

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Marlene Appel concentrates her practice in the areas of probate, trust and G/C administration and litigation. She is a certified specialist in estate and trust law and a licensed fiduciary. She is the 2007 Recipient of the Eleanor Ter Horst Distinguished Service Award given by the Probate and Trust Section of the State Bar for superior knowledge in probate and trust law; consultation to the bar, the courts and the public; participation in related committees and projects and enhancement of public awareness of trust and probate issues. She is rated AV-Pre-eminent (20+ years) and *Top Rated Lawyer* by Martindale-Hubbell and has been listed by *SuperLawyers* and *Arizona's Finest Lawyers*.

Since 1988 and 1990 respectively, she has served as Commissioner Pro Tem and Judge Pro Tem for the Probate/Mental Health Division of the Maricopa County Superior Court. She attended Northwestern University and Arizona State University College of Law (JD 1977). She is a former member (1988-92) and co-chairman (1990-91) of the Executive Council of the Probate and Trust Section, State Bar of Arizona, and the State Bar's Continuing Legal Education Committee (1991-95). She served on the Advisory Committee on Estate and Trust Specialization (1991-98), the board of the Maricopa County Bar Association's Estate Planning, Probate and Trust Section and the Arizona Supreme Court's Probate Rules Committee.

She is currently on the Sole Practitioner Section's Probate Litigation Committee, the Estate & Trust Advisory Commission and the Probate Manual Committee. She is a faculty member of the Arizona College of Trial Advocacy and taught part of the Fall 2007 Wills & Estates Practice Skills module as an adjunct professor, Phoenix College of Law. She is a volunteer with the MCBA Probate Lawyer Assistance Program and the State Bar Fee Arbitration Committee. She is qualified as an expert witness, special master, guardian ad litem, arbitrator and mediator and is a frequent speaker on probate and trust administration, guardianships, conservatorships, litigation and professional ethics.

She is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, the Arizona Fiduciary Association and the Arizona Association of Women Lawyers.