



# Board of Supervisors Memorandum

May 18, 2021

## Naming of the Public Defense Services Building

### Background

Over the last 18 months, the County has been involved in constructing a building expansion on the Juvenile Justice Complex with a building dedicated to Public Defense Services, housing staff primarily providing legal services within the Juvenile Court. This building is nearing completion and a request has been made to name the building after a long time public defense advocate and defender.

The request regarding the name of the building is outlined in the attached May 4, 2021 memorandum from Public Defense Services Director Dean Brault. The request is to name the new building the "Fredric Kay Public Defense Services Building." Mr. Kay has worked in the legal defense community for 52 years; initially, in the first office of the Pima County Public Defender in 1970, then recruited to the Federal Public Defender in 1972 and retired in 2004 and then returned to the Public Defender's Office in 2005 to represent juvenile and delinquency cases. Mr. Kay will be retiring this summer after an additional 16 years of service with Pima County.

### Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Supervisors name the new Public Defense Services Building on the Juvenile Justice Complex after Mr. Fredric Kay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C.H. Huckelberry".

C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

CHH/mp – May 5, 2021

### Attachment

c: Dean Brault, Director, Public Defense Services  
Lisa Josker, Director, Facilities Management



PUBLIC DEFENSE SERVICES

# MEMORANDUM

To: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

Date: May 4, 2021

From: Dean Brault  
PDS Director

Subject: Naming of the Public Defense Services Building

I am respectfully requesting that Pima County consider naming the entirely new Public Defense Services building currently under construction on the Juvenile Court campus the "Fredric Kay Public Defense Services Building," after a retiring PDS employee, Fredric Kay.

Mr. Kay has been a pillar of the Pima County legal community for 52 years. After graduating from the University of Arizona and the New England School of Law, Mr. Kay clerked for the Tucson City Attorney until he passed the bar in 1969. On January 2, 1970, Mr. Kay began working at the Pima County Public Defender with the first head of the office, Howard Cashman, who opened the office with Mr. Kay and two other lawyers. In 1972, Mr. Kay was recruited to work at the Arizona Federal Public Defender's Office (FPD), which was the first federal public defender's office created under the Criminal Justice Act.

Mr. Kay was made head of the FPD in 1984, and retired from that position in 2004 after 32 years of service. In 1997, U.S. Supreme Court Justice William Rehnquist appointed Mr. Kay to the U.S. Advisory Committee on Evidence Rules, where he served a 6-year term. After Mr. Kay retired from the FPD he was hired by the Pima County Public Defender again in 2005 to represent juveniles in delinquency cases – the position he will be retiring from this Summer after 16 years.

Over the years Mr. Kay has been recognized by various criminal defense organizations for his outstanding service. His awards include:

- The Tom Karas Criminal Justice Award (Arizona State Bar Association, 2004)
- The Distinguished Service to the District of Arizona Award (Federal Bar Association, 2004)
- Community Service Award (Arizona Minority Bar Association, 2004)
- Robert Hooker Criminal Justice Award (Pima County Bar Association, 2011)
- Lifetime Achievement Award (Arizona Public Defender Association, 2019)

I believe Mr. Kay's resume, and his lifetime of service to the criminal justice system and indigent people of Pima County warrants naming the new Public Defense Services building after him. Mr. Kay has a sterling character and an impeccable reputation among prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges. I cannot think of a person more deserving of this type of honor than Mr. Kay.

Please consider forwarding this request the Board of Supervisors for addition to their agenda. Do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or concerns, or if you would like any additional information.

CC: Joel Feinman, Public Defender  
Wendy Petersen, Assistant County Administrator