

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 1985-1986

JAMES JOHN HEILER



*“The Truman R. Young Fellowship was the difference-maker in law school. It gave me a set of experiences on which I have drawn ever since.”*

Jay Heiler was appointed by Gov. Jan Brewer an eight-year term on the Arizona Board of Regents, which began in February 2012. A lawyer, journalist and political analyst, Jay Heiler is a political and media consultant serving the leadership of a wide variety of private and public sector clients in public affairs, issue management, and crisis communications. He is the former chief of staff to Gov. Fife Symington and directed both policy and communications for the Symington Administration for five-and-a-half years. He also served as an assistant attorney general in the organized crime and racketeering division of the Arizona Attorney General’s Office from 1986 to 1989, before moving to Richmond, Virginia to work as assistant editor of the editorial pages of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, where he wrote hundreds of commentaries on a wide variety of subjects, including the economy and finance, environmental policy, criminal justice, law, jurisprudence and politics. He is admitted to the bars of both Arizona and Virginia.

Mr. Heiler graduated with honors in journalism from Arizona State University in 1983, where he was a Pulliam Scholar and served as editor-in-chief of the 45,000-reader campus daily, *The State Press*. He took his law degree at ASU as well, where he was named the Truman Young Fellow and began a prosecutorial career while still in law school, preparing and trying cases at the city, county, state and federal levels. He has served on the boards of both the Goldwater Institute and the Morrison Institute, Arizona’s two leading public policy think tanks, and hosted his own public affairs television program, *Straight Answers*.

TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW  
1985-1986

HONORABLE SUSANA PINEDA



*“Invaluable. Open doors and showed me the areas of prosecution I would have never imagined.”*

Judge Pineda served as an Assistant Attorney General with the Arizona Attorney General’s office from 1987 -2007. In 2007, she was appointed by Governor Janet Napolitano to serve as a judge with Maricopa County Superior Court and her current assignment is in Juvenile Court.

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 1986-1987

## JANET LYNN (PATTERSON) RUTH



*“I couldn't imagine a better opportunity to train for a position in public service law. At the end of the Fellowship I was offered my dream job – a position with the United States Attorney's Office in Phoenix.*”

Janet Ruth is a native of Arizona, graduating in 1984 from Grand Canyon College (now University) and in 1987 from Arizona State University College of Law.

Janet served for five years as an Assistant United States Attorney in Phoenix as a prosecuting attorney and appellate specialist, during which time she argued at least twenty cases before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

After marrying and starting a family, Janet took a part-time position as staff attorney with the Department of Veterans Affairs for three years and later taught as an adjunct criminal justice professor at Mesa Community College for over five years. In 2002, Janet moved with her family to Fort Wayne, Indiana, before moving back to Arizona in 2006. During her "free time" Janet has raised two children, written and self-published three books, remained active in her church, and served in leadership positions in several non-profit organizations. She is currently working on a Master's Degree in Christian Leadership and is joining the Women's Ministry team at her church.

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 1988-1989

## KORY NELSON



*“The Truman Young Fellowship Program was the highlight of my law school experience. I owe my successful career as a prosecutor to this program. My law school classes were stuck in teaching theory using case law decades old, while during my experiences in the various prosecutors’ offices I was working in real courtrooms, handling real cases, being trained on the latest cutting edge developments in the real world. The experience and confidence I gained was simply beyond value. I know that no other law school in the U.S. offers such a valuable fellowship program, and it should be highlighted as a premier opportunity for those law school applicants who are interested in pursuing a career in criminal prosecution.”*

*Assistant City Attorney – Senior/ Special Deputy District Attorney  
Prosecution and Code Enforcement (PACE) Section - Denver City Attorney’s Office  
City & County of Denver (Sept 1989 - Present)*

Kory Nelson is currently with the Arraignment Division in Denver, Colorado. He has spent the past 14 years with the Denver City Attorney’s Office and the County of Denver, serving in various positions, including as Senior Attorney in Traffic Division of the Denver County Court, to prosecute both violations of the Denver municipal traffic code and the Colorado Revised Statutes; Chief Legal Counsel to the Director of the Department of Excise & Licenses, the local liquor licensing authority for purposes of Colorado State Liquor Code and all municipal licenses; chief prosecutor in Denver County Court General Violation Division, prosecuting all violations of Denver Revised Municipal Code sections affecting health, safety, and quality of life in local community involving the following municipal agencies; Chief Legal Counsel to the Denver Public Nuisance Abatement Coordinator; and Denver County General Sessions Courts, which are general criminal court.

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 1990-1991

## MICHAEL G. WALES



*“Receiving the Truman Young Fellowship Award was the highlight of my legal education. The Fellowship provided me with many opportunities and opened many doors for me. It was truly an honor bestowed on me for which I have always been grateful.”*

Michael Wales represents property owners and business owners in complex litigation, including construction, products liability and insurance coverage matters in Arizona and California State Courts and United States District Courts. Mr. Wales has over 20 years of litigation, judicial and mediation experience in complex legal matters.

Mr. Wales' judicial experience includes his past employment as a Judge/Court Commissioner for the City of Tempe, where he presided over civil hearings and criminal jury trials, conducted arraignments and plea proceedings, and authorized search warrants, as well as his past employment as an Administrative Law Judge for the State of Arizona, where Mr. Wales presided over disputes arising between state agencies and citizens. State Agencies appearing before Mr. Wales included the Departments of Insurance; Agriculture; Health; Liquor; Gaming; Racing; Public Safety; Nursing; and the Registrar of Contractors. Mr. Wales also served as a Judge Pro Tem for the City of Scottsdale for three years.

Formerly the Managing Partner for Burdman Law Group in Phoenix, AZ, Mr. Wales supervised attorneys and paralegals prosecuting complex construction defect cases in the Arizona office for the firm. Mr. Wales has tried multi-million dollar complex construction cases in Arizona, California and Colorado.

Mr. Wales was admitted to the State Bar of Arizona in 1991 and to the State Bar of California in 1993. From 1991 to 1993, Mr. Wales was a prosecutor in Maricopa County, AZ. From 1993 to 1995 he was a prosecutor in Anaheim, CA.

Mr. Wales has represented his clients in Arizona and California in countless injury, construction, business and insurance litigation cases, as well as in criminal matters and administrative matters. Mr. Wales has also been called on to act as a private arbitrator and as a mediator in a number of construction and other litigation cases.

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 1991-1992

LLOYD ALVIN THOMAS



*“The training and experience I received from the Truman Young Fellowship program was exceptional. I not only learned a lot, but I made valuable contacts with other professionals that have proved very useful throughout my career.”*

Deputy County Attorney  
Apache County Attorney's Office  
2003 – 2006 (3 years)

Deputy County Attorney  
Yavapai County Attorney's Office  
2000 – 2003 (3 years)

Deputy County Attorney  
Yuma County Attorney's Office  
1992 – 2000 (8 years)

Electrician's Mate  
US Navy

1980 – 1987 (7 years)

Orlando, FL: boot camp. Great Lakes, IL: A school. Orlando, FL: Nuclear Power School. USS Robert E. Peary FF-1073 homeport Pearl Harbor, HI. WestPac 1984.

Arizona State University College of Law  
Doctor of Law (JD) 1989 – 1992

Northern Arizona University  
BS, Dual Majors of History and Social Science 1987 – 1989

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW

1994-1995

JASON D. MAXWELL



*“Selection as the Truman R. Young, Jr. Fellow was a great honor, and serving as the Fellow for a year was a terrific experience and opportunity. It served as a great springboard to the practice of law, which I began as a prosecutor, and laid the foundation for the attorney I am today.”*

Following law school I worked as a Deputy Maricopa County attorney for 3 years, during which time I tried approximately 32 jury trials to verdict. In 1998 I relocated to San Diego where I moved to a civil litigation practice. In 2005 I accepted a position as in-house litigation counsel at Cardinal Health, a Fortune 20 healthcare company, for which I relocated to the Chicago area. Today I am Vice President & Associate General Counsel-Litigation for Cardinal Health, and serve as head of litigation for its Medical Products Segment. In this role I advise the company on all litigation and risk related matters, and represent the company in all disputes and investigations.

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 2000-2001

## BILL MONTGOMERY



Bill Montgomery was elected Maricopa County Attorney in 2010 on a pledge to fight crime, honor victims' rights, and protect and strengthen our community. As a West Point Graduate, decorated Gulf War Veteran, professional prosecutor and former Deputy County Attorney, he has dedicated his personal and professional life to serving others.

Bill earned his J.D. from ASU Law School, graduating Magna Cum Laude and receiving the Order of the Coif. As a prosecutor with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, he quickly gained a reputation as an aggressive prosecutor and served as a Bureau Chief of the Auto Theft Bureau, which recorded a 35% drop in auto theft under his leadership.

As County Attorney, Bill is committed to vigorously prosecuting crimes and holding criminals accountable. He believes in the responsible application of Arizona's tough sentencing laws to ensure violent and repeat criminals are kept from our fellow citizens and communities. He is committed to partnering with law enforcement along with business and civic leaders to protect and strengthen communities, and has been an outspoken advocate for life sentences for child sexual predators.

Bill is equally determined to fight fraud and identity theft through the County Attorney's specialized Fraud and Identity Theft Enforcement bureau. He also supports the Castle Doctrine Law, which recognizes a citizen's right to defend his or her family without fear of prosecution; and Arizona's Three Strikes Law, which targets repeat violent criminals. Bill has helped shape legislation designed to protect victims of crime and reform Child Protective Services, and he continues to be a passionate advocate for Victims Rights in Arizona as Maricopa County Attorney.

TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW  
2002-2003

MATTHEW S. LONG

*“The Truman Young Fellowship Program was the best practical experience in law school. In fact, for me it was law school. There was nothing else like it that prepared me for my career. Because of the program, I was able to significantly increase my competence in court. It was most exceptional experience I ever had.”*

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 2005-2006

COLLEEN COX THOMAS

*“The Truman Young Fellowship provided me with unparalleled prosecutorial experience such that when I began my career as a prosecutor I was well-versed in criminal law and procedure and the rules of evidence, and felt capable and confident in the courtroom. Working in the various offices provided me perspective and knowledge that few prosecutors have the opportunity to experience, let alone a law student.*”

Before joining Wilenchik & Bartness, P.C., Colleen Cox Thomas was an adjunct professor at the Ken Blanchard College of Business at Grand Canyon University, where she taught business law and ethics. Prior to that, Ms. Thomas served as a law clerk to the Honorable Rebecca White Berch of the Arizona Supreme Court. She also practiced criminal law at the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office, trying twelve felony jury trials.

Ms. Thomas graduated summa cum laude from the Eller College of Business and Public Administration at the University of Arizona and was named Outstanding Graduating Senior of the School of Public Administration and Policy. She received her Juris Doctor from the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, where she graduated third in her class and was named the ASU Alumni Association Outstanding Graduate of the College of Law. During law school, Ms. Thomas was a member of the Arizona State Law Journal and the Jessup International Moot Court Team.

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 2009-2010

ALICE JONES



*“The Fellowship program confirmed what I already knew-that I wanted a career in criminal prosecution. During my fellowship, I conducted a DUI jury trial, assisted with an attempted murder trial, and drafted eight answering briefs for the State of Arizona. The fellowship led to my current job as an Assistant Attorney General. If you want a career in criminal prosecution, this fellowship is a must!”*

I am a 30-year-old, married, female attorney working as an Assistant Attorney General at the Arizona Attorney General’s Office. I work in the criminal appeals section, and represent the State of Arizona in various matters, including in writ of habeas corpus actions in federal court. I graduated from law school in 2010 and prior to my current position, I clerked for the Honorable Robert M. Brutinel at the Arizona Supreme Court. In my spare time, I enjoy travelling, hiking, camping with my husband, and spending time with our two dogs and cat.

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 2010-2011

MATTHEW BINFORD



*“The Truman R. Young Fellowship provided me with the opportunity to see law enforcement at every level of the state and federal criminal justice systems. I was able to gain significant experience by participating in bench and jury trials in city, state, and federal court, and I gained valuable skills that I have been able to use in my current role as an Assistant Attorney General. The fellowship is a must for anyone who wants to serve the community as a career prosecutor.”*

Matt Binford is an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Arizona. He represents the State in capital and non-capital criminal cases before the Arizona Supreme Court and the Arizona Court of Appeals. He also represents the State in federal habeas proceedings in United States District Court and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Additionally, Matt is responsible for defending the Governor and the Director of the Department of Corrections in civil rights lawsuits that challenge Arizona’s execution protocol.

Matt received his law degree from the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, where he was the Truman R. Young Prosecutorial Fellow and a staff writer for the Arizona State Law Journal. He earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Arizona, and has a master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

Matt is a member of Arizona’s Criminal Jury Instructions Committee, the Attorney General’s Committee on Recorded Statements and Eyewitness Identifications, and the American Bar Association’s Homeland Security Committee. He also serves on the Executive Council of the State Bar’s Appellate Practice Section, the Board of Directors of the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education, and is a member of the Arizona Wills for Heroes Foundation Steering Committee.

# TRUMAN R. YOUNG JR. PROSCUTORIAL FELLOW 2011-2012

CHRISTOPHER BURTON

*“During my initial interview with Clark County, I spoke about my school ranking, the fact that I was on a law journal executive board, and my interest in criminal prosecution. However, the panel was the most interested in my experience as a Truman Young Fellow. I remember feeling during the interview that I had a real advantage when I described the Fellowship and all that it offers students in terms of concrete prosecution experience. I felt confident that my experience as a Truman Young Fellow was a significant advantage over the more than 250 other people who applied for the position.”*

I work for the Clark County DA's Office in Las Vegas, Nevada. For the first year with the county, I worked as a law clerk in Appeals and was assigned to write appellate and post-conviction briefs in connection with a number of cases. After working in that position for a year, I was hired last August as a Deputy District Attorney. I have now been in the courtroom for 7 months prosecuting criminal cases and am loving my work. This is what I want to do with my life and I cannot see myself pursuing any other practice.