Alice Truman Leadership Award, which is presented each year to an AWLA member who is a role model for women lawyers and who demonstrates outstanding leadership in her career and community. This year's recipient of the Truman Award was the Honorable **Nancy F. Fiora**, U.S. Magistrate Judge.

Suzanne Kaplan McKee, Judge Fiora's law clerk, shared a number of humorous and personal stories about Judge Fiora's life and career, including the Judge's escape from school one day to dance on Dick Clark's American Bandstand with her friends and her venture into fashion's counter culture with her "Nancy belts." Suzanne also reminisced about Judge Fiora's clerkship with Judge Mary Anne Richey, her Distinguished Expert Marksmanship Classification, her passion for gardening and her expert (and early morning) yard sale shopping. A high point for Judge Fiora was Suzanne's reading of a touching and humorous letter from the Judge's son, Josh Fiora Gormally, who resides out of state. As Suzanne said:



*Judge Fiora &
Suzanne McKee*

There is a saying that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. Instead, they went out and happened to things. Judge Fiora, AWLA thanks you for not sitting back. Thank you for having the courage, vision and determination to make a difference in our community and our lives.



*Hon. Virginia Kelly,
Sandy Hansen &
Chris Cabanillas*



*Jean Gage,
Dee-Dee Samet,
Susan Villarreal &
Hon. Cindy Jorgensen*

Following Suzanne's touching words, Dee-Dee Samet read a hilarious, heartfelt (and rhyming) poem that she wrote just for this occasion. Terri Roberts, the Southern Arizona Chapter's new President, then presented Judge Fiora with the Alice Truman Leadership Award, which is a framed, original print by Dine' (Navajo) artist **Gloria Tacheenie-Campoy**. Judge Fiora's remarks following presentation of the Award included recognition of Judge Truman's commitment to the advancement of women in the legal profession at an earlier time when "the obstacles were higher, the resistance stronger."



In addition to the presentation of the Truman Award, President Ronna Fickbohm announced the new officers and steering committee members for 2005. (Please see page 10 of this newsletter for a complete list and contact information.) New President Terri Roberts thanked Ronna for her service as AWLA Southern Arizona Chapter's President and presented her with an engraved glasswork gift from the Philabaum Gallery. Terri also expressed appreciation for all of Nancy Kroell's hard work as AWLA Administrator.

*Outgoing Chapter
President Ronna
Fickbohm*



A Note of Thanks

Dear Members,

Thank you so much for this wonderful award. It is especially gratifying, as I prepare to retire from the profession, which has given me so many rewards and happy memories, to receive from my peers a recognition which bears Alice Truman's name. I also want to acknowledge my Judicial Law Clerk, Suzanne Kaplan McKee, whose introductory remarks made me seem rather interesting. She did that with the same acumen, skill and ease she uses daily to make me seem smart, knowledgeable and, well, "judicious". I am grateful for those gifts from you, Suzanne. THANK YOU, Suzanne, for once again doing what is your standard, outstanding job.

Sincerely,
Nancy F. Fiora

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“Getting to know you, getting to know all about you.” I don’t know if I’ve quoted that exactly right, but that is the theme of my presidency this year. I would like to get to know the members of AWLA - in particular, as it affects what you want from this organization. As you may have noticed, AWLA recently sent out a member survey. We would like to meet the needs of the membership, but first we need to know what you want, what you expect. Please help us by voicing your wants and your wishes.



*New Chapter President
Terri Roberts*

I'll begin by letting you know who I am. I was born March 24, 1953. I am a second generation Aries. I was raised in rural Indiana. When my parents separated in about 1958, my sister, my mother, and I moved in with my grandparents, two uncles, and an aunt in a big farmhouse. Not having any horses, I rode a big pig named Snowball around the chicken coop. We had cows, but you can't really ride cows because they mostly just stand and eat. For the first two years of my education, I attended a one-room school house where all 8 grades were taught by one male teacher who had lost both his legs in World War II. You learn fast this way because if you're paying attention, you can learn the information being taught to the students in the higher grades.

At age 8, my sister and I went to live with my father, his girlfriend and her three children. Unfortunately, my father was killed in a car accident two years later. My mother remarried, and I then had a stepfather to whom I was the son he never had. He taught me car mechanics, welding and how to shoot and clean firearms. At Jeffersonville High School I was president of the National Honor Society, a member of Future Teachers of America, Tri-Hi-Y, Art Honor Society, American Field Service, and the Girls' Athletic Association. I lettered in basketball, bowling, field hockey and soccer.

I graduated from Indiana University with a major in Spanish and a minor in French. I also studied Italian and German. It was while working at McDonald's in the evenings during college that I met my husband, Gary. He was a business major with an ROTC scholarship. We were married on July 5, 1975 at Ft. Rucker, Alabama. My husband was employed by the U.S. Army so besides living in Alabama, we also lived in Virginia, Washington and Texas, moving 14 times in the first 20 years of our marriage.

I tried working as an assistant manager for K-Mart, assistant manager for Zales, and as a bookkeeper and service technician dispatcher for Hobart Food Machines, but none of the jobs thrilled me. However, it was while I was running a part-time business as a house sitter that I became interested in the law. So, on a sort of dare from my husband ("if you're so smart why don't you go to law school"), I took the LSAT and the rest is history. I received my J.D. from Seattle University School of Law in 1983 and practiced in Washington for 5 years before moving to Tucson in November 1988. I practiced in Phoenix from 1991 to 1995, and then it was back to Tucson.

During my career as an attorney I was a law clerk at the Division One Court of Appeals in Seattle, and I opened my own practice 3 times - in King County, Washington, downtown Phoenix and in Tucson. I have been "of counsel," in-house counsel, and an administrative law judge for the Department of Economic Security, Unemployment Insurance, Office of Appeals. For the last six years

I have been employed by Barbara La Wall, Pima County Attorney. I am currently a litigator in the Tort Unit.

I have a husband (active duty Army National Guard), no children, 2 dogs (Labrador Retrievers) and a cat (18 pounds). I am a performing member of a tap dance troupe. I enjoy reading, gardening, working crossword puzzles and playing poker. So there you are. All about me in a nutshell.

I originally got actively involved in AWLA when I joined the Judicial Appointments committee. I was at an AWLA poker party when some members were talking about upcoming judicial vacancies. I wanted to know more about how our judges are chosen and who the candidates were, so I participated in the mock interviews AWLA holds for judicial hopefuls. From there, I was asked to be on the steering committee, became President-Elect, and now here I am as president wanting to know what you want from this organization so that I can steer it gently in that direction.

Please contact me and let me know something about you and what you would like to see AWLA doing. Let's have a good, productive, happy new year!



Thanks to All of Our Sustaining Members!

Shelley Lynn Aboud
Eva Bacal
Alice W. Callison
Hon. Sharon Douglas
Hector C. Estrada
Helen A. Gaebler
Michelle T. Langan
Belinda A. Martin
Kathleen A. McCarthy
JoJene E. Mills
Kay Richter
Denice R. Sheperd
Eleanor ter Horst
Susan C. Villarreal
Janice A. Wezelman
Jill D. Winans

Raquel Arellano
Christina M. Cabanillas
Deanna Conn
Hon. Jill L. Eikleberry
Ronna L. Fickbohm
Lori B. Jones
Judith E. Leonard
Dean Toni Massaro
Megan E. Miller
Carolita L. Oliveros
Dee-Dee Samet
Sally Simmons
Merle Joy Turchik
Hon. Nanette M. Warner
Jill D. Wiley

AWLA Accomplishments and Achievements in 2004



- AWLA members Terry Chandler, Sally Schneider Duncan, Rosa Mroz and Patricia Orozco appointed to judicial positions.
- AWLA member Ann Littrell becomes a judge – the first women elected to the Superior Court in Cochise County.
- AWLA member Amelia Craig Cramer elected to the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Arizona.
- AWLA and its members contribute \$4,075 to the Judge Mary Anne Richey Scholarship Fund.
- Southern Arizona chapter collects \$800 in funds and donated goods for the Amphitheater Clothing Bank Foundation.
- Maricopa chapter Book Drive supports education at Manzanita Elementary School.
- Maricopa chapter Suit Drive gathers 60+ suits to help domestic violence victims and welfare recipients who are returning to the workforce.
- Professor Barbara Atwood receives the Sarah Herring Sorin award.
- Judge Nancy F. Fiora receives the Alice Truman Leadership award.
- Wine & Cheese Gala honors Judge Ann A. Scott Timmer.
- Southern Arizona chapter members participate in AIDS Walk fund-raiser.
- AWLA's Second Annual Leadership Conference and 25th Anniversary Convention attracts enthusiastic crowd and keynote speakers Sarah Weddington and Professor Barbara Babcock.
- AWLA grants more than \$4,300 in scholarships and sponsorships.
- AWLA-State creates a single, comprehensive membership database, publishes a membership directory, conducts a member needs assessment survey and extends computerized accounting to the entire organization.
- Maricopa and Southern Arizona chapters hold Ethics CLE.
- Maricopa chapter drafts model Mentoring Guidelines.
- Southern Arizona chapter adopts an electronic event reservation system.
- AWLA-State initiates an annual President's Award, the first recipient of which is McCarville Cooper & Vasquez, LLP.
- AWLA supports numerous law women association programs and activities at the University of Arizona and Arizona State University.
- AWLA welcomes 206 new members.

JANUARY LUNCHEON

DATE: **MONDAY, January 31, 2005**

TIME: 12:00 o'clock Noon

PLACE: The Manning House, 450 W. Paseo Redondo

COST: \$15 Members / \$20 Non-Members / \$8 Students

RSVP: No later than **Tuesday, January 25, 2005**. Early reservations are required due to the Manning House's 5-day minimum guarantee policy. All members on AWLA's electronic list-serv will receive a separate email notice to RSVP for the luncheon. Please use this automated system to make your RSVP. If you are not on AWLA's e-mail list-serv, to make a reservation, call **Nancy Kroell** at 818-0429 or e-mail her at awlaadmin@theriver.com. No shows and cancellations made after the reservation deadline will be billed. Please pay at the door. Checks prepared in advance are appreciated.

MENU: The Manning House offers a delicious buffet with both standard and vegetarian fare. The January menu features Sonora Pork Loin, Enchiladas Especial, Spanish Rice, Seasonal Vegetables and Spinach Salad.

SPEAKER: "Effective Advocacy: Perspectives from the Bench"

Please join us! Judge Leslie Miller has graciously assembled a panel of four women judges (herself included) from the Pima County Superior Court to present some thoughts, ideas and suggestions to our members about how to be an effective advocate. The panelists:

Jane Eikleberry was appointed to the bench in 2001 and is currently assigned to the Civil Bench. Prior to her appointment, Judge Eikleberry was a shareholder at Waterfall, Economidis, Caldwell, Hanshaw & Villamana, P.C.

Virginia Kelly has been assigned to the Criminal Bench since her 2002 appointment. Prior to her appointment, Judge Kelly served as an appellate and trial attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Leslie Miller was appointed in 1985 and is currently assigned to the Civil Bench. Judge Miller previously served as a Tucson City Magistrate. She also worked as a Pima County Public Defender.

Karen Nygaard has served as a commissioner/judge pro tem since 1997. Prior to her appointment, she was a shareholder at DeConcini McDonald Yetwin and Lacy, P.C. Judge Nygaard also served as a trial deputy in the Pima County Attorney's Office and as a clerk for the Arizona Court of Appeals, Division Two.

**** PLEASE NOTE ****

the following changes from our usual luncheon schedule:

January's luncheon: Monday, January 31, 2005

February's luncheon: Wednesday, February 16, 2004



AWLA NEWS



Mark Your Calendars



- Jan 21Planned Parenthood Award to the Hon. Stanley Feldman
- Jan 31 January Luncheon at the Manning House
- Feb 16 February Luncheon at the Manning House

Painting Themselves Silly! Highlights from the Mothers' Forum Event

AWLA's Mother's Forum finally had a successful event on December 11! Three mothers – Deanna Conn, Caroline Pinckney-Baird, and Mothers' Forum Coordinator Carrie Rednour – and non-mother supporter Angela Moore enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon at Paint Yourself Silly. Deanna's daughter, Sedona, painted a lovely unicorn. Caroline's children, William and Amelia, painted stunning cups and made handprints on plates. Angela's expert painting resulted in a great salad bowl and coffee cup. Carrie made a handprint of her 10-month-old son's hand. All in all, it was a fun-filled afternoon! Please look for information about our next event and plan on joining us!

If you have ideas for future Mothers' Forum events, please contact Carrie at 520-790-4061 or carrierednour@earthlink.net and let her know!

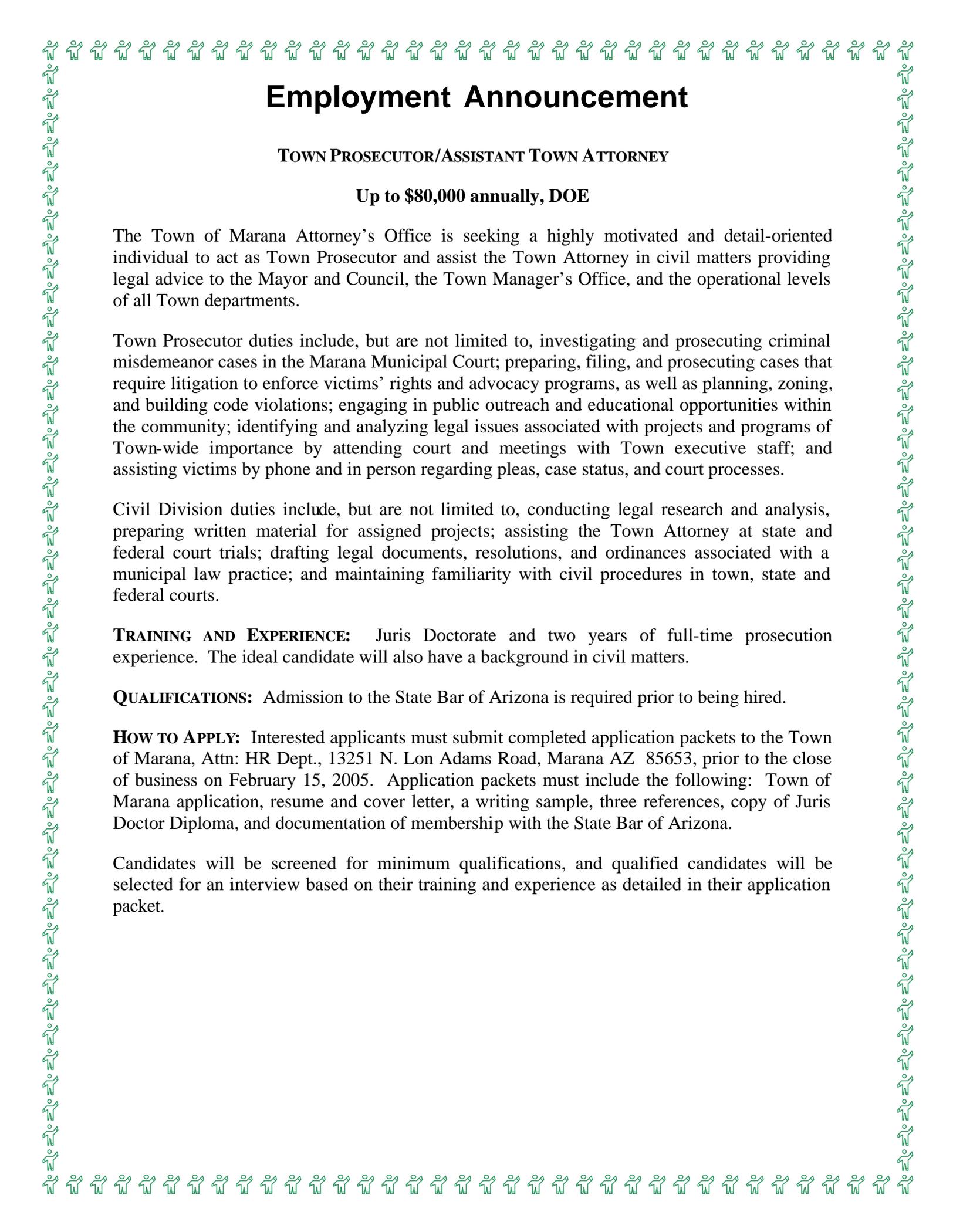
AWLA Award Winners!

Congratulations to retired Pima County Superior Court Judge **Lina Rodriguez** and private practitioner **Ernest Calderón**, who were recently among those honored at the University of Arizona's Hispanic Alumni's 20th Annual Bishop's Scholarship Dinner.

Help!

We Need Your

AWLA plans to honor its past presidents at a ceremony in 2005, the details of which will be provided at a later date. We have not been able to locate Mary Mangotich, who was President of the Southern Arizona Chapter in 1984. If you have any contact information for Ms. Mangotich, please e-mail Nancy at the AWLA Office (awlaadmin@theriver.com). Thank you for your help!



Employment Announcement

TOWN PROSECUTOR/ASSISTANT TOWN ATTORNEY

Up to \$80,000 annually, DOE

The Town of Marana Attorney's Office is seeking a highly motivated and detail-oriented individual to act as Town Prosecutor and assist the Town Attorney in civil matters providing legal advice to the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager's Office, and the operational levels of all Town departments.

Town Prosecutor duties include, but are not limited to, investigating and prosecuting criminal misdemeanor cases in the Marana Municipal Court; preparing, filing, and prosecuting cases that require litigation to enforce victims' rights and advocacy programs, as well as planning, zoning, and building code violations; engaging in public outreach and educational opportunities within the community; identifying and analyzing legal issues associated with projects and programs of Town-wide importance by attending court and meetings with Town executive staff; and assisting victims by phone and in person regarding pleas, case status, and court processes.

Civil Division duties include, but are not limited to, conducting legal research and analysis, preparing written material for assigned projects; assisting the Town Attorney at state and federal court trials; drafting legal documents, resolutions, and ordinances associated with a municipal law practice; and maintaining familiarity with civil procedures in town, state and federal courts.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Juris Doctorate and two years of full-time prosecution experience. The ideal candidate will also have a background in civil matters.

QUALIFICATIONS: Admission to the State Bar of Arizona is required prior to being hired.

HOW TO APPLY: Interested applicants must submit completed application packets to the Town of Marana, Attn: HR Dept., 13251 N. Lon Adams Road, Marana AZ 85653, prior to the close of business on February 15, 2005. Application packets must include the following: Town of Marana application, resume and cover letter, a writing sample, three references, copy of Juris Doctor Diploma, and documentation of membership with the State Bar of Arizona.

Candidates will be screened for minimum qualifications, and qualified candidates will be selected for an interview based on their training and experience as detailed in their application packet.



Celebrating the American Jury System

Teens are too rarely included in the development of law and public policy. *Teens Speak Out!*, co-sponsored by Pima County Superior Court, the University of Arizona Rogers College of Law, Cholla High Magnet School, Pima County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division and Pima County Teen Court, answers that need. The program provides teens with opportunities to research and evaluate public issues and to share their ideas and solutions with policymakers.

Attorneys are needed to: (1) provide guidance to students, as they learn about the jury system and a specific legal issue selected by each class; and (2) attend a May 5th Law Day event at Cholla High Magnet School, and guide students through a discussion of their research with judges, legislators, and members of other law-making bodies and law enforcement.

Please help us to help teens make a difference!
Fill in the information requested below and send to:

Abbe M. Goncharsky
Lewis and Roca LLP
One S. Church, Suite 700
Tucson, AZ 85701-1611
or FAX to 520-879-4703

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Firm/Agency: _____ Email: _____

Please check the appropriate box(es):

- I would like to help a class prepare its issue brief and can meet with students two or three times during January and February.
- I cannot meet regularly with a class, but am interested in volunteering as a classroom speaker.
- I cannot meet with a class in person, but can answer a teacher's law-related questions by phone.
- I would like to help lead a discussion at the Teens Speak Out! event on Thurs., May 5, 2005, at Cholla Magnet High School.
- I would like to make a financial contribution of \$ _____ (enclosed)



AWLA Southern Arizona Chapter
P. O. Box 8448
Tucson, Arizona 85738
awlaadmin@theriver.com
Federal Tax ID Number 86-0396999

2005 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL
(January 2005 – December 2005)

Name: _____

Firm or Agency: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Work Phone: () _____ Work Fax: () _____

Email: _____ Year Admitted to Arizona Practice: _____

AWLA's newsletter will be sent electronically. Check here if you require paper delivery: []

Areas of Practice: (Circle up to 5):

- Academic/Law Professor
Administrative
Antitrust
Appellate
Arbitration/Mediation
Banking & Finance
Bankruptcy
Business/Corporations/Partnerships
Civil Rights
Construction
Corporate Counsel
Criminal
Education & School
Elder Law
Employment/Labor
Environment/Natural Resources
Estate Planning, Probate and Trust
Family
General
Government/Legislative
Guardianship/Conservatorship
Health/Social Security/Disability
Immigration
Indian
Injury & Wrongful Death
Insurance
Intellectual Property
Judiciary
Juvenile
Law Clerk
Law Student
Legal Malpractice/Ethics
Litigation - Civil
Litigation - Commercial
Medical Malpractice
Planning/Zoning/Land Use
Real Estate
Securities & Regulation
Tax
Technology
Tort
Utilities
Worker's Compensation
Other: _____

Other State Bar Admissions: _____

Please return this application and a check made payable to AWLA for 2005 dues in the amount of

- [] \$100 (Sustaining Member*) [] \$75 (Private Attorney earning > \$50,000/yr)
[] \$50 (Public Attorney, or Private Attorney earning < \$50,000/yr) [] \$10 (Law Student)

Send to: AWLA
P.O. Box 8448
Tucson, Arizona 85738

We need your help and involvement on committees. Please check those that interest you.

- [] CLE [] Membership [] Scholarship
[] Judicial Appointments [] Mother's Forum [] Social
[] Law Students [] Newsletter [] Steering
[] Leadership Conference [] Program/Speakers [] Technology
[] Lunch Support

* Sustaining Members receive special recognition in the directory and at AWLA events

2005 AWLA Southern Arizona Leaders

Terri A. Roberts, Esq.	(520) 740-5760	terri.roberts@pcao.pima.gov	President
Leigh H. Bernstein, Esq.	(520) 622-0400	leigh.bernstein@azbar.org	Co-Vice President
Marie Rios-Martinez, Esq.	(520) 628-6044	marie.rios-martinez@azag.gov	Co-Vice President
Karen Friar, Esq.	(520) 740-5750	karen.friar@pcao.pima.gov	Secretary
Katherine M. Brauer, Esq.	(520) 740-4220	kbrauer@sc.pima.gov	Treasurer

<u>Steering Member:</u>	<u>Work Phone:</u>	<u>E-mail Address:</u>	<u>Committee:</u>
Amelia Craig Cramer, Esq.	(520) 319-8062	acramer@pcao.co.pima.az.us	Newsletter
Ronna Fickbohm, Esq.	(520) 320-1300	rlfickbo@gabroylaw.com	
Kristine M. Fox, Esq.	(520) 205-4263	kristine_fox@azd.uscourts.gov	
Anne C. Graham-Bergin, Esq.	(520) 577-1544, ext. 5013	agraham@bass-associates.com	Judicial Appointments
C. Jane Hall, Esq.	(520) 623-4555	CJHall@webmail.azbar.org	Newsletter
Wanda E. Hofmann, Esq.	(520) 628-6044	whofmann@ag.state.az.us	Law Students
Leslie Lynch, Esq.	(520) 740-5750	leslie.lynch@pcao.pima.gov	Website/Social
Patricia Ann Mehrhoff, Esq.	(520) 791-4104	pmehrho1@ci.tucson.az.us	Luncheon Support
Megan E. Miller, Esq.	(520) 490-8346	megan.miller@azbar.org	Judicial Appointments
Angela C. Moore, Esq.	(520) 318-0001	Angela.Moore@azbar.org	Community Service
Paula C. Nailon, Esq.	(520) 626-6107	nailon@law.arizona.edu	Law Students
Kris Page-Iverson, Esq.	(520) 629-4421	kpage@lrlaw.com	Newsletter
Veronique Pardee, Esq.	(520) 292-4056	vpardee@scfaz.com	Community Service
Lori L. Pierce, Esq.	(520) 791-4104	lPierce1@ci.tucson.az.us	Law Students
Caroline Pinkney-Baird, Esq.	(520) 791-4104	caroline.pinkney@tucsonaz.gov	Social
Carrie L. Rednour, Esq.	(520) 790-4061	carrierednour@earthlink.net	Mother's Forum
Merle Joy Turchik, Esq.	(520) 882-7070	merle.turchik@azbar.org	President-Elect
Jill D. Winans, Esq.	(520) 388-4780	jdwinans@gustlaw.com	Community Service

It is the policy of the Southern Chapter of AWLA to publish in our newsletter articles and announcements submitted that are about our members or that concern events and issues of general interest to our membership. We reserve the right to limit publications due to space or editorial discretion. We also remain adamant that our sole mission is advancement of women in our profession: our publication of items submitted that may be perceived by some as supporting a mission other than this should not be considered an endorsement by our chapter. We simply hope to inform, educate, or perhaps even entertain some or all of you.

AWLA
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And www.awla-cochise.org