



## Chancellor establishes Office of Public Stewardship - June 2008

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Dear Maricopa,

As we approach July 1, the start of a new fiscal year, I'd like to make you aware of our District's continued focus on public stewardship.

To effectively carry out our primary mission of teaching and learning, it is imperative as public employees to continually illustrate the responsible stewardship of public resources. The decisions we make every day affect the District's overall well being and have a direct effect on our ability to provide the excellent programs of which we are so proud.

Over the coming months, I will be communicating with you regularly on stewardship. Your college and District leadership will be sharing similar messages as we collectively work to enhance our understanding of public stewardship and the obligations that our roles bring with them.

An important part of this strengthened District commitment is the establishment of an Office of Public Stewardship. In the spirit of serving as responsible stewards, this new office is being formed through the consolidation of existing resources to better serve the needs and concerns of our internal and external constituencies. The work of the Office will formalize services that have been piloted over the past year for confidential and anonymous reporting of stewardship concerns. The type of complaints that are appropriate to submit through these mechanisms include allegations of fraud, theft, misuse of public resources, threat of danger to a person or the institution, policy non-compliance, enrollment irregularities and conflict of interest.

The Office of Public Stewardship will be responsible for:

- administering the 24/7 anonymous hotline that is offered through Global Compliance, an outside vendor (Contact number: 1-866-447-9819 or via the web at [www.concernline.maricopa.edu](http://www.concernline.maricopa.edu) )
- providing Employee Ombuds services internally instead of through an outside vendor. New contact number: 480-731-8084
- providing Citizen's Ombuds services,
- processing system-wide public records requests,
- training and education for records retention and destruction

The Office will also maintain responsibility for Maricopa Governance including coordinating the Governing Board's annual monitoring reports, Board Policy housekeeping and facilitating the process for the adoption and amendment of Administrative Regulations.

The professional standards by which this office will operate establish that concerns and allegations related to public stewardship can be reported confidentially and anonymously. You can also be assured that there is a high commitment to address resolution through the proper channels. Teresa Toney, who presently serves as the Citizens' Ombudsperson and manages operations for Maricopa Governance, will assume the responsibilities of the new office. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the website for the Office of Public Stewardship at: [www.maricopa.edu/publicstewardship/](http://www.maricopa.edu/publicstewardship/)

I want you to know that I value your continued commitment to excellence in serving the needs of our communities. This change is designed to help us better serve our students and their families and will only reaffirm the public confidence that we have worked hard to earn.

Together, we are setting new standards for transparency in operations and public accountability.

Rufus Glasper  
Chancellor