

# Volunteer Opportunities

## TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with the Town. Appointments to committees, commissions, and boards are made in February of each year and terms begin April 1. The application deadline for this appointment is cycle January 31. It is anticipated that there will be vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Public Safety (ACOPS), Paradise Valley Mountain Preserve Trust (PVMPT) the PV Arts Board, as well as other potential vacancies. You are welcome to indicate which committee(s) you are most interested in being considered for appointment. During the interview with the Mayor and Council, consideration will be given to the applicant's background, skills, and interests to assist in determining the best fit.

Please provide the following background information.

Name\*

David Selden

Address\*

[Redacted]

Email\*

[Redacted]

Home Phone

[Redacted]

Employer

Pace Selden Gilman Marks

Occupation

Attorney

Business Phone

[Redacted]

Cell Phone

[Redacted]

Number of years as PV resident

23

Professional experience highlights

As presented in more detail in the attached resume, which is incorporated herein by this reference, I have 44 years of experience as an Arizona practicing attorney and 12 years of experience working on the staffs of Members of Congress in Washington, D.C., including as Legislative Director to two Members of Congress and Chief of Staff to a third Member.

I have drafted more than 10 pieces of legislation that have been enacted into law in Arizona, taught several courses as an Adjunct Professor of Law, and have also served as a Special Federal Employee to evaluate grant application for funding by a federal agency that outsources the grant review/evaluation process.

My experience as a lawyer has resulted in my being listed in the Best Lawyers in America, through a peer review process, in three categories: Commercial Litigation, Construction, and Employment Law.

What experience do you think qualifies you to be a committee member?

My legal experience includes representing clients in matters that are relevant to qualifications to serve on the PVMPT. I have represented clients in significant real estate conveyancing, including litigation about the sale of the Phoenecian Resort property, including the resort area and surrounding residential projects.

I have represented public entities, including the State of Arizona, Maricopa County, and about 10 municipalities in a variety of matters.

My experience in working for Members of Congress is also relevant to the mission of the PVMPT, which includes the donation of scenic easements to preserve the views of PV's iconic mountains. As Legislative Director to the Congressman who was the sponsor of the Appalachian Trail Preservation Act, I did the staff work to lead the enactment of the law that authorized the National Park Service to acquire easements or other property interests through 14 states to preserve the 2,000 mile long Appalachian Trail. The Trail was previously a patchwork of collaboration by private landowners, states and local governments.

I also did the staff work for a law that created a new National Park for a Civil War battlefield, which also utilizes scenic easements to preserve the ambiance of a battlefield that faces pressures from suburban development and an Interstate Highway that bisects the historic grounds.

Of course the PVMPT does not involve public access, unlike the Appalachian Trail or the Civil War battlefield described above, but the process of encouraging and facilitating the acquisition of scenic easements is essential to accomplish the mission of the PVMPT and .

Community Activities

I have been involved in a variety of community activities, as summarized on my attached resume. I am the longest serving Board Member of the Phoenix Symphony (33 years). For 20 years I was on the Board of the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

I have been elected multiple times to serve on the Boards of 4 homeowners'; associations.

I have been active in community matters in the Stone Canyon community and in the grassroots Save Camelback Mountain activities to support preservation of PV's mountain vistas.

I live near the Sanctuary Resort on the north slope of Camelback in the Stone Canyon community, with cherished views of Camelback, Mummy Mountain, and the mountains in PV west of Tatum extending towards Piestewa Peak. I have a deep commitment to preserving the ambiance of Paradise Valley that is defined by its low density residential character and its views of the mountains.

It would be an honor to have the opportunity to serve as a member of the PVMPT.

Information on each of the committees including summaries, annual reports, and meeting minutes are located on the Boards & Commissions page.

[Information on Committees](#)

Please indicate which committee(s) you would be interested in.\*

- Advisory Committee on Public Safety
- PV Arts Board
- Paradise Valley Mountain Preserve Trust

Have you familiarized yourself with the duties of the committee(s) in which you are interested?\*

- Yes
- No

Attach resume and cover letter

[Cover Letter and Resume for PVMPT\(10256965.3\).pdf](#)

\* indicates required fields.

# PSGM LAW

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January 29, 2026

Via email ([dmiller@paradisevalleyaz.gov](mailto:dmiller@paradisevalleyaz.gov)) and link to <https://paradisevalleyaz.gov/forms.aspx?FID=154>

Duncan Miller  
Town Clerk  
Town of Paradise Valley  
6401 E Lincoln Drive  
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

Dear Duncan:

This letter accompanies my application to be considered for service on the Paradise Valley Mountain Preserve Trust. I am excited about this opportunity and grateful for the consideration of my interest in this service. A copy of my resume is also attached.

I have lived in Paradise Valley for 23 years. I live on Camelback Mountain in Stone Canyon, just west of the Sanctuary Resort, with views of Camelback, Mummy Mountain, and the mountains in PV extending west from Tatum. I deeply value the scenic beauty of Paradise Valley and would do my utmost to be a contributing member of the PVMPT.

As outlined in my resume, my professional experience, legislative experience, and non-profit service is long and diverse, including skills that could be applied constructively to further PVMPT's mission. I would welcome any questions or inquiries about my interest in the PVMPT and appreciate the Town's consideration of this important opportunity.

Sincerely,



David A. Selden

[REDACTED]

**SUMMARY**

**Legal Experience:**

44 years of experience as an attorney representing corporate, governmental, and individual clients. Professional recognition includes being listed in *Best Lawyers in America* in Civil Litigation, Construction and Employment Law.

**Legislative Experience:**

Drafted more than 10 pieces of legislation enacted in Arizona.

12 years working for Members of Congress in Washington, including staffing the enactment of landmark legislation to preserve the Appalachian Trail.

**Other Experience:**

Decades of experience on non-profit Boards, including the Phoenix Symphony, the Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and four homeowners associations

Four terms as Special Federal Employee to evaluate grant applications.

Adjunct Professor of Law.

**EDUCATION**

George Washington Univ., B.A., Political Science; M.A., Legislative Affairs.

Georgetown Univ., J.D., *magna cum laude*, Law Review: Associate Editor, *The Tax Lawyer*.

**LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

44 years of experience counseling clients, conducting investigations, and litigating lawsuits and administrative proceedings in Arizona and 19 other states in employment law, commercial litigation, administrative law, contracts, business torts, OSHA, and other fields.

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In addition to representing businesses, public sector clients have included the State of Arizona, Maricopa County, Pinal County, and about 10 municipalities in nearly 100 matters.

Examples of legal experience pertinent to service on the Paradise Valley Mountain Preserve Trust include the following:

- Representation of the title company for the sale of the Phoenician Resort and surrounding residential properties prior to construction of the resort, which was described as the most complex constellation of real property interest in the Valley
- Representation of the State of Arizona in the defense of claims arising out of the Yarnell Hill Fire, including the fatalities to the 19 Granite Mountain Hotshot firefighters.
- Representation of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors in matters such as:
  - Litigation regarding the management and operation of the Integrated Criminal Justice Information System used by five County agencies and relied upon by municipal Police Departments throughout the County.
  - Auditing of and claims against a national law firm that resulted in the law firm refunding and waiving more than \$2 million of attorneys' fees and being disqualified from representing the County

### **ARIZONA LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE**

Drafting and lobbying to enactment in the Arizona Legislature 10 pieces of legislation, including:

- The landmark 1996 Employment Protection Act, defining and overhauling the law of wrongful termination of employment in Arizona;
- The Constructive Discharge Act;
- The Small Business Bill of Rights;
- Several laws clarifying independent contractor status and employment relationships, including the Declaration of Independent Business Act;
- Reforms to the Arizona Occupational Safety and Health Act;
- Amendments to the Drug Testing Act;
- Expansion of the law regarding injunctions against harassment/orders of protection

## **CONGRESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

12 years of experience (1970 – 1982) working for three Members of Congress in Washington D.C. (Congressman James Symington, Congressman Goodloe Byron, and Congresswoman Beverly Byron), including in the positions of Special Assistant responsible for state and local government matters and government contracting, Legislative Director, and Chief of Staff.

Congressional experience pertinent to service on the Paradise Valley Mountain Preserve Trust included doing the staff work for the creation of an additional Civil War battlefield National Park and the enactment of the Appalachian Trail Preservation Act that authorized the National Park Service to acquire service and other easements, restrictive covenants, and fee simple real property interests to preserve the 2,000-mile-long Appalachian Trail through 14 states, which prior to that time have been only a patchwork of voluntary collaborations among state and local governments and private landowners.

## **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Served four terms as a Special Federal Employee on panels of the National Endowment for the Arts, with responsibility to evaluate and rank grant applications upon which funding decisions are based.

Adjunct Professor of Law, teaching courses in Employment Law and Employment Discrimination Law.

Longest serving member (33 years) of the Board of Directors of the Phoenix Symphony, including recipient of its Maestro Award, 2010.

Served for 20 years on the Board of Directors and Chair of the Employment Committee of the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and recipient of its Volunteer of the Year Award in 2004 and 2014.

Co-Editor in Chief of three books on employment law.

Have served on Boards of four homeowners' associations for communities in Paradise Valley, Phoenix, Laguna Beach, and Costa Rica.

23-year resident of Paradise Valley; active in Save Camelback Mountain grassroots efforts and the Stone Canyon Community.

Interviewed by and/or quoted in Arizona and National News Media, including CNN, FOX News, MSNBC, *New York Times*, *Business Week*, Arizona Republic and more.