

Judge Greg Sakall Appointed to the Bench

By Cathleen Henniges



PCBA President Dan Jurkowitz & Hon. Greg Sakall

On a more personal note, Judge Sakall is originally from Tucson, but spent about 12 years in Prescott during his childhood. His family ultimately moved back to Tucson after Judge Sakall's freshman year of high school. Judge Sakall ventured east for his undergraduate education, attending Hillsdale College and earning a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish & History, Summa Cum Laude, in May 1995. He came back to Tucson for law school and met his wife, Jennifer (Jen) Wortman, through a blind date that was set up by a law school classmate. Jen teaches choir with TUSD and is also the choir director at Tanque Verde Lutheran Church. Judge Sakall and his wife have two boys, ages 6 and 8. He enjoys swimming, reading, and traveling with his family.

Judge Sakall's long time interest in the law emanates from his interaction with lawyers while growing up. He developed a deep respect for lawyers and the ability they had to help their clients. At the completion of his undergraduate studies, Judge Sakall recalled graduating with a liberal arts degree in Spanish & History and realizing that he had no real marketable skills other than the ability to read, write, and speak Spanish. He remembered always thinking about law school, but ended up working for a few years after his undergraduate education before ultimately deciding to follow his heart and go to law school.

Judge Sakall would like to thank his family and friends for their support not only of himself, but of his family as well. He would also like to thank the PCBA, its Board and staff for all of their ongoing efforts and the opportunities they have given him over the years.

On May 25, 2017, Daniel Gregory (Greg) Sakall was welcomed to the Pima County Superior Court family law bench. He is very excited to learn family law and help people resolve their disputes.

Judge Sakall graduated from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law with a Juris Doctor, Summa Cum Laude, in May 2001 and was licensed to practice law in Arizona later that same year. During law school, Judge Sakall participated in summer clerkships at O'Connor Cavanagh Molloy Jones where he focused on professional malpractice, bankruptcy, Medicare compliance and estate tax and also clerked at the U.S. Department of Justice where he gained experience in cases involving class actions, attorneys' fees, joint defense agreements, Medicare and the U.S. Constitution. After law school, Judge Sakall served as a Law Clerk for the Honorable William D. Browning and the Honorable Cindy K. Jorgenson at the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona. Judge Sakall then moved on to become a Staff Attorney at Goldberg & Osborne, where he practiced insurance and personal injury matters since August 2004, representing clients at both the trial and appellate levels. For his work at Goldberg & Osborne, Judge Sakall was honored on the 2015 list of the Southwest Super Lawyers.

Judge Sakall has additionally taught courses at the University of Arizona since spring 2004. Some of the law school courses taught by Judge Sakall include Arizona Civil Procedure, Insurance Law, Conflict of Laws and Legal Analysis, Writing and Research. He has also taught Sex, Race, Drugs & Power in the Supreme Court, which is an undergraduate course where law school students act as Teaching Assistants.