

# JOSHUA MOZELL

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A senior partner in the firm, a Best Lawyers® honoree, and a 2022 “AzBusiness Leaders” selectee, Josh Mozell focuses his practice on mental health law – representing families, hospitals, behavioral health providers, and clinicians – and serves clients in the areas of guardianships and conservatorships, contested probates, and estate planning.

Josh is one of the few attorneys in the nation with a family-focused mental healthcare practice, helping to guide families through the complex maze of legal issues that affect loved ones with serious mental illness and/or substance abuse issues. He provides counsel on civil commitment, guardianship, special needs estate planning, and consultation on navigating the mental health system.

He also represents hospitals, behavioral health providers, and clinicians, regularly providing counsel on capacity, HIPAA, civil commitment, interaction with law enforcement, end-of-life decision making, and advance directives. In addition, he represents mental health and healthcare professionals in disciplinary proceedings.

A leader in advocating for Arizonans with mental illness, Josh serves as the president of the Association for the Chronically Mentally Ill; is a past chair of Mental Health America of Arizona and the State Bar of Arizona Executive Council on Elder Law, Mental Health & Special Needs; and is a member of the Columbia University Global Mental Health Program executive committee and the Maricopa County Human Rights Committee.

For four years after earning his undergraduate degree from the University of Arizona, Josh worked in Maricopa County’s public mental health system. Before and during law school, Josh worked nights at Maricopa County’s crisis line, the Crisis Response Network.

In his spare time, Josh enjoys traveling, hiking, and spending time with his wife and family.

## PRACTICE AREAS

- **Mental Health Law**
- **Estate Planning**
- **Contested Guardianships**
- **Contested Probates**
- **Guardianships**
- **Conservatorships**
- **Contested Conservatorships**
- **Not-For-Profit Entities**

## HONORS

The Best Lawyers in America® (Trusts and Estates, Elder Law), 2021-present  
Super Lawyers Rising Stars, 2018-present  
“AzBusiness Leaders” (Healthcare Law), AZ Big Media, 2022  
“Recent Alumni Achievement Award,” Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, 2021

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

State Bar of Arizona: Chair of the Elder Law, Mental Health and Special Needs Planning Section, 2019-2020

## HONORS

Joint Legislative Psychiatric Hospital Review Council, State of Arizona, 2021-2022  
Institute for Mental Health Research: Board of Directors  
Mental Health America of Arizona: Past Chair (2018-2020); Member, Board of Directors  
Association for the Chronically Mentally Ill: President  
Global Mental Health Program (Member, Executive Committee), Council for the Advancement of Global Health Research, Columbia University  
Maricopa County Independent Oversight Committee for the Seriously Mentally Ill  
Crisis Response Network: Advisory Council  
Recovery Empowerment Network: Past Member, Board of Governors  
National Alliance on Mental Illness Arizona: Past Member, Board of Governors

## EDUCATION HISTORY

- **J.D., Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, 2013**  
Legislative Correspondent, Office of U.S. Senator Tom Coburn; Research Assistant, Law Professor Raymond L. Yasser; Research Assistant, Law Professor Hannah Wiseman; Legal Extern, Honorable Jane P. Wiseman, Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals; Legal Intern, Arizona Justice Project
- **B.A., University of Arizona, 2006**

## BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court, District of Arizona, 2019  
U.S. Tax Court 2014  
Arizona, 2013

## ARTICLES

- **“Criminalization of the Condition,” Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Homelessness (Chapter 7), 114th Arizona Town Hall, 2022 Report**
- **“The Arnold v. Sarn Ouroboros” (co-author), Arizona Attorney, September 2021**
- **“Eliminate 55-Bed Mental Health Limit” (guest editorial), Arizona Capitol Times, November 30, 2020**
- **“Arizona’s Broken Mental Health System – with Specificity” (guest editorial), Arizona Capitol Times, March 22, 2018**
- **“Psychiatric Boarding: How Some Arizona Hospitals Misuse the Law to Involuntarily Detain Patients,” January 2017**
- **“Mental Health Power of Attorney and Guardianship: Efficacy and Barriers” (co-author), Arizona Attorney, June 2016**

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Cortney’s Place: Board of Directors  
Phoenix Zoo: Planned Giving Advisory Committee  
Healthcare for the Homeless: Founder, Advance Directive Clinic  
Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care Advocacy Committee: Former Member

## **PRESENTATIONS**

“Intersection of Title 14 and 36,” Maricopa County Bar Association, November 2021

“SMI/Mental Health,” Criminal Bar and Bench Brown Bag, November 2021

“Housing Is Health Care: The Impact of Supportive Housing on the Costs of Chronic Mental Illness,” Maricopa County Public Fiduciary, June 2021

“How to Get Help for Your Patient Who Doesn’t Want It: Process and Law of Involuntary Psychiatric Evaluation and Treatment in Arizona” (co-presenter), Arizona Psychiatric Society, January 2021

“Arizona and Mental Health Informational: Impact of COVID on Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Current Trending Topics in Mental Health, Mental Health at the Legislature in 2020 and 2021,” Scottsdale Estate Planners, November 2020

“8 Dimensions of Wellness in the Age of COVID,” Frazer Ryan Goldberg & Arnold LLP, September 2020

“How Families Can Make a Difference When They Experience a Gap in Care for Their Family Members,” Arizona State University Summer Institute for Behavioral Health, September 2020

“Guardianship: A Deeper Dive” (webinar), Association for the Chronically Mentally Ill, May 2020

“On-Ramps to Involuntary Treatment” (webinar), Association for the Chronically Mentally Ill, April 2020

“Lessons from Mental Health Advocacy in Arizona,” Council for the Advancement of Global Health Research, Columbia University, February 2020

“Navigating a Mental Health Crisis,” Valley Estate Planners, September 2019

“Behavioral Health Crisis? A Panel Discussion on the Availability and Funding of SMI Services” (panelist), Arizona Society of Healthcare Attorneys, August 2019

“Title 36 Civil Commitment from Start to Finish,” Maricopa County Bar Association, June 2019

“Navigating Mental Health Crises,” State Bar of Arizona, Probate and Trust Section, May 2019

“Hope from the Past, Tragedy of Now, Work for the Future” (co-presenter), Winter Institute for Public Safety & Behavioral Health Conference, Arizona State University Center for Applied Behavioral Health Policy, February 2019

“Legal Considerations for Family Members: Guardianship, Conservatorship, Powers of Attorney and Estate Planning,” Seeds Conference, 2016

“Title 36: Court-Ordered Evaluation and Treatment Process,” Mercy Maricopa Executive Council