#### **Mohave County Courts**

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## Arizona Governor's Office to Conduct Superior Court Judicial Interviews

**Submitted by Alexis Cossio** 

In a significant step towards filling the newly established eighth judicial division of the Mohave County Superior Court, members of Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs' office will conducting be interviews with applicants for appointment. judicial interviews will be held on Friday, August 22, 2025, in the Mohave County Board of Supervisors Auditorium.



Arizona State Capitol Building Located in Phoenix, AZ

According to Governor Hobbs' website, all interviews are open to the public and an opportunity for the public to comment on the applicants will be available prior to the interviews at 10:10 AM.

The appointment to the eighth judicial division is particularly crucial as it aims to alleviate the existing caseload and provide more timely resolutions for the citizens of Mohave County. The selected candidate will play a vital role in shaping the legal landscape

of the region and their decisions will have a lasting impact on the community. The selected judge will be assigned to the Lake Havasu City Court.



### Superior Court Law Librarian Brings Knowledge to Law4AZ Submitted by Amy Lowry

The Mohave County Superior Library Court Law Resource Center is the only legal resource center in the county. Patrons access forms and guidelines through phone, email and visiting the library, located on the first floor of the Kingman Superior Courthouse. Emily Dyson has served as the Law librarian for four years, however her knowledge of court forms and procedure is backed with over 20 years of court

experience. With the Courts gearing toward automation, it's hard for some of our customers to navigate online forms and processes; that's where the Law Library comes in. They have paper, lots of paper. Customers from around Mohave County referred to the Law Library for assistance. They also have customers from across the United States needing information and help with Superior Court processes and forms. While supporting the thousands patrons that require direction with legal forms and procedures, Emily also supports staff and judicial

employees within the courthouse. She works to stay up to date on Arizona law and statute changes and as law books are updated, she also sees that our judges receive updated materials according to their judicial assignments. are for For the last two years, Emily has been a part of a statewide project called Law4AZ. Law4AZ was started and to help bridge the justice gap to

For the last two years, Emily has been a part of a statewide project called Law4AZ. Law4AZ was started to help bridge the justice gap to help the public's ability to access legal information and resources. The focus is training public librarians to assist customers with resources and legal research tools. The program started in 2022 with in-person trainings. In 2024 the program was adapted to an online training to reach public librarians that couldn't commit to the travel and training with their already limited budgets and staff. As one of four facilitators, over a 9-week training and collaboration program, Emily has assisted in training public librarians from around the state to better assist customers their with legal information and legal research. Their online program has reached public libraries across the state of Arizona, narrowing the justice gap one library at a time.



Superior Court Law Librarian, Emily Dyson



## **Juvenile Probation Recognizes Award** Winners

Submitted by Sara Colbert

Each Probation year, the Department recognizes its employees through county and statewide awards. This year, like most years, the nominees were outstanding. Truly, there reasons for each of you to win awards but there were a few standouts. First. want to congratulate Mr. Lee for being the Detention Officer of the year selection for Mohave County. Mr. Lee leads with a heart of gold, has a presence that can calm even the

most unruly juvenile and displays an attitude that is inspiring to everyone he interacts with. We are lucky to have his wisdom and guidance in this facility, sharing his knowledge and spreading his compassion while changing lives in the process. Next, the Deputy Director and the Assistant Chief of probation select a special award winner that has the can-do attitude, willingness to work hard and the ability to exact the mission of the department. This honor, called the Mission: Possible award. goes this year to Kathy Bachler. Kathy relishes her interactions with the youth she comes in contact with. She treats each one as a chance to leave a positive impact

community. She has a passion and desire to reach even the toughest kid and show them that there are caring adults in the world and that she truly is one of them. Finally, I want to recognize on of the most team oriented officers we have. Joe Bowen. Joe is a Deputy Probation Officer III and spends a lot of time training new staff, attending court and interacting with our youth, often being the first face of probation they see. He is one of the most seasoned and staff competent on maintenance, contact standards, and department policy. His peers frequently commend leadership qualities, as he is always willing to lend a hand and offer help with any task. Joe not only was our winner in the County for Probation Officer of the Year, but he also is the winner for the entire state. Well done, Joe! Well deserved. Congratulations to all of you. I am incredibly proud to work with you and share in your journey as you Protect the Public, Serve Justice and Change Lives.

and is a beacon of light and

guidance for the youth. Kathy

works hard to develop and

facilitate curriculum to youth, both

in Project AIM and Hope Garden.

She forges relationships with our stakeholders in order to create

lifelines for juveniles in their



Left to right: Craig Lee, Kathy Bachler, and Joe Bowen



his

## Pretrial, Probation, and **Parole Supervision Week**

Submitted by Josh Frisby

On July 16, 2025, representatives Mohave from the County Probation Department met with Governor Katie Hobbs and staff from the Arizona Supreme Court in honor of Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week. Deputy Probation Officer Senior Emily Snay represented Mohave Juvenile Probation while Deputy Probation Officer Steve Cromer represented Mohave Adult Probation. Governor Hobbs issued a proclamation declaring July 20 through July 26, 2025 as Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week. This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> annual PPPS Week, a celebration that began with the American Probation and Parole Association in 1999. The week honors all who work in community corrections across the country to provide public safety by improving outcomes for individuals and families through community supervision.



Deputy Probation Officer Senior Emily Snay with Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs



**Deputy Probation Officer Steve Cromer with** Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs

## **Probation Thanks Court** IT Department

**Submitted by Natalie Eggers** 

The Mohave County Probation Department would like to take a moment to recognize the great work of the Court Information Technology Department! Probation participated in the original migration to Share Point

from Court web but the organization of files within Share Point was not intuitive. Our own Ed Prell took it upon himself to move and clean up both adult and juvenile files, but it would have not been as smooth or possible without the help of court IT. Heather Yarbrough-Puett really went above and beyond helping Ed organize and move folders around. "I know I cost her some

weekend work, and I honestly couldn't have pulled it off as smoothly without her." Additionally, Probation had our annual Probation and Parole BBQ in July. Heather willingly attended the event and took pictures of the event and our award recipients on top of her already busy schedule.

Probation also had a large-scale security camera upgrade to the Kingman Office.



Left to right: Natalie Eggers, Heather Yarbrough-Puett, and Ed Prell

The help of Court IT and Facilities was imperative to get this all taken care of. Kyle Rimel and his team were instrumental in providing technical expertise and review of scope of work for the project. Court IT provided support to help prepare for the vendor's on-site work and worked closely with county facilities and vendor representatives to ensure smooth installation of new hardware and equipment. The Probation Department is grateful for the preparation and assistance provided by Court IT to help make this project successful.

Thanks for all you do to keep us running and up with the times in IT world!



# CASA Volunteer Receives Multiple Awards

Submitted by Jenn Swapp

CASA Mary Van Rooy, of Lake Havasu City, has had a busy summer. On June 24th, she received an award at the statewide CASA and FCRB Conference in Phoenix for being the second longest serving CASA in Arizonaserving for 27 years. She will also receive the Ron G Stephen Distinguished Service Award on September 12th in Lake Havasu.

Prior to these awards, Mary has been busy serving CASA children, mentoring new CASA volunteers, riding horses and caring for her family.

Mary's family immigrated from the Netherlands. She and her husband, Tony, married in 1968 and moved to Lake Havasu in 1978, starting the Van Rooy Family Plumbing business. She and her husband are fortunate to have their kids and grandkids and even two great granddaughters living in LHC and Phoenix areas. She loves to read, ride horses, be outdoors, and be with her family.

As a CASA, Mary advocates for families to stay together if possible and seek the best outcome for the child. The roadblocks to family reunification can be mental illness, criminal lifestyle, very low cognitive abilities, and life-altering addictions.

As a volunteer, Mary believes the most important things she can do is to help children understand it is not their fault that their family is not together. Hopefully, the children can love and care for their family knowing that sometimes adults make bad choices and may be "too" sick to parent a child.

Mary has many great memories advocating for the most amazing children. She has attended high school graduations of CASA children, held a newborn baby of a successful former foster child, and shared Equestrian experiences with CASA children that changed their lives. She is grateful for AFFCF and Mohave County CASA Council Support for giving to the unmet needs for her CASA children and other foster children.



Mary Van Rooy and her husband, Tony

## Doing More than Just Supervision

**Submitted by Natalie Eggers** 

Megan De Baca was previously assigned to the Juvenile Intensive Probation Caseload. She worked in this capacity for the last few years. Being the JIPS officer requires someone to create structure, accountability, and oversight of delinquent youth, but it can also involve teaching skills, life lessons, and building rapport with a positive adult in their lives.



During her time working with these high-risk juveniles, Megan did just that. She took the time to engage the youth in pro-social activities and participated in them herself. Modeling pro-social behavior and what it means to be part of a community is important Probation and Officer De Baca. She has served as a positive adult and youth, support for these something many of them have lacked previously.

For Christmas, the juveniles made ornaments and gave them to the



local senior homes. In May, the juveniles decorated boxes and collected school supplies where the donations were given to the Department of Child Safety for the "Back to School Drive" held on June 28<sup>th</sup> in Kingman. The juveniles also painted rocks and placed them throughout the community. These are activities these kids may have never done prior and would have not engaged in on their own volition. While they are directed to engage in these activities, they end up eniovina themselves, discovering an outlet or safe place for a moment in time, and put others needs before their own. The youth positively recount these events when at other probation programs and really enjoy the opportunity to give back and "be kids." Thank you for your work with the JIPS kids and continued work in juvenile probation, Officer De Baca.



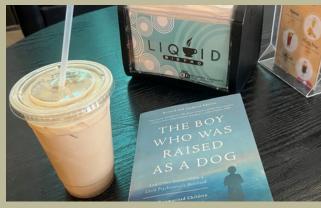
## CASA in the Community Submitted by Madelyn Romero

CASA of Mohave County has multiple community attended events, including First Fridays and the First Annual Health and Safety Family Fun Fair hosted by the Department of Public Health in an attempt to connect with the community and recruit more volunteers. They will have a table at the Mohave County Fair in Kingman in hopes to recruit more volunteers in the community. It is also planned to have a booth appearance at the Autism + Special Needs Family Fun Fair in Kingman, Cornfest in October in Bullhead City, and the first Lake Havasu City Fair in February.

We have many retention efforts scheduled for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year that our volunteers are excited about. In September, we will have training in BHC regarding services available to foster children from The Foster Alliance and CASA Council. In October, we are excited to provide training from our very own knowledgeable probation department about sex trafficking. We will also have a bi-annual Lunch and Learn with our Juvenile Dependency Judges (this is a favorite activity for our CASA volunteers!). Also in October, four of our volunteers will participate in a CASA Council Golf Tournament Fundraiser. And lastly for this year, in December, we will welcome in the holidays with our Holiday Luncheon in each of our three cities.

The CASA Coordinators organize and facilitate many fun activities for their volunteers to build a sense of community with their peers. This includes a book club in Kingman, coffee meetings in Lake Havasu City, and board game days in Bullhead City with our fellow volunteers. We host quarterly help CASA Kickoffs to volunteer feel supported in their new role and this allows them a chance to earn resources and receive mentorship from seasoned volunteers. It is the Coordinators' priority to always make the volunteer feel supported in their CASA role.

Please spread the word!! We are always looking to welcome new volunteers into our program.









## **Employee Spotlight**



### **High 5 Employee Recognition**

#### Jacqueline Martinez -Clerk of Superior Court (Bullhead City)

Submitted by Kelly Andrews

Jacqueline has been the only clerk in the Bullhead Satellite Office to work on the destruction of exhibits since 2020. Jackie reviewed every physical file in this courthouse and pulled all physical exhibits from those files. She sent out the First Notice of Destruction of Exhibits to all litigants and/or counsel, as well as a Second Notice of Destruction until recently and filed numerous Receipts to complete the exhibit destruction process. Bullhead City Satelite Office no longer has any physical exhibits.



#### Joyce Garcia - Clerk of Superior Court (Bullhead City)

Submitted by Kelly Andrews

Joyce assisted an applicant who called our office needing assistance in obtaining her marriage abstract she sent the following email to her supervisor:

Hi, my name is Shelley, and I just want you to know about the awesome service I got from Joyce. I called April 3 about getting a new marriage abstract, the one I have had since 2008 Was not accepted by the ca dmv, my name was misspelled, it been ridiculous trying to get my real id here in ca, but Joyce took care of everything and got it sent off that day as promised. Received it Tuesday and got everything taken of. I just wanted to let you know how much I appreciated her help and customer service

#### **Judicial Years of Service**

June-August

#### Probation

Bryan Banes 5 years

#### **Clerk of Court**

Gretchen Howell 10 years

Laurel Moore 5 years

#### Superior Court

Honorable Douglas Camacho 10 years

Julia Dollarhide 5 years

Katie Ruggles 5 years

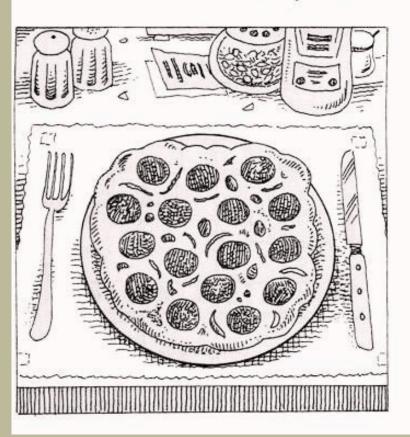


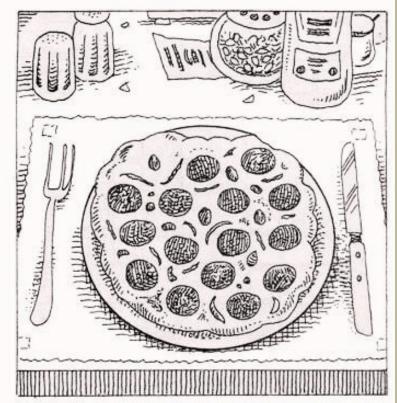
Thank you for your service and dedication to the Mohave County Courts! Volume 2025 Issue 2 May 2025

## **Brain Teasers**



See if you can find the eight differences.





#### **Riddle Me This**

You are in a place called Wally's World and there is only one law. There is a mirror but no reflection. There is <u>pizza</u> with <u>cheese</u>, but not sausage. There is pepper but no salt. There is a door, yet no entrance or exit. What is the law?

What can travel all around the world without leaving its corner?

#### **CANON 2**

## A JUDICIAL EMPLOYEE SHALL PERFORM THE DUTIES OF JUDICIAL EMPLOYMENT IMPARTIALLY, COMPETENTLY, AND DILIGENTLY

#### **RULE 2.1**

Giving Priority to Ethical Duties

A court employee shall regard the ethical duties provided in this code of conduct as having the highest priority.

То ensure that judicial employees are able to fulfill their court duties, judicial employees conduct must their personal and activities professional to minimize the risk of conflict with the performance court duties.

#### **RULE 2.2**

Impartiality and Fairness

A judicial employee shall perform court duties fairly and impartially. Judicial employees may appear to be providing preferential treatment to litigants, counsel

or other persons with whom they discuss the merits of a before case pending the behave in court or particularly friendly manner. To gauge the propriety of any behavior, employees should consider how opposina parties and counsel who are involved in the proceeding are likely to view the situation.

#### **RULE 2.3**

Bias, Prejudice, and Harassment

A judicial employee shall perform court duties without bias or prejudice and shall not manifest bias or prejudice by words or conduct, or engage harassment in the performance of court duties. This includes but limited is not to bias. prejudice, or harassment

based upon race, sex, gender, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, marital status, socioeconomic status, or political affiliation.

- 1. A judicial employee who manifests bias or prejudice in the conduct of court business impairs the fairness of the judicial process and brings the judiciary into disrepute.
- 2. Examples of manifestations of bias or prejudice include are not limited epithets; slurs; demeaning nicknames: negative stereotyping; attempted humor based upon stereotypes; threatening, intimidating, or hostile acts; suggestions of connections between race, ethnicity, or nationality and crime; and irrelevant references personal characteristics.

"I know the price of success: dedication, hard work and an unremitting devotion to the things you want to see happen." — Frank Lloyd Wright

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