



David S. Ricker
Community Relations Coordinator

Arizona Superior Court
Pima County
110 West Congress, 9th Floor
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Telephone (520) 740-4264
Cell Phone (520) 349-7310
FAX (520) 740-3789

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Two attorneys appointed to superior court commissioner vacancies

The Hon. Jan E. Kearney, presiding judge for Pima County Superior Court has announced the appointments of two local members of the bar to vacancies created on the bench by the retirement of the Hon. Richard Henry and the appointment by Gov. Jan Brewer of the Hon. Kyle Bryson to the bench as a retained judge.

Appointed to the office held by Commissioner Henry was Wayne E. Yehling, Esq., a former shareholder in the firm of DeConcini McDonald Yetwin & Lacy, P.C. Commissioner Yehling is a 1982 graduate from St. John's College Seminary and a 1985 graduate of the University of Arizona College of Law. Following graduation from law school Commissioner Yehling was a judicial law clerk for the Hon. Thomas C. Kleinschmidt at Division One of the Arizona Court of Appeals. Prior to joining DeConcini McDonald Yetwin & Lacy, P.C. Commissioner Yehling worked in the Appellate Division of the Pima County Public Defender's Office. The Tucson native attended school at Keen Elementary, Naylor Junior High and Tucson High graduating in the Class of 1978.

Appointed to the office held by Commissioner Bryson was Lisa I. Abrams, Esq., a shareholder in the firm of Karp & Weiss. Commissioner Abrams is a 1990 Phi Beta Kappa, magna cum laude graduate of Smith College and a 1993 graduate of the University of Arizona College of Law. Following graduation from law school Commissioner Abrams was a law clerk for the Hon. Michael J. Brown at Pima County Superior Court. Between 1994 and 1999, Commissioner Abrams was a trial attorney with the Pima County Public Defender's Office. In 1999, Commissioner Abrams became legal counsel for the Tucson Unified School District. In 2003, she joined the firm of Karp Heurlin Weiss eventually becoming a partner in the reconstituted firm of Karp & Weiss. Commissioner Abrams was recently named one of Tucson's "40 under 40" by the Tucson Business Edge.

Commissioner Yehling has already started his assignment and Commissioner Abrams is expected to start her assignment in early May.