

# JEREMY M. HELFGOT

## BIOGRAPHY

**Jeremy M. Helfgot** (pronouns: he/him/his) has spent more than 30 years in the realm of professional communications, across multiple disciplines, including editorial journalism, strategic media and public relations, crisis avoidance/management/interdiction/response, executive-level speechwriting and other ghostwriting and strategic positioning.



Through J.M. Helfgot Communications, Mr. Helfgot is actively engaged in directing strategic public relations, public policy and communications efforts on behalf of a range of clients in both the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors. He has served as an adviser or staff member for major political campaigns (including Jim Pederson for U.S. Senate 2006, Terry Goddard for Governor of Arizona 2010, Greg Stanton for Mayor of Phoenix 2011 and others), served as a contract associate with several Phoenix-based public relations firms (Inspired Connections, GO Media, Mario E Diaz & Associates and others) and personally represented diverse clients in industries ranging from healthcare to restaurant franchising, and including community-based social justice and social welfare agencies (Phoenix Pride, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, Jewish Family and Children's Service, Valley of the Sun Jewish Community Center and others).

Prior to relocating to Phoenix in 2005 to pursue his work in public policy and public affairs, Mr. Helfgot spent more than a decade working as a journalist, publicist and media/communications consultant in the Los Angeles music industry, for companies including MCA/Universal Concerts; MP3.com, Inc.; the Reggae Sunsplash U.S. Tour; Quality Records and the Warlock Records Group; the Hollywood Reporter; Music Connection Magazine; and Launch online. He was a member in good standing of the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences® (NARAS - the Recording Academy®) for more than two decades.

Beyond his professional experience, Mr. Helfgot is actively engaged in civic leadership and community activation around matters of public policy, primarily in the realms of civil rights and diversity.

A former nine-year member of the Phoenix Commission on Human Relations, originally appointed by then-Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton in 2012, Mr. Helfgot championed and drove a

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BIOGRAPHY  
PAGE 2

range of policy advancements for the City during his tenure, including the expansion of civil rights protections for the LGBTQ+ community, the City's adoption of "Ban-the-Box" policies in its hiring and public housing practices, the city's Equal Pay Ordinance and the adoption of the One Phoenix Municipal Identification Card initiative.

In addition to his role on the Commission, Mr. Helfgot served on the City's Community Police Trust Initiative Task Force for the duration of its engagement, and continues to sit on the Phoenix Police Department's Critical Incident Review Board (formerly the Use of Force Board), Discipline Review Board and Chief's Jewish Community Advisory Board. He is an active adviser to members of the Phoenix Police Department's executive command staff on matters pertaining to community relations and engagement.

Mr. Helfgot is a 2009 graduate of the Anti-Defamation League's Glass Leadership Institute, and served as ADL Arizona's vice chair of leadership in 2009-10. He is also a graduate of the FBI Citizens' Academy and the Phoenix Police Department Citizens' Academy, and has been a vetted member of the FBI's InfraGard® program since 2008. He previously served as a member of the Arizona State Advisory Board of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and on the executive board of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Phoenix.

In 2015, he was one of the key leaders of the successful effort to defeat Arizona Senate Bill 1445, a nationally-covered "secret policing" bill ultimately vetoed by Governor Doug Ducey. He is the original creator and author of legislative bills introduced in the Arizona House of Representatives during the 2016, 2017 and 2018 regular legislative sessions (HB 2649, HB 2363 and HB 2576, respectively).

Mr. Helfgot speaks and teaches regularly on matters of communications in policy and social advocacy, and is a frequent source for both print and electronic media. He has spoken to police recruits at the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy (ALEA) on matters of community policing, and continues to advocate for building stronger ties between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.

Mr. Helfgot studied communications at California State University, Northridge.

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