

Keli Luther

Keli Luther is currently a Deputy County Attorney with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office serving the metropolitan Phoenix area focusing on crime victim issues at the trial and appellate level. Keli also serves as a member of the Arizona Supreme Court's Commission on Victims in the Courts (COVIC). COVIC advises the Arizona Judicial Council by reviewing and submitting policy recommendations and procedures to improve victim access and ensure fair treatment during their involvement in the criminal justice system. Prior to accepting a position with Maricopa County, Keli served as senior counsel for Arizona Voice for Crime Victims which has housed two pro bono legal clinics -- the Crime Victim Enforcement Project (CVEP) and the Crime Victim Legal Assistance Project in Tempe, Arizona (CVLAP). CVEP opened its doors in 2007 and provides direct pro bono legal representation for federal crime victims throughout the Ninth Circuit. CVEP is one of the first federal clinics established by Congress in 2004 pursuant to the Crime Victims' Rights Act. Prior to the establishment of the federal clinic, Ms. Luther served as executive director and lead counsel for the Crime Victims Legal Assistance Project (CVLAP). CVLAP, a project of Arizona Voice for Crime Victims, is the first direct representation legal clinic for crime victims in the United States. Formed in 2001, CVLAP is comprised of staff attorneys, social workers, law students as well as volunteer attorneys who represent crime victims pro bono during all *criminal* proceedings. Ms. Luther began her work at CVLAP over a decade ago as a pro bono attorney. Within the scope of her position with Arizona Voice for Crime Victims, Ms. Luther represented hundreds of crime victims throughout the criminal justice process including advocating at both the trial and appellate level, including the United States and Arizona Supreme Court. She has also served as a guardian ad litem in both state and federal courts representing child victims. She has argued motions resulting in key victims' rights victories involving constitutional and statutory issues such as right to be heard, speedy trial, evidentiary disclosure issues such as victim privacy and victim impact statements including the landmark Ninth Circuit case, *Kenna v. USDC*, guaranteeing the right of federal crime victims to be heard at sentencing. Prior to Ms. Luther's civil rights work with crime victims, she practiced in the area of corporate and constitutional law litigation in Washington, D.C. before returning home to Arizona in late 2001.