

NEWS RELEASE

Arizona Supreme Court
Administrative Office of the Courts



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Justice Andrew W. Gould Announces Retirement

PHOENIX – Arizona Supreme Court Associate Justice Andrew W. Gould provided notice of his retirement from the bench to Governor Doug Ducey, effective April 1, 2021. Justice Gould has served on the supreme court for more than three years, having started on the bench in 2017 after his 2016 appointment by Governor Ducey.

Justice Gould previously served on the Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One for five years. Before his appointment to the Court of Appeals, Justice Gould served as a trial judge in the Superior Court in and for Yuma County, including serving as presiding judge from 2006 through 2011, and as Associate Presiding Judge from 2001 through 2006. Before joining the bench, Justice Gould was the Chief Civil Deputy in the Yuma County Attorney’s Office and a prosecutor in several offices between 1994 and 2001. Prior to his work as a prosecutor, Justice Gould was a civil litigator in private practice from 1990 through 1994.

In his letter to the governor, Justice Gould reflected on a thirty-year career in the law and more than twenty years of service as a judge and justice. He referred to his time on the bench as a rich and rewarding experience and of his love for the work and serving the people of Arizona. Justice Gould noted his belief that everyone is equal before the law and that applying the law with honesty and integrity is a positive force for promoting the public good and protecting the rights of people.

Chief Justice Robert Brutinel stated, “The court congratulates Justice Gould on his retirement from the court. For more than twenty years he has been an outstanding trial judge, appellate judge and justice. The court has benefited from his wisdom, work ethic, collegiality and his commitment to the rule of law. He will be missed by his colleagues on the court and we wish him the best in his retirement.”

Justice Gould's professional accomplishments include the W.E.S.T. Alumni Association/Drug Court Honorable Tom C. Cole Award, the Arizona Judicial Branch Achievement Award, and the Justice for a Better Arizona Achievement Award for Protecting Children, Families and Communities from the Yuma County Drug Court. Justice Gould was a regular volunteer for the We the People state and national competitive advocacy program for high school students, a youth sports coach, adult bible study teacher, and a participating member of the Yuma Community Theater group.

During his legal career, Justice Gould was a member of the Judicial College of Arizona and was a board member of the Arizona Judges Association. He participated in numerous initiatives to improve the judiciary, including the Evidence-Based Practices for Pre-Sentence Reports Statewide Workgroup, the rural court representatives for the Arizona State and Federal Judicial Council, the Committee on Judicial Education and Training, the Commission on Technology, the Commission on Victims in the Courts, and the Committee on Superior Court. Justice Gould's teaching background includes being a speaker and presenter for a National Association for Court Management conference, the Arizona Paralegal Association Annual Legal Seminar, and Arizona's New Judge Orientation.

In retirement, Justice Gould intends to continue serving the people of Arizona. Under Arizona's merit selection system, the appellate nominating commission will screen applicants within 60 days of the vacancy as part of the process of appointing a new justice to the Court. Governor Ducey will have 60 days from receipt of the list of qualified candidates to make the appointment.

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