

REFERENCE TITLE: Allister Adel; death resolution

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

# HCR 2044

Introduced by  
Representative Bowers

A RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF ALLISTER ADEL.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Allister Adel DeNitto passed away at the age of forty-five on  
2 April 30, 2022 in Phoenix, Arizona.

3 Born on November 10, 1976 in Dallas, Texas, Allister was raised in a  
4 tight-knit family, and she especially adored her father and grandfather.  
5 Growing up, they would often visit South Padre Island, a place she loved  
6 to return to as an adult with her own family.

7 After earning her undergraduate degree from the University of  
8 Arizona, Allister earned her law degree from the Sandra Day O'Connor  
9 College of Law at Arizona State University to pursue her dream of becoming  
10 a prosecutor. During her studies, she volunteered as a victim advocate,  
11 participated in moot court competitions and took as many courses as she  
12 could with her favorite professor, the late Michael Berch. She was named  
13 valedictorian of her 2004 graduating class.

14 In 2002, Allister married David DeNitto, and together they have two  
15 sons. Her boys were her pride and joy and the lights of her life, and she  
16 was often heard extolling all their wonderful qualities and  
17 accomplishments.

18 Brilliant and kind with a razor-sharp wit and excellent sense of  
19 humor, Allister loved to laugh and reveled in playing quirky pranks on her  
20 family and friends such as "flocking" her friends' houses with flamingos  
21 on their birthdays.

22 A devoted public servant, Allister was dedicated to improving the  
23 lives of those around her. She began her legal career at the Maricopa  
24 County Attorney's Office where she was an award-winning felony prosecutor  
25 and tirelessly advocated for victims' rights. During her tenure as deputy  
26 county attorney, Allister served in the Vehicular Crimes, Gang and Drug  
27 Enforcement bureaus and served as the chief administrative law judge for  
28 the Arizona Department of Transportation. Later, she was appointed as the  
29 general counsel for the Arizona Department of Child Safety where she  
30 worked to protect our state's most vulnerable citizens. Her dedication to  
31 protecting and serving children was her passion and top priority  
32 throughout her distinguished career. She also proudly served for two  
33 years as the executive director of the Maricopa County Bar Association.

34 A true trailblazer, Allister made history when she was appointed to  
35 the position of Maricopa County Attorney in October 2019, the first woman  
36 in Arizona history to hold that title. She described that esteemed  
37 appointment as her "dream job." The following year, she continued to  
38 shatter glass ceilings as the first woman elected to that position.

39 True to her beliefs, Allister was dedicated to philanthropy and  
40 community service, and one of her most profound and formative experiences  
41 was becoming a Rotarian. From 2017-2018, she served as the president of  
42 Phoenix Rotary 100, where she raised funds to support organizations that  
43 were on the forefront of fighting human trafficking. She also worked with  
44 the City of Phoenix to fund a fellowship area and butterfly garden at

1 Starfish Place, a transitional housing facility for trafficking survivors  
2 and their families.

3 A dedicated mother, wife and public servant, Allister was deeply  
4 devoted to her community and was unwavering in her commitment to ensuring  
5 fairness and justice. She is survived by her husband of twenty years,  
6 David, her two sons and her father, John. She will be missed by her  
7 family, her many friends and the people of Arizona.

8 Therefore

9 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,  
10 the Senate concurring:

11 That the Members of the House of Representatives sincerely regret  
12 the passing of Allister Adel and extend their most sincere sympathies and  
13 condolences to her surviving relatives and friends.