



Maricopa County Justice Courts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 8, 2019

Judge Donald Watts Induction to the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame

30+ years of service; veterans assistance continues from the Bench

PHOENIX – Justice of the Peace Donald Watts of the Manistee Justice Court in Maricopa County will be inducted to the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame on October 18th, 2019.

The Hall of Fame is run by Unified Arizona Veterans, a consortium of dozens of organizations supporting veterans and their families in Arizona. The organization acts as one voice, representing those needs to state legislators and other elected leaders.

Each year the UAW selects outstanding state veterans who have made significant personal contributions to their community, state, or nation.

The names are then sent to the Governor's office for approval for induction into the Hall of Fame. Judge Watts surpassed all the criteria for 2019's class of inductees.



Judge Watts in 2014 was elected to the Manistee Justice Precinct, covering parts of Phoenix, Glendale, and Peoria. He is the Associate Presiding Justice of the Peace for the Maricopa County Justice Courts and chairman of the Professional Standards and Policy committee. Watts coordinates the Justice Courts' yearly participation in Glendale's Stand Up for Veterans and the Maricopa County StandDown, which is one of the largest veterans service events in the United States. Judge Watts served in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard, spending more than 20 years in law enforcement, including time as an officer and detective with the Peoria Police Department. He also volunteers for the American Legion and Boy Scouts of America.

The induction ceremony will take place at 11:30am on October 18th, 2019 at the Talking Stick Resort and Conference Center in Scottsdale.

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ABOUT:

There are 26 Justice Courts throughout Maricopa County. Each is presided over by an elected Justice of the Peace. These 'limited jurisdiction' courts handle civil lawsuits (\$10,000 or less, small claims cases (\$3,500 or less), evictions, misdemeanor offenses (shoplifting, writing bad checks, etc), and the full range of civil and criminal traffic offenses, including DUIs. Like other trial and municipal judges, they also preside over orders of protection and injunctions against harassment.

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