Dear Fellow AZ AFCC Members:

First and foremost, a big thank you to Barbara Atwood, our past president, for everything she has and continues to do for AZ AFCC. Last year was a huge success and Barbara's leadership led the way to a great year.

I am very pleased to announce our new officers for 2013:

President Elect:	Michael Aaron, Esq.
Vice President:	Faren Akins, Ph.D.
Secretary:	Honorable Lisa Abrams
Treasurer:	Launi Jones, Esq.

I am honored to serve as president of the Az AFCC and hope to maintain the high bar for excellence set by so many excellent presidents this Chapter has enjoyed over the years. The 2013 Sedona Conference was a big success with record attendance, excellent presentations, and wonderful networking across disciplines. The board held the annual retreat for the 2014 Sedona Conference last weekend and 2014 should continue to build on the success of prior years. I hope you will join me in February to make 2014 another record setting event.

During the retreat the board decided to do some strategic planning to determine where the Chapter is going and help plan for the future. If any member has an idea or suggestions for the Chapter's future, please let me know. We are specifically interested in your needs and how AZ AFCC can help meet those needs. The strategic planning session will occur in August, so please provide me with your suggestions in advance.

Keeping with the Chapter's mission and value statement the Chapter is working on developing more materials and seminars in the Tucson area. The first one was held September 26, 2013 and covered the DOMA, Prop 8 and Baby Veronica cases decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. The event was "sold out" and was a huge success. Past-President Prof. Barbara Atwood lead the discussion. The past president and president elect are both working with other area members to expand and grow membership in the Tucson area. If you are interested in assisting with the process or have ideas to expand the Chapter's presence in Tucson, please contact Michael Aaron at MAaron5879@AOL.com.

Finally, I want to thank each of our Chapter members for their ongoing support and contributions to this wonderful organization. I personally believe the diversity and professionalism of the Chapter is what makes membership so valuable. Since joining the Chapter the knowledge I've gained is only surpassed by the relationships developed across all disciplines.

As a final reminder, the 2014 AZ AFCC Conference will be held January 31, 2014 to February 2, 2014; we look forward to seeing you there.

Jason B. Castle
Az AFCC President.