FOUNDATION RECOGNIZES ATTORNEYS FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE

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FOUNDATION RECOGNIZES ATTORNEYS FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE Five Outstanding and Top Fifty Pro Bono Attorneys Receive High Honors

[PHOENIX, AZ] –The Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education will recognize the outstanding public service of five Arizona attorneys and the top 50 pro bono attorneys later this week at the State Bar of Arizona's annual convention.

"The Foundation is very privileged to honor these individuals for their gift of public service. In addition to their outstanding contributions to the legal profession, the recipients of these awards represent the spirit of equal access to justice with their compassion and dedication to Arizona's communities," shared Dr. Kevin Ruegg, Executive Director of the Foundation.

Award winners were selected based on nominations from their peers and colleagues and will be presented with their awards during a special luncheon and reception on Thursday. Those to be recognized include:

> Walter E. Craig Distinguished Services Award Mr. William Michael Flood Jennings Strouss & Salmon

William E. Morris Pro Bono Service Award Ms. Debra Hill Osborn Maledon, PA

<u>Foundation for Justice Award</u> Commissioner Frederic Dardis *Arizona Superior Court in Pima County*

Mark Santana Law Related Education Award Ms. Pam Gates Mr. Bill Gates

The Top 50 Pro Bono Attorney Awards will be presented to:

Stefanie Abalos - Phoenix Larry Adamson - Tucson Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education

Jennifer Barnes - Tempe Donald Bayles Jr - Flagstaff Hon. Tom Berning - Tucson Samantha Blevins - Phoenix Jay Calhoun - Tempe Jeffrey Cates - Scottsdale Norma Classen - Flagstaff Stasy Click - Phoenix Carolyn Crook - Scottsdale Hector Diaz - Phoenix Tait Elkie - Scottsdale Veronika Fabian - Tempe Juan Flores - Sierra Vista Jeanie Geiser - Tucson Charles George - Bisbee James Glew - Phoenix Mareen Goodwin - Paradise Valley Anne Graham-Bergin - Tucson Robert Howard Jr. - Scottsdale Steve Itkin - Tucson Stephanie Jackson - Phoenix Kelly Johnson - Phoenix Emily Kile - Scottsdale Barry Kirschner - Tucson Todd Lang - Phoenix Albert Lassen - Springerville Patrick Ledger - Benson Phillip Jay McCarthy Jr. - Flagstaff Kate McMillan - Tucson **Robert Myers - Phoenix** Judith O'Neill - Mesa Janice Palmer - Chandler Christopher Rike - Scottsdale Jim Sakrison - Tucson David Sanderson - Phoenix Ellen Seaborne - Flagstaff Daniel Siegel - Phoenix Skip Skinner - Tucson Tom Slutes - Tucson Spencer Smith - Tucson Alan Solot - Tucson Ron Sommer - Tucson Shawn Stone - Phoenix **Robert Teague - Phoenix** Merle Turchik - Tucson David West - Tucson Wendy White - Flagstaff Stephen Winerip - Phoenix

About the Service Awards

The Walter E. Craig Distinguished Service Awards is awarded for manifesting adherence to the highest principles and traditions of the legal profession and service to the public in the community in which he or she lives. The William E. Morris Pro Bono Service Award is given for extraordinary contributions in making legal services available to persons who otherwise could not afford them and thereby focuses public awareness on the substantial contributions Arizona attorneys make to the community. The Foundation for Justice Award is awarded to the attorney who has devoted expertise and time so that the system of justice has increased access and opportunity for those most vulnerable. The Mark Santana Law Related Education Award recognizes exceptional contributions of Arizona attorneys or law firms in furthering education and understanding of the role of the law in our democratic society, this award focuses public awareness on the contributions that attorneys provide to the community.

About the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education

The Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education provides technical and financial assistance to legal aid organizations, schools and community groups. The Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education promotes "Access to Justice for All Arizonans" by supporting law-related education and free legal services and by promoting statewide collaborative efforts.

Helpful Websites:

Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education:
www.azflse.org
Pictures and Biographies of the Award Winners:
<u>http://www.azflse.org/azflse/competition_awards/awards/</u>
State Bar of Arizona: <u>http://www.azbar.org/</u>

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