

100 Buckeyes You Should Know!

Ken Murray

COLLEGE: College of Social Work

DEGREE: '73 BSSW

CAREER: Attorney

NOTABLE: Ken was a student from 1969 to 1973, a historic time marked by significant public debate about the Vietnam conflict, student and faculty protests, riots, and violence. Ken's exposure to such political unrest influenced his education and career choice.

As an attorney, Ken's professional career includes social work, psychology, and law (with a seven year interruption while he served as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force).

Ken is proud of his social work background and believes it has provided him with a strong and unique foundation for his legal career. Ken is currently the Director of the Texas Defender Service Capital Trial Project where he is responsible for consulting with and providing resources to teams defending death penalty cases. Ken also trains attorneys, mitigation specialists, and sentencing advocates how to conduct, develop, and present comprehensive



multigenerational psycho-social investigations in support of sentences less than death.

Ken is an Associate Professor at the Arizona State University School of Social Work where he teaches and serves as an advisory board member to its Office of Forensic Social Work. He is working with ASU to develop a post-degree certification program in sentencing advocacy and has also served as a field liaison, supervising social work students in forensic settings.

Previously, Ken served as assistant public defender on the federal (Arizona) and state (Ohio) levels. In his private practice, he worked pro bono for those whose needs could not be met through traditional social work or legal services.



Currently, Ken is working to develop training and fellowship opportunities for graduate level social workers who want to be involved in sentencing advocacy or death penalty mitigation investigations.

In his spare time, Ken can be found blowing his harps to the rhythm of the blues and answering to the name "Big Ken."

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT