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**PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**PIMA COUNTY ATTORNEY BARBARA LAWALL HONORED  
WITH STATEWIDE JUDGE LEARNED HAND AWARD**

TUCSON, ARIZONA - Pima County Attorney Barbara LaWall was honored in Phoenix on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, for her sustained contributions to the advancement of equality and democratic principles through her work in the non-profit and public sectors.

LaWall, a Tucson native, received the 2012 Judge Learned Hand Public Service Award from the American Jewish Committee.

This prestigious award is named for Judge Learned Hand, one of the country's preeminent legal philosophers, who served as Senior Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1924-1951.

The award is presented to outstanding leaders of the legal profession who exemplify the highest principles for which Judge Learned Hand was renowned. "I believe lawyers have a special mission in life: to seek and bring justice to their communities. Barbara has accomplished this task with grace and dignity," said Pinal County Attorney Jim Walsh.

Throughout the course of her nearly 40 year career, she has created numerous programs, including the Safe Baby program, Kids in Court, and the award winning Community Justice Boards.

A graduate of the James E. Rogers College of Law at The University of Arizona, LaWall worked in the Pima County Attorney's Office for nearly 20 years before being elected County Attorney in 1996.

Over the course of her career, LaWall has become a nationally recognized expert in juvenile justice, domestic violence, child abuse, and parental kidnapping issues. LaWall serves on numerous commissions, boards, and task forces.

"I have been a public prosecutor for the last 36 years, and I believe I have the very best job in the world. The work that I get to do every day is profoundly special and meaningful. Every day I have the opportunity to make a difference in our community. I accept this award for every victim of crime. This award is for all the persons whose lives have been unalterably shattered and immutably changed by having been victimized." said LaWall.

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