



## SOLICITATION OF NOMINATIONS FOR JUVENILE SECTION AWARDS

The Juvenile Law Section of the State Bar of Arizona is soliciting nominations for the 2024 recipient of its annual Award for Excellence in the Field of Juvenile Law and the Award for Meritorious Service to the Juvenile Law Section.

**THE TERRY L. CHANDLER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE FIELD OF JUVENILE LAW** was named in honor of Terry L. Chandler, the founder and first Chair of the Section. We ask Section members and others to participate in this selection of an individual who has made a significant contribution to the field of juvenile law because you are the ones who observe and recognize excellence on a statewide basis.

The award is not limited to practitioners of juvenile law. While many nominees will be attorneys and judges experienced in handling difficult juvenile cases and who demonstrate professionalism in its use, we also invite and anticipate nominations of individuals active in other professions that have an impact on juvenile law. Educators may develop programs to enhance the excellence of practitioners of juvenile law; legislators may draft and promote legislation that contributes significantly to juvenile law; court administrators and other court personnel may be active in the development and implementation of programs that contribute to juvenile law; social service and behavioral health practitioners make significant contributions to the field of juvenile law. The inaugural winner of the Award in 1998 was Hon. Nanette Warner of Pima County for her work in designing and implementing the “Model Court” reforms that streamlined the dependency procedure.

**THE JAMES WAITE MAHONEY MEMORIAL AWARD FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE TO THE JUVENILE LAW SECTION:** Jim Mahoney was one of the founders of the Juvenile Law Section of the State Bar of Arizona. He served as a Chairperson of the Section, was a frequent contributor to the Section’s newsletter, *The Juvenile Clarion*, and worked tirelessly to increase membership and “spread the word” among practitioners in the field of Juvenile Law about the Section’s activities and benefits.

Jim Mahoney passed away on February 2, 2007, before he was able to accept the inaugural James Waite Mahoney Award for Meritorious Service to the Juvenile Law Section. The Award was presented to him posthumously at the Bar Convention in 2007. Section members and others are encouraged to nominate a Section member in good standing of the Juvenile Law Section who is distinguished by meritorious service to the Section.

**Nominating forms** for both Awards are attached or may be obtained by [Clicking Here](#) to view them on the Juvenile Law Section page of the State Bar website. The form is largely self-explanatory. **Section C, which presents the discussion on how the nominee meets the criteria for this award, is obviously the most important.**

Nominations should be emailed to our Section Administrator, Sarah Schneider [Sarah.Schneider@staff.azbar.org](mailto:Sarah.Schneider@staff.azbar.org). Since the presentation of the award is to be at the Section’s annual meeting, during the State Bar Convention, **nominations for this year’s award must be received no later than Friday, April 3, 2026.**

**NOTE: Please feel free to forward this information along to anyone that might not be part of the Juvenile Section that you feel would like to nominate someone for these awards.**