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GLENDALE PRESIDING JUDGE ELIZABETH R. FINN TO RECEIVE JUSTICE MICHAEL D. RYAN AWARD FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE

GLENDALE, Ariz. – It was recently announced that Glendale’s Presiding Judge, Judge Elizabeth R. Finn, is the recipient of the Justice Michael D. Ryan Award for Judicial Excellence, presented by the State Bar of Arizona’s Public Lawyers Section.

This award was established in 1999 to honor a judicial officer who demonstrates a dedication and commitment to improving the justice system. Nominees are required to possess high ideals, personal character and judicial competence. In addition, nominees are further distinguished by: participation in projects focused on improving the quality of justice or the justice system; demonstrating innovation in the performance of their duties; and/or demonstrating an ability to effectively handle complex or unusual trials or appeals. This award is open to all federal, state and local judicial officers (including judges, commissioners, magistrates, hearing officers and justices of the peace) who have at least five years of judicial experience. In 2012, the award was renamed the "Justice Michael D. Ryan Award for Judicial Excellence" in his honor, as a 2001 award recipient.

“I am sincerely honored and deeply humbled to receive this extraordinary award from the State Bar’s Public Lawyers Section. To be bestowed such distinction in the memory of Justice Ryan is an incredible experience,” Judge Finn stated. “For me personally, it is rewarding to be recognized for teaching and creating so many projects through the years especially those involving domestic violence.”

Judge Finn was nominated by the O’Connor House and their Avon Project for Women in Justice for her work with both organizations on domestic violence issues. The award will be presented at the State Bar’s annual luncheon on Friday, June 21 at the Annual State Bar Convention at the Biltmore Resort in Phoenix.

For more information on Judge Finn and the Glendale City Court, visit www.glendaleaz.com/court. For more information on the Justice Michael D. Ryan Award for Judicial Excellence, visit www.azbar.org.

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