



# 2019 Annual PCBA Awards Luncheon

By Cathleen Henniges

Pima County is filled with amazing attorneys! The PCBA would like to recognize everyone, but that would take much longer than the hour allotted for the annual awards luncheon. PCBA enjoyed a full house at the Arizona Inn for the annual awards event on May 21, 2019. PCBA President Michael Aaron began with the admission of 10 new members, a call to attend PCBA's diverse and informative CLE offerings, a reminder to sponsor PCBA's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Skyline Affair, and a hearty thank you to the luncheon sponsors, RE/MAX Select and Nextrio.

extraordinary service to the PCBA. Thank you, President Aaron, for your leadership and entertaining articles in *The Writ*!

The luncheon was a huge success with an inspiring show of support from our local lawyers for all of the accomplishments over this past year. Congratulations again to all of those honored at the luncheon, and a huge thank you to the entire community for their support!

The PCBA's Lawyer Referral Service had an outstanding year, with President Aaron presenting SALA with a \$3,050 check for the LRS percentage fee proceeds. Over the past 5 years, PCBA has presented SALA with a grand total of \$62,405 from the LRS percentage fee proceeds. A huge thank you went out to all of the attorneys who participate in the Lawyer Referral Service who make this donation possible.

The departing PCBA board members, Heather Bohnke, Kimberly Earp, Jeff Willis, Dan Jurkowitz, and Karen Kowalski were presented with Bar Service Awards. Special individual recognition went to Hon. Kyle Bryson and Hon. John Assini for their support of PCBA and the community. Richard Beck also received special individual recognition for his exemplary assistance to LRS and QUILT, particularly in emergencies when clients needed immediate assistance. Special Group Recognition Awards went to the Family Law Legal Forms group (Reagen Kulseth, Kristy Clairmont, Hon. Dean Christoffel, Zelma Letarte, and Ben Smith) and *The Writ* Committee (Hon. Gus Aragon, Michael Boreale, Joseph Ezzo, Jessica Graves, Dave Hardy, Cathleen Henniges, Krisanne LoGalbo, Hon. Karen Nygaard, Hon. Alyce Pennington, Charles R. Smith, Shirley Spira, Hon. KC Stanford, and Anthony Wisz).

The Pima County Bar Foundation's Treasurer, Dan Jurkowitz, spoke about the PCBF and presented awards on behalf of the foundation. Marissa Sites and Hue Le presented a school leader with an award for her work in the Lawyers For Literacy program. Hue Le was also recognized for her efforts, including making the expansion to Sunny Side School District possible. Dan Jurkowitz returned to present this year's Robert Hooker Award to Eva Bacal for her work on the Juvenile Division of the Pima County Public Defender's office as well as for her contributions to the community.

The Hon. John H. Roll award was created to honor Judge John Roll, a Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court of Arizona who was slain on January 8, 2011, during Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' ill-fated community outreach event. This award recognizes prosecutors who are dedicated to the criminal justice system. Dan Jurkowitz presented the first ever Hon. John H. Roll award to Barbara LaWall, who is the longest servicing County Attorney in Pima County history, and Christina Cabanillas, who is an expert in appellate work among other areas. Both award recipients are pillars in the legal community and spend time teaching and writing articles.

President Aaron returned to give honorable mentions to all of the Law Day volunteers, Patron Members, Sustaining Members, LRS & QUILT attorneys, and PCBA staff. The next order of business was outgoing YLD President Kimberly Earp to welcome next year's YLD President, Melissa San Angelo. The giant gavel was then handed by the current President Michael Aaron to incoming President Anne Elsberry. Congratulations Melissa and Anne! Anne Elsberry then presented Michael Aaron with a well-deserved award for his