

# Domestic Violence Training for Judges

Arizona Supreme Court



# Strategic Agenda: *Good to Great*

## Chief Justice McGregor's goals:

- Protect children, families, communities
- Provide judges with knowledge and skills to process DV cases swiftly and appropriately
- Continuing education for judges on seriousness of DV; cycle of abuse; impact on families, especially children; effective methods for handling DV cases
- <http://supreme8/goodtogreat/>

# New Judge Orientation – Limited Jurisdiction Judges

- New justices of the peace and municipal court judges receive extensive initial training, including domestic violence
- Mandatory training
- Hon. Elizabeth Finn, presiding judge, Glendale City Court, is faculty for NJO DV training programs



# New Judge Orientation – Superior Court

- For newly appointed/elected Superior Court judges
- Mandatory training
- Faculty -- experienced judges
- Eight classroom hours of family law, including one-hour DV component



# Judicial Conference

- Annual conference is mandatory for all judges in Arizona
- Multiple sessions -- judges choose which sessions to attend
- DV session this year – “Domestic Violence: Dynamics, Remedies and Realities” (organized by CIDVC – Committee on the Impact of Domestic Violence on the Courts)



# Family Law Judicial Conference

- Oct. 2-4, 2007
- Three-day conference on family law issues
- One full day devoted to domestic violence training, including victim impact



# Goals of judicial education

- Maintain judicial competence
- Provide practical information that judges can apply from the bench
- Provide broader understanding of the parties before the bench (victim and perpetrator psychology)
- Knowledge about resources available to both parties (e.g., shelters, support services for victims, counseling for batterers)



# Education Services -- AOC

- Missy Becker, Program Manager – Judicial College of Arizona
- JCA provides training specifically for judges
- Distance Learning Unit – exploring development of computer-based DV training for judges
- On-going effort to provide compelling DV training for judges

