

## Valley adoption attorney celebrates 25th anniversary

<u>Kathryn Pidgeon</u>, a nationally recognized adoption attorney who has completed more than 2,500 adoptions, is celebrating the 25 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of her law firm this month.

For the past quarter-century, Pidgeon has been helping foster families and special needs children by placing thousands of children in foster homes throughout Arizona.



Phoenix adoption attorney Kathryn Pidgeon is celebrating the 25th anniversary of her... more

After acquiring her license, Pidgeon launched her Phoenix-based adoption firm, Kathryn A. Pidgeon P.C., in 1991, a task she said was not easy.

"My challenge was to get my name out there and develop a client base, which is difficult when you do adoptions because you have to wait for the right client to come to you," she said.

In lieu of the forthcoming digital age, many of Pidgeon's initial clients discovered her practice through small advertisements in the yellow pages.

"There were no websites or advertisements to look at on the internet where you could learn about me before you called," she said. "Since my practice is based on human connection, those early days were hard."

Today, Pidgeon works closely with associate attorney <u>Tiffany Hill</u> at her firm, which she says is now averaging around 500 completed adoptions per year.

"There are more than 19,000 children in foster care in Arizona," Pidgeon said. "When I started practicing law, there were about 7,000 in care. The need to give these children permanency has been great. I'm so encouraged at how successful these adoptions are and how young the children are when they are freed for adoption."

She currently serves on the boards of several local charities including Maricopa County National Adoption Day Foundation as vice president and Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation as honorary past board member.

Pidgeon has played an important role with a number of Valley nonprofits, including serving as chair of Gabriel's Angels' Salud! gala in 2015. She was the recipient of the organization's Platinum Paw in 2016, which honors an individual whose has dedicated time, talent and resources to help Arizona children. She also served on the board of Phoenix Suns Charities, which raises money and gives back to hundreds of local nonprofits that assist family and children in need.

"It was very fulfilling, and it opened my eyes to many charities in town because Phoenix Suns Charities gives to hundreds of charities locally," she said. "I've always had a charitable heart and a giving spirit – It's just who I am."

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In 2004, the U.S. Congress awarded Pidgeon the "Angel In Adoption Congressional Award" in for her public service work. She also received the "The Family Building Hero Award" in 2007 from Resolve: The National Infertility Association. Additionally, she volunteered for the foster care review board, ran by the U.S. Supreme Court of Arizona.

"I'm very proud of the fact that every year we've grown – every year we've handled more cases and brought in more revenue," she said. "The state is always struggling to find the right placements and resources for foster children so I think my work is more critical than ever now."

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