



The Spirit of Service

MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Annual Report 2001

RICHARD M. ROMLEY

County Attorney

Mission Statement

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The Maricopa County Attorney is dedicated to the vigorous prosecution of those who commit crimes within the county. As the chief advocate for the State and the citizens of the community in criminal matters, the County Attorney seeks to provide the highest quality service and maintain the integrity of the criminal justice system. Criminals must be held accountable, while assuring that the statutory rights and emotional needs of victims and witnesses are properly addressed. Additionally, the County Attorney seeks to implement, promote and participate in programs that reduce crime and enhance the quality of community life. The County Attorney also contributes to excellence in local government by providing complete legal services to the county, its officers and political subdivisions.

A MESSAGE FROM COUNTY ATTORNEY RICK ROMLEY



The terrorist attacks of September 11 and the year 2001 are indistinguishable in the minds of Americans. We in Arizona grieved for our fellow Americans and looked for ways to help despite the 3,000-mile distance from the scene of the atrocities. In our own back yard, acts of violence, masked as retaliation for the terrorist attacks, victimized our neighbors because of skin color or ethnic origin. The national spotlight shone on Arizona and specifically my office, as we searched for a response to this local terrorism. We have acted swiftly by charging those responsible with hate motivated crimes.

The war on terrorism caused me to reflect on my own military service during the Vietnam era, while at the same time awaiting news about my oldest son, a captain in the U.S. Marine Corp., who was stationed in Afghanistan. As a father, I am proud my son has chosen a military career; however, I couldn't help but be anxious in anticipation of his safe return to American soil.

In the aftermath of September 11, employees in the Maricopa County Attorney's Office

approached our service to the community with renewed vigor.

Although our outstanding prosecution record has earned us a national reputation, we remain committed to community programs and quality of life here in Maricopa County. This annual report highlights the community service bureaus within the Maricopa County Attorney's Office. The unwavering spirit and commitment of the employees who work in these bureaus are something of which we can all be proud.

Sincerely,

Rick Romley

Richard M. Romley

ADOPTION IS THE ANSWER

By David Bash, Deputy County Attorney

As you walk out of the courtroom after an adoption, you realize that one moment is, for many, the culmination of years of effort to have a family.



Although most of these families have waited patiently through numerous court processes and volumes of paperwork, they persevere, and the ultimate reward is a

child's love. Even more heartwarming is the fact that many children adopted have special needs requiring special parents.

During this past year, we represented a family that decided to adopt a child after having several of their own. When they discovered that their daughter-to-be lived in a foster home with her two sisters, they decided to adopt all three girls so as not to separate them. Not only did they make this commitment, they did so knowing that each child had her own special needs as each was exposed to drugs and alcohol during their mother's pregnancy.

Another family that our office represented involved the adoption of a Russian boy. This child had in fact been previously adopted by a family and was brought to the United States from Russia. After living in their household a short time, the family had second thoughts because of perceived behavioral problems. The child was then placed with the family that we came to represent. This family provided a loving and secure home, and the child not only thrived in this atmosphere, but he did not show any of the behaviors that caused the original family to return him to the adoption agency. The final home study reflected all this and concluded with the child telling the caseworker, "I live here forever."

These families highlight the special work done by the Maricopa County Attorney's Office Adoptions Bureau. Being able to represent these prospective parents is a very special opportunity for us. We not only have a positive impact on the community at large, but also on some of its smallest and sweetest members.

Adoption Bureau...

The Spirit of Family



As criminal prosecutors, we deal with violence and tragedy on a daily basis. Fortunately, community-oriented programs such as our Adoption Bureau remind us of the many giving, warmhearted people who live in our community, willing to provide homes for children of all backgrounds and ages. Prosecutors in the Maricopa County Attorney's Office Adoption Bureau are privileged to represent adoptive parents through the adoption process.

The Adoption Bureau prepares legal paperwork for adoptive parents, files adoption petitions, and represents the adoptive parents at all court hearings. Last year, the bureau concluded approximately 300 uncontested adoptions, including relative adoptions, private adoptions, international adoptions, DES adoptions and other agency placements.

Through our service, prospective adoptive parents need to pay only their court filing fee and adoption agency fees. We hope that our representation makes adoption more affordable, as there is no cost whatsoever for our service. The smiles of a united family are payment enough.



Susan Foster, legal support specialist (left) and Denise Brunton, paralegal, research a pending uncontested adoption.



Maricopa County employees who work in the Adoption Bureau love receiving photos, like the one above, from the families they assist.

Adoption Bureau Number (480) 969-1551

2001 Statistics

Uncontested Adoptions Completed in 2001	270
Uncontested Adoption Cases Opened in 2001	302

Check Enforcement Bureau...

The Spirit of Cooperation

Check Enforcement Bureau Numbers

(602) 372-7300

(602) 372-0014

2001 Statistics

1/1/01 to 12/7/01

17,226 checks entered into the system
with a total value of \$3,631,000

\$1,847,500 restitution total, of that total
merchants received \$1,240,500

\$607,037 Check Enforcement Bureau
statutory fee to administer the
program

2,789 misdemeanor complaints filed for
921 different victims

990 guilty plea agreements were
processed for full restitution

The Check Enforcement Bureau works with merchants, law enforcement and our community representing the victims of bad check writers. Each year thousands of checks are issued that are invalid, resulting in huge losses to businesses and individuals. Consumers ultimately pay for losses through higher prices.

During 2001, the Check Enforcement Bureau processed over 17,226 checks for restitution. The result was reimbursements to merchants and our community for the losses caused by bad check writers. Merchants received more than \$1.2 million in restitution in 2001 alone.

Arizona statutes allow for felony prosecution in the most egregious cases and also in the case of repeat violations. The availability of these criminal remedies demon-

strates the seriousness of these offenses.

The Check Enforcement Bureau is dedicated to working with victims in identifying bad check crimes and quickly enforcing full restitution for victims of these

crimes. The bureau is self-supporting through fees collected from the bad check writer. By working closely with local businesses, the Check Enforcement Bureau thrives in the spirit of cooperation.



Jennifer McCormick, legal support assistant and Valerie Alspaugh, business manager, review a bad check case.

MOTIVATION FOR THE CHECK ENFORCEMENT BUREAU

By Valerie Alspaugh, Check Enforcement Bureau Business Manager

We have numerous success stories and we receive wonderful notes from our individual victims and businesses. These notes of gratitude and heart warming stories keep us motivated on a regular basis.

Our favorite story is about an elderly gentleman who submitted checks totaling \$1,279 to Check Enforcement that he had received from a young female. Check Enforcement filed a criminal complaint; however, the case sat for several years with an outstanding warrant due to the defendant being incarcerated on unrelated charges. When the bad check writer was released, she made full restitution to Check Enforcement for the outstanding checks. The restitution check we mailed to our victim was sent back as the gentleman was no longer at the address in our files. Staff diligently searched the victim's name through local telephone books and on the Internet, finally locating his son with the same name. The son provided his father's telephone number in another state, telling us how excited he would be to find out the young woman had finally paid her debt. Our Merchant Liaison

placed a call to the elderly victim and let him know the funds were being forwarded and to confirm an accurate address. Our elderly victim became very excited, repeatedly thanked her for the good news, and broke down in tears. He said his wife of many years had passed away just a few months earlier and, until this telephone call, he could not afford to buy a headstone for her grave.



EMERALD PARK – FROM SLUM TO GEM

By Carolyn Murphy, Deputy County Attorney



The Emerald Park Apartment Complex, formerly the Canyon Square Apartments, was considered one of the worst slum properties in Phoenix. With a new name, new management and more than \$1.8 million in improvements, the complex is now considered the “crown jewel” of the neighborhood.

In August 1999, Canyon Square, located at 2454 West Campbell, was named to the Slumlord Task Force’s Dirty Dozen List as one of the 12 worst rental properties in Phoenix. The complex was named to the list after 100 inspectors from neighborhood services, environmental services (health), fire and water discovered crumbling ceilings, electrical problems, staircases in disrepair as well as roach infestation. As a result of the inspection, the owners were cited for over 900 code violations.

The cleanup is the result of efforts by city and county officials, firefighters and police officers tackling the problem together. By joining forces, a once crime-ridden, cockroach-infested apart-

ment complex with crumbling walls now is a clean, safe place to live. Governmental officials have pledged that the area will remain crime-free.

Neighborhood residents Martha Garcia and Mary Castillo can’t believe the transformation. Martha Garcia had friends who lived in the complex before the transformation.

“I’d see cockroaches everywhere and the walls were falling apart. Now everything is so different. I would live there now,” said Garcia.

Neighborhood Services Coordinator Lisa Hubbard said, “Emerald Park is the crown jewel of this neighborhood. Because of what’s going on here, other property owners and managers are interested in reinvesting in the area.”



Community Action Bureau...

The Spirit of Community

Our quality of life in Maricopa County is continually threatened. The famous copper-colored sunsets are veiled by dust pollution. Graffiti and slum properties mar the unique southwestern architecture of the cityscape. Illegal dumping pollutes the desert, destroying indigenous cacti. Since the Maricopa County Attorney's Office established the Community Action Bureau, these threats are never ignored.

The Community Action Bureau (CAB) is responsible for the prosecution of slumlords, graffiti vandals, dust violations and illegal dumping practices. What distinguishes CAB from traditional prosecution bureaus is that its four attorneys and staff take a proactive, problem-solving approach to address community issues. Frequently, this approach involves

working closely with other agencies and organizations.

One example of CAB's work is the Slumlord Task Force. CAB teams with the United States Attorney's Office, HUD, the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department, the Phoenix Police Department, and the Phoenix City Prosecutor's Office to identify, deter and enforce against slum properties. Of the 32 properties named on the Task Force's worst slums list, 21 have been brought up to code.

Other CAB accomplishments include establishing an anti-graffiti program, which helped reduce graffiti in Maricopa County by 70 percent; prosecuting over 200 dust enforcement cases, thus reducing the County's air pollution problem; and working with neighborhoods on countless community issues.

CAB strives to go above and beyond to help the community and looks for creative ways to do so. In this bureau, the spirit of our Arizona community is never taken for granted.



Graffiti results in millions of dollars of damage to Maricopa County homes and businesses each year.



Community Action Bureau Number (602) 506-3411

Illegal Dumping
Hotline (602) 506-DUMP
(506-3867)

Graffiti Hotline (602) 262-7327

Slumlord Hotline (602) 372-SLUM
(372-7586)

Dust Complaint Line . . (602) 506-6616

2001 Statistics

242 dust settlements completed collecting \$644,176 in penalties

Dirty Dozen List

- 1911 East Van Buren
- 1517 West Indian School Road
- 1525 West Indian School Road
- 29 East Riverside
- 2454 West Campbell Avenue
- 6041 West Thomas Road
- 6805 North 27th Avenue
- 3421 West Dunlap Avenue
- 2802 East Roosevelt
- 415 East Puget
- 3002 West Camelback Road
- 921/927 South 35th Avenue

Speakers Bureau...

The Spirit of Communication



Speakers Bureau Number
Speaker request line
(602) 506-7799

2001 Statistics

82 total speaking engagements

136 speakers sent to events

Our experts speak on a variety of topics including but not limited to:

- Drugs • Gangs • Juvenile Crime
- Constitutional Law • General Law
- Career in the Legal Field • Rape
- Sex Crimes • Domestic Violence
- Child Abuse • Elderly Abuse
- Felony Prosecution • White Collar Crime
- Technology Crimes • Vandalism/Graffiti
- Community Involvement/ Block Watch
- Hate Crimes • Public Policy
- Legislation

Call our Speakers Bureau request line to request a speaker. Our staff will assist you in selecting a topic.

How do I protect myself from identity theft? How does the juvenile justice system work? What are the penalties for violating drug laws? How does the County Attorney's Office decide which cases to prosecute?

These questions and many more like them led to the creation of the Maricopa County Attorney's Office Speakers Bureau Program. The program is centered around the belief that effective crime control is dependent on a highly informed and involved public. Celebrating its 12th year of service

to the community, the Speakers Bureau continues to provide basic, useful information about the criminal justice process and its various community services to the public free of charge. The bureau strives to keep the citizens of Maricopa County aware of public policy, social issues, crime trends and the criminal justice system.

The Maricopa County Attorney's Office has more than 300 Deputy County Attorneys and law enforcement specialists available to speak to schools, civic organizations and professional

associations on a variety of criminal justice topics such as organized crime, constitutional law, identity theft, sex crimes, drug laws and victims' rights.

All our speakers volunteer their time to improve communication and open dialogue about the criminal justice system with community members. After 12 successful years, our audiences leave with the knowledge to better protect themselves and the community from criminal activity.



Detective Joe Wolfer (above) describes the role of the County Attorney's Office in criminal investigations. Deputy County Attorney Carolyn Murphy (left) explains criminal abatement to a neighborhood association group.

SPEAKERS HAVE POSITIVE EFFECTS ON YOUTH A NOTE OF THANKS



I am writing to let you know how much our school benefited from the expertise your office exhibited at our "Estrella's Expo for Excellence" on January 19, 2001.

Your program coordinator worked tirelessly to coordinate twenty-two speakers who impacted our students with knowledge, thought-provoking insight, and an appreciation of our justice system.

Our Expo hosted seventy-eight speakers in a wide variety of occupations and crisis-intervention areas in addition to media representatives and many dignitaries.

Nine years ago, I hosted a similar event and your employees attended with a fantastic message for our students.

Thanks to your staff, we have received many accolades from the parents and community for the positive effects these types of speakers have on our youth.

Respectively yours,

Linda Carter

Estrella Middle School Counselor

I am writing to relate how much my Sociology of Crime class enjoyed hearing Mr. Herb Kalish speak, when he came to the ASU campus.

Mr. Kalish's general topic was the role of the prosecutor, and the prosecutor's office, within the Maricopa County Superior Court system. It was clear from the outset he is a polished public speaker. He was at ease immediately with his audience and developed a rapport with the students quickly. He had a lot of bird's-eye-view-of-the-system-type information to present, as well as some interesting anecdotes. The hour went by all too quickly.

Mr. Kalish seems a natural in the role of representing the County Attorney's Office generally, and in the role of speaking to classes such as mine specifically. I look forward to any future presentations he may be able to make to my sociology of law and sociology of crime classes, during the coming semester and/or future semesters at ASU.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lisa Whitaker

Faculty Associate

ADVOCATE COMPENSATED FOR ASSISTING VICTIM

By Phillip Dominguez, Victim Witness Advocate

My first days as a victim advocate in the Victims' Compensation Bureau were spent studying my new caseload. One victim who instantly stood out was Duane. The notes attached to his file read, "Make sure all avenues have been covered. See if there is anything else we can do for the victim." I read the police report summary and found out Duane suffered severe injuries after his car was struck by an intoxicated driver. Victim Compensation had previously paid out just under \$10,000.00; the maximum payment was capped at \$10,000 at the time Duane's initial compensation application was processed.

Upon further research, I discovered that the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission would now allow a victim to receive up to \$20,000 in victim compensation benefits. This meant Duane could receive an additional \$10,000. I submitted this request to the Victim Compensation Board.

I called Duane to give him the news, and his wife answered. I could hear Duane moaning in the background. She explained that Duane has some

days where his pain and migraines are so severe that he is not able to eat, work, or do much of anything.

The next day Duane returned my call. I told him the board was still reviewing the request, but there was a good possibility he was eligible for an additional \$10,000 to compensate for his lost wages. Duane incessantly expressed his gratitude and insisted on picking up the check.

When Duane arrived at my office, I noticed he was carrying a cushion. He explained, "Ever since the accident, I have to carry it wherever I go. I cannot sit or stand for an extended period of time. I also need it when I drive." The pain Duane endured to personally accept the check, along with the pain he suffered daily, impressed upon me the importance of the Victim Compensation Bureau. After I handed him the check, he said, "You do not know what this means to my family."

As I walked away, I knew the work I had done for Duane had affected me more than he would ever know.

Victim Compensation...

The Spirit of Compassion

Like a stone plunging into a pond, crime causes a devastating ripple effect in the lives of crime victims. Often, victims of crimes are left financially devastated. Each unforeseen expense stemming from the original crime leads to the revictimization of the victim. The Victim Compensation Bureau assists crime victims whose needs extend beyond the courtroom.

The Victim Compensation Bureau, housed within the Victim Services Division, provides financial assistance to cover lost wages, medical expenses, counseling services, and funeral expenses to victims of crime in Maricopa County. Victims must fill out an application to be considered for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred as a result of the crime. All applications are reviewed monthly by the Victim Compensation

Review Board. The board, consisting of victim advocates and community members, can award up to \$20,000 per victim based on need.

The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission administers the Victim Compensation Fund, paid for by restitution payments made by defendants to the State of Arizona. In 2001, the Maricopa County Attorney's Office Victim



Victim Advocate Rachel Robles consoles a victim while he fills out the victim compensation forms.

Compensation Bureau awarded more than \$1,366,000 to crime victims in Maricopa County.

Victim advocates, who work in the Victim Compensation Bureau, have seen the human spirit prevail in the most tragic of circumstances. Their compassion stops the negative ripple effect from spiraling out of control, giving crime victims the opportunity to rebuild their lives.



A crime victim receives a check from the Victims' Compensation Fund to cover her outstanding medical bills resulting from the crime.

Victim Compensation Number (602) 506-4955

2001 Statistics

Lost Wage Expenditures	\$412,850.36
Average per Applicant	\$4,300.53
Funeral Expenditures	\$275,901.25
Average per Applicant	\$2,172.45
Medical/Dental Expenditures	\$605,765.31
Average per Applicant	\$4,745.10
Mental Health Expenditures	\$71,507.46
Average per Applicant	\$252.68



After opening arguments, Victim Advocate Shannon Maley comforts a victim's next of kin, who for the first time hears the details of the crime committed against her loved one.

**Victim Compensation Number
(602) 506-8522**

2001 Statistics

Victims Served	30,032
Victims Rights Services Administered	415,050



Otis and Lori Smith, parents of Shannon Smith, speak about the loss of their daughter at the April 2002 Victims' Rights Rally. The Smiths were instrumental in the passage of Shannon's Law, which makes firing a gun randomly within the city limits illegal.

Victim Services ...

The Spirit of Support

The intensity of the courtroom can be overwhelming for a crime victim. Exercising the victim's right to be to be present throughout all criminal proceedings in which the defendant has the right to be present, often means the victim must relive aspects of the crime. The victim is also allowed to make an impact statement, reading a letter to the judge regarding the crime's impact on the victim and the victim's family — intimidating to say the least. Having a victim advocate by your side through the entire ordeal is a comforting thought.

Advocates provide more than comfort. In addition to supporting

victims during criminal proceedings, the advocates ensure the victims' rights are not violated. The Victims' Bill of Rights, passed by Arizona voters in 1990, gives victims the right to be notified of all criminal or juvenile proceedings, the right to refuse a defense interview and the right to confer with the prosecutor about the disposition of the criminal or juvenile offense, including the victim's views about plea or sentence negotiations.

Besides enabling victims to exercise their constitutional and statutory rights, victim advocates provide assistance services, which

include crisis counseling referrals, social service referrals, emergency food and shelter, criminal and juvenile justice system advocacy and victim compensation assistance and referral. These efforts serve to make the victim "whole" again.

Arizona was the first state to have a comprehensive constitutional bill of rights for victims. The Maricopa County Attorney's Office stands firm in its belief that all crime victims must be treated with fairness, dignity and respect by the entire criminal justice system.

Providing Pamphlets and other take home materials allows crime victims to fully understand their rights during the criminal justice process.



VICTIM GRATEFUL FOR ADVOCATE'S ASSISTANCE A NOTE OF THANKS



Words cannot describe our gratitude for the support we received from your Victim Advocate, Tom Haines. His professional attitude, compassion and integrity gave us the strength to persevere a grueling four-year trial. Tom always returned our calls promptly and answered all our questions when we needed help and was more than happy to make a few phone calls and get an answer to us. He is not only a professional asset to your office; to us, Tom was Godsend.

We would also like to thank Celia Ortiz (who always has a smile in her voice), Santiago Valdez, Mary Lock and Melissa Monteal, who attended and gave support to the victim's family.

Thank you just isn't enough, but we wanted you to know we will always be grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

Natalie Benitez

I am writing this letter as a victim of a home invasion that took place a couple of years ago in Mesa, Arizona. The intruder was captured thanks to the Mesa Police Department.

The prints off my son's squirt gun matched up with other crimes the defendant previously committed.

On May 23, Judge Cole sentenced the defendant to a prison term of 42 years. What a joyous day that was, knowing this predator would not prey on anymore innocent people.

I feel a need to commend certain individuals who made this all possible. Elizabeth Frick, Deputy County Attorney, was dynamic, professional and willing to counsel my family throughout this two-year ordeal. We couldn't have hired anyone better. She was always well prepared. Elizabeth has given me a more positive attitude about the legal profession. She was there when I needed her. She made my son feel better about the ordeal.

Victim Advocate Kimberley Feleyn counseled us, informed us concerning hearings and was there at all the various times we were in the courtroom. Kim also made it a point to listen to our grievances and make our son feel safe in the courtroom. This team of individuals carried us through.

I hope you will recognize both Elizabeth and Kim. Thank you and your department for all your help... Justice has indeed prevailed.

Sincerely,

The Bird Family

Richard M. Romley

Maricopa County Attorney



Nationally recognized as a leader in criminal justice issues, Rick Romley is in his fourth elected term as the Maricopa County Attorney. He is responsible for administering one of the largest prosecuting attorney's offices, serving the fourth most populated county in America. His comprehensive understanding of criminal behavior and his commitment to working towards solutions are the reasons Rick is often sought for counsel on important local and national issues. He has testified before the United States Congress on the issues of violent crime, terrorism, drug trafficking, youth violence, public corruption and victims' rights. His opinions and commentaries, such as his essay, "There Are No Civilized Crimes" (*Wall Street Journal*, December 18, 1995), have been published in newspapers across the country.

Rick has championed many prosecution and reform policies. In the early 1990s, he successfully prosecuted "AzScam," the largest public corruption case in Arizona's history. His anti-drug diversion

program was adopted as a national model by the President's Drug Advisory Committee. He helped Arizona become one of the first states to pass a constitutional amendment guaranteeing rights to victims during the criminal justice process. He played a leading role in rewriting Arizona's Criminal Code, which resulted in "Truth-in-Sentencing," requiring convicted criminals to serve their full sentence. Rick was a prominent figure in the drive to reform Arizona's juvenile justice system, and he has been a key sponsor of the Violence Prevention Initiative, an effort to develop a comprehensive, long-term strategy to prevent violent crime. For these efforts, Rick

County Attorney Rick Romley talks with a fellow disabled veteran following the DAV Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the Year ceremonies.





(Above) County Attorney Rick Romley is congratulated on his LIFE's Presidential Unsung Hero Award by LIFE Foundation Chairwoman Lois Pope, DAV National Adjutant Arthur H. Wilson and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Richard B. Myers.



Armando C. Albarran, National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans, presents Rick Romley with the DAV Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the Year Award.

has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the National Leadership Award, presented in Washington D.C. in 1997.

While Rick is known as a dedicated and successful prosecutor, he also believes in the need to develop community-based policies that enhance public safety. His strategy combines tough law enforcement aimed at chronic offenders, and vigorous prevention efforts targeting our youth. And his strategy is working. Citizens in Maricopa County are seeing dramatic decreases in graffiti, reduced blight and substandard living conditions, all resulting in a reduced crime rate.

Continuing a 100-year Arizona family tradition, Rick and his wife, Carol, live in Scottsdale. They

have three sons: Darin, David and Aaron. Rick, born in Tucson in 1949, joined the United States Marine Corps as a youth and served as a squad leader in Vietnam until wounded. Rick received numerous commendations, including the Purple Heart. In 2001, Rick received two additional distinguished national awards for his service in defense of our country: America's Presidential Unsung Hero Award, and the Outstanding Disabled American Veteran of the Year Award.

Upon returning from Vietnam, Rick enrolled at Arizona State University, graduating with honors in 1974 with a Business Management degree. After graduation, he owned and operated a retail business. Five years later, he sold the business, enrolled in law school at Arizona State University and received his Juris Doctorate in 1981. Since then, he has committed himself to a career in public service.

Rick Romley takes pride in being an innovative, aggressive prosecutor dedicated to improving the quality of life for the citizens of Maricopa County.



Rick Romley shares his experiences in the Vietnam War with the audience at the LIFE's Presidential Unsung Hero Award ceremony.



County Attorney Rick Romley listens as his son David talks about his Marine Division's campaign in Afghanistan.



Drug Free AZ... *The Spirit of Innovation*

Drugs Destroy Dreams – You might hear Arizona Diamondbacks player Luis Gonzalez saying these words in television commercial. Or you might see these words posted on a mall kiosk. Statistics support this message, as a growing number of kids are experimenting with illegal drugs. A Drug Abuse Warning Network found that Arizona was one of the leading states in increased drug induced emergency room visits, up 9 percent from 8,293 in 1999 to 9,072 in 2000.

These startling facts prompted Maricopa County Attorney Rick Romley to create Drug Free AZ with the goal of helping Arizonans work together with one purpose in mind ... to keep our kids drug free.

Drug Free AZ is the product of a partnership between the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, law enforcement, drug treatment

providers and drug prevention agencies throughout Arizona. The foundation of the program is prevention and one of its main tools is drugfreeAZ.com.

By logging on to this comprehensive web site, parents can learn ways to talk to their children about drugs and educate themselves



about the different types of drugs being used today. Teachers will find classroom packets, slide presentations and suggestions for classroom activities. Kids of all ages can even learn to say no to drugs in 60 different ways. The site also features

links to hundreds of Internet resources, including a list of substance abuse treatment centers in Arizona, making this a one-stop shop.

The central focus of Drug Free AZ is to educate kids and parents about the harmful effects of drugs in an interactive fashion. However, anyone can use this web site as a resource tool. Teachers, mentors, employers and employees are encouraged to browse this web site. Drug abuse is not age-discriminate — your dreams can be destroyed by drugs whether you're fourteen or forty.



Drug Czar John Walters (far left) joins County Attorney Romley in unveiling Maricopa County's new drug prevention program, Drug Free AZ.

Citizens Academy...

The Spirit of Innovation

You see a news report on television about a court case. The video footage shows a prosecutor from the Maricopa County Attorney's Office presenting evidence in the case. Where did the evidence come from? What was involved in investigating the case? How did the Maricopa County Attorney's Office decide whether or not to prosecute the case?

If you've ever asked these questions, you can discover the answers firsthand by participating in an innovative new program debuting Spring 2002 that will allow participants to get a view of the Maricopa County Attorney's Office from the inside.

The Citizens Academy gives Maricopa County citizens the chance to be a prosecutor and investigator for a day. The program includes many "hands-on" experi-

ences, such as being a part of a mock incident review board, in which Academy members look at evidence from a mock case and decide whether to proceed with prosecution. In addition, Academy members will see a fingerprint demonstration and will have the opportunity to use the Phoenix Police Department's FATS (Firearms Training Simulator) machine.

Academy groups will be limited to approximately eight partici-

pants for each Academy session, to allow for a more personal experience. Participants can choose from a three-hour morning agenda or a seven-hour agenda.

If you are interested in participating in this exciting and informative program, visit our web site at www.maricopacountyattorney.org and download the application or call (602) 506-0727.

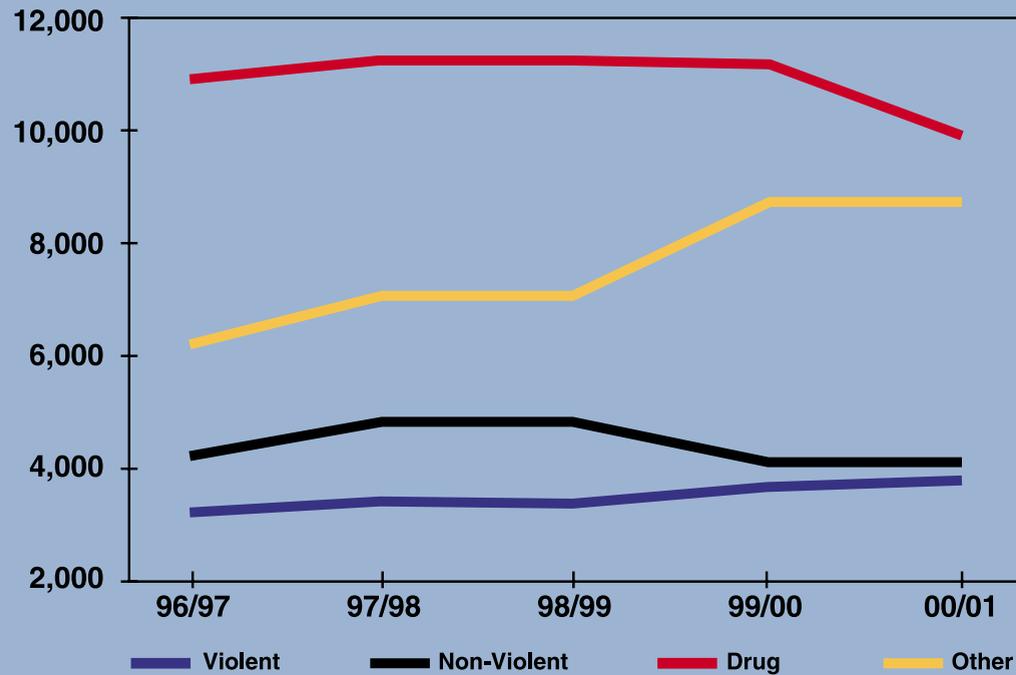


Phoenix Police Crime Lab Latent Print Examiner Robert Miller demonstrates how teeth and bone matter fluoresce when illuminated by the Alternate Light Source (ALS) machine.

Office Statistics...

Adult Filings

**Adult Cases Filed
FY 96/97 to FY 00/01**



Violent and Non-violent Crimes as defined by Part I, Uniform Crime Report

**Maricopa County Attorney's Office
Adult Filings
FY 99/00 Compared to FY 00/01
Case Defendant Analysis**

Offense Type	Filings		
	FY 99/00	FY 00/01	% Change
Homicide	185	127	-31.4%
Sexual Assault	111	94	-15.3%
Child Molestation	365	364	-0.3%
Robbery	691	703	1.7%
Vehicular Homicide	36	51	41.7%
Aggravated Assault	2,589	2,825	9.1%
Burglary	1,699	1,627	-4.2%
Arson	53	36	-32.1%
Vehicular Theft	1,401	1,536	9.6%
DUI	2,843	3,027	6.5%
Theft	936	878	-6.2%
Drug Related	11,085	9,863	-11.0%
Other Offenses	4,836	5,186	7.2%
Total	26,830	26,317	-1.9%

Office Statistics...

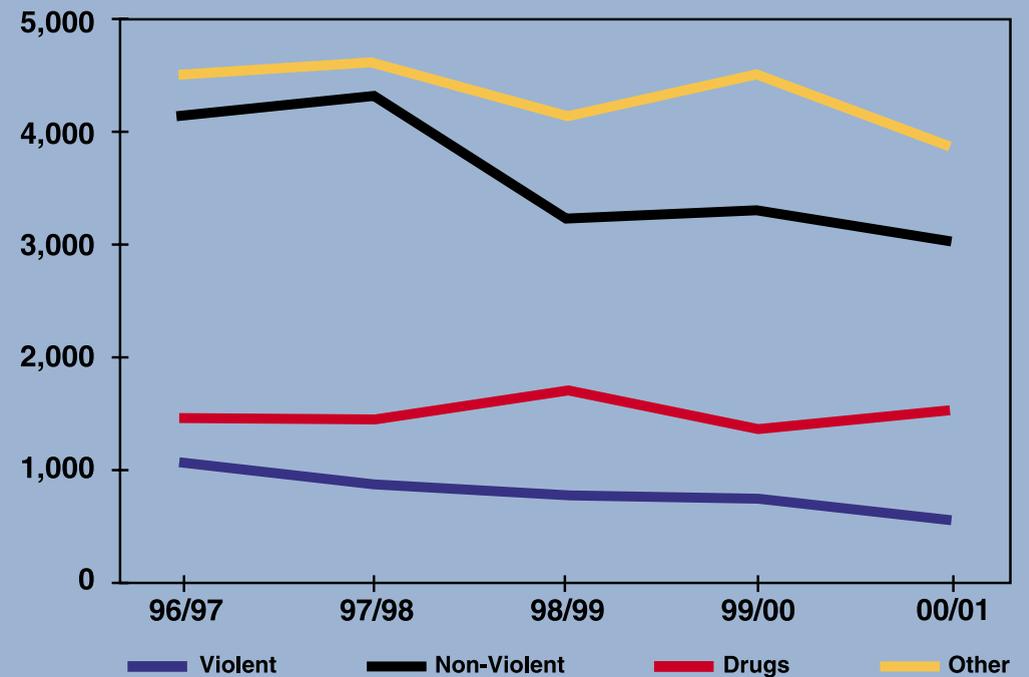
Juvenile Filings

Maricopa County Attorney's Office Juvenile Filings FY 99/00 Compared to FY 00/01 Case Defendant Analysis

Offense Type	Filings		
	FY 99/00	FY 00/01	% Change
Homicide	1	1	0.0%
Sexual Assault	4	8	100%
Child Molestation	75	84	-6.7%
Robbery	90	703	1.7%
Vehicular Homicide	0	0	0.0%
Aggravated Assault	595	532	-10.6%
Burglary	895	863	-3.6%
Arson	24	47	95.8%
Vehicular Theft	656	655	-0.2%
DUI	40	43	7.5%
Theft	1,804	1,481	-17.9%
*Drug Related	1,406	1,580	12.4%
*Other Offenses	4,299	3,657	-14.9%
Total	9,889	9,017	-8.8%

*U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Uniform Crime Report

Juvenile Petitions Filed FY 96/97 to FY 00/01



Violent and Non-violent Crimes as defined by Part I, Uniform Crime Report



Maricopa County Crime Rate*

Overview of the Maricopa County Attorney's Office

- One of the largest prosecuting attorney's offices in the country.
- Staff of 912 including 264 prosecutors, 35 attorneys handling civil matters, 81 paralegals, 55 crime victim advocates, 46 detectives, 296 support and administrative staff.
- Eighty paralegal assistant volunteers and 37 victim services volunteers.
- Six locations throughout Maricopa County including offices in downtown Phoenix and Mesa, juvenile offices in West Phoenix and Mesa.

1998-2000

In the last three years, the number of reported crimes has increased consistent to the increase in population in Maricopa County.

Since 1990, Maricopa County's population has increased 9 percent, outpacing the State of Arizona by 3 percent.

Overall

Maricopa County's crime rate has increased 9.7 percent
Crime rate for the State of Arizona increased 4.8 percent

Violent Crime

Maricopa County's violent crime rate has increased 6.5 percent
Arizona's violent crime rate has increased 2.5 percent

Property Crime

Maricopa County's property crime rate has increased 10 percent
Property crime rate for Arizona increased 5 percent

*Source: Department of Public Safety (DPS) "Crime in Arizona," 1998, 1999, 2000
Crime rates are reported per 100,000 people

For More Information...

To contact the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, please use the following numbers:

Maricopa County Attorney's Office

Downtown (Main Number) (602) 506-3411

301 W. Jefferson Street • Phoenix, AZ 85003

Southeast Facility (Main Number) (602) 506-2600

222 E. Javelina, Suite 2400 • Mesa, AZ 85210

Juvenile Division Eastside Office (Main Number) (480) 962-8002

540 W. Iron Avenue, Suite 110 • Mesa, AZ 85210

Juvenile Division Westside Office (Main Number) (602) 455-3877

3501 W. Osborn Avenue • Phoenix, AZ 85019

Wells Fargo Facility (Main Number) (602) 372-7350

100 W. Washington, 21st Floor • Phoenix, AZ 85003

Division of County Counsel (602) 506-8541

222 N. Central Avenue, Suite 1100 • Phoenix, AZ 85004

www.maricopacountyattorney.org

Specific Information on Programs of Interest

Kids in Court Program (602) 506-8522

Media Relations (602) 506-3411

Speakers Bureau (602) 506-7799

Drug Free AZ (602) 506-7630

Adoptions (480) 962-8002

Community Action Bureau (602) 506-3411

Victim Services Division ... (602) 506-8522

Victim Compensation Bureau (602) 506-4955

Hotlines

Graffiti (602) 262-7327

Hate Crimes (602) 506-5000

Illegal Dumping (602) 506-3867

Slumlord (602) 372-7586



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