

# **APAAC FELLOWSHIPS**

## **STATUS REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE APAAC WORKING GROUP April 2014**

APAAC funds fellowship programs at the state's law schools, providing a third year law student seeking a career in prosecution a year as AN intern in "rotations" through the local prosecuting agencies. The Fellow's work as a prosecutor is facilitated by 17A. ARS Sup.Ct.Rules, Rule 38(d).

The ASU-based Truman R. Young, Jr., Fellowship remembers the Air Force Academy graduate/decorated combat pilot who participated in a series of internships designed to encourage law students to become career prosecutors.

UA houses the Udall Fellowship which honors the commitment of the Udall family to public safety and public service, many of whom were prosecutors over the years, including Morris Udall who served as the Pima County Attorney and Steven G. Udall who has loyally functioned as Apache County Attorney and been on the APAAC council for decades.

The Fellows participate in a summer Criminal Practice Clinic and an academic year of work alongside prosecutors in each of the four jurisdiction-based prosecuting agencies: City/Town Prosecutor's Office, County Attorney's Office, Office of the Arizona Attorney General, and US Attorney for the District of Arizona. Applicants are interviewed and selected in December of their second year for the following academic year. The student receives course credit hours, tuition waiver and a stipend.

The Subcommittee agrees and recommends to the Council that:

#1) Both the TY and Udall programs should continue. Also, consideration should be given to expanding it to the Arizona Summit School of Law at some point in the future to complete participation by all of the law schools in Arizona, raising the profile of prosecution as a career path at both the public and private schools.

#2) Continue current stipends of \$5,000 per student per semester.

#3) Change selection criteria to call for applicants specifically interested in practicing in Arizona by adding that as a component of the essay portion of the application and give weight to applications which address Arizona-based interest.

#4) The Council should adopt a policy that calls for Council members to give preference to those former fellows seeking prosecution employment post-graduation and inform the fellowship applicants that such preference is an additional benefit of the fellowship. This will help ensure that the Fellows are meeting the Council goal of encouraging careers in prosecution in Arizona.

#5) Participating agencies should ensure fellows participate in misdemeanor and felony work as they progress through standardized rotations as follows:  
municipal/misdemeanor; county/felony; USAA; AGO Appeals

#6) Establish a fellowship page on the APAAC website to include alumni.

#7) Establish a fellowship alumni page on the law school websites.

#8) Include a rural County Attorney at the informational sessions conducted at the law schools who can consider the feasibility of a rural rotation and/or address ways to make rural service more appealing and doable considering student debt, i.e., early career progression in terms of complexity may be greater in a small, rural office.

#9) Request that Council members consider post-graduation clerkships for outgoing Fellows during the period between graduation and bar passage.

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