

Jay Feely

Candidate, Congressional District 1

At the heart of it all is a foundation built on a deep respect for the timeless conservative values that shaped him—personal responsibility, servant leadership, and the belief that we are called to use our blessings to serve others.

Jay went to the University of Michigan 1994-1998 and was a member of the 1997 National Championship football team. Following college, Jay spent 2 years as a financial advisor with Wealth Enhancement Group before realizing his dream playing 14 years in the National Football League. He played for 6 teams from 2001 to 2014. Known for his toughness and leadership, he was named a Pro Bowl Alternate and earned multiple “Man of the Year” honors for his character and community impact on the Falcons, Giants, and our Arizona Cardinals.

Trusted and respected by teammates, Jay was elected team captain on three different teams and served on the NFLPA Executive Committee for over a decade. On the executive committee Jay represented his teammates with ownership, even negotiating with management during the lockout at the Federal mediation office in Washington, DC.

Jay and his wife Rebecca, fell in love with the Valley 15 years ago when Jay signed with the Arizona Cardinals; they loved it so much, they decided it was the perfect place to raise their four children.

After retiring from football, Jay became a nationally recognized voice as an NFL analyst for CBS, earning five Emmy Awards for his work. His influence extends well beyond the broadcast booth—Jay serves on the boards of StrongWatch and Klein Tools and supports American innovation and entrepreneurship through angel investments and business leadership.

In 2012, Jay and Rebecca founded the Feely Family Foundation to support causes focused on youth, education, and encouraging the American dream. Deeply committed to educational freedom and opportunity, Jay served on the Gilbert Christian School Board from 2016 to 2020. Rebecca was an anatomy & biology teacher at Gilbert Christian High school.

A mentor and coach, Jay started the first girls’ soccer program at Gilbert Christian High School—coaching his oldest daughter Lexi and leading the team to a state semifinal in its second season and winning a state championship in its fifth. In 2020, he was named both Arizona State and Western United States High School Coach of the Year.

Jay’s service has been recognized at the highest levels. He was a finalist for the NFL’s Walter Payton Man of the Year award, one of the league’s most prestigious honors, and received the House of Refuge Legacy Award in 2023 for his enduring commitment to community and faith-based service. He also serves with Mission of Hope and the Muscular Dystrophy Association, reflecting his deep belief in serving others and standing for those in need.

With a lifetime of leadership, experience, a heart for service, and a commitment to faith, family, and future generations, Jay brings a powerful and committed voice to public service.