



**Arizona Coalition for Victim Services (ACVS)**  
Meeting Minutes  
**November 17, 2021**  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

**I. Call to Order – Amy Bocks**

- a. Meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom and called to order at 10:12 a.m. by Amy Bocks.

**Attendees**

Adam Gendreau, AZ DCS	Heather Harpest, Defenders of Children
Amy Bocks, Attorney General's Office	Isela Devora, Mesa City Prosecutor
Bianca Harper, ACASI	Jamie Balson, LSCVA
Brooke Fulton, NACASA	Katelyn Osselaer, City of Phoenix FAC
Carla Uyeda, DPS VOCA	Kennesha Jackson, VRP AGO
Colleen Clase, AVCV	Melissa Brickhouse Thomas, Glendale PD
Connie Chapman, AVAA	Michelle Linski, DOJ
Dan Levey, AZ Crime Victims' Rights Law Group	Roxanne Pergeson, Navajo County Attorney's Office
Danielle Monette, Navajo County	Shawn Cox, Maricopa County Attorney's Office
Dorinda Johns, ACJC	Shelly Ward, Mesa PD Victim Services
Erin Bobo, City of Phoenix Prosecutor's Office	Theresa Barrett, AOC (COVIC)
Gretchen McClellan-Singh, ADCRR	Virginia Rodriguez, Pima County Attorney Victim Services

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

**III. Approval of March Meeting Minutes**

- a. No comments or corrections.  
b. Motion to approve by Kennesha Jackson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Adam Gendreau  
c. Minutes were approved via hand raise reaction function – 10 yes votes, motion passed.

**IV. Executive Committee Elections, 2022-2023 term**

- a. Vice Chair  
i. Nominee Adam Gendreau shared a bit about himself and his background.  
ii. No other nominees for Vice Chair presented.  
iii. Vote conducted via Survey Monkey link in the chat box. Adam Gendreau elected into the Vice Chair position by 100% of the 11 individual votes.  
b. Treasurer  
i. No nominees for Treasurer presented.



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- ii. Will address this position vacancy during the January meeting. Please consider this position or talk to other members of your agency that may be interested. If you have any questions please contact Isela Devora.

#### V. Legislative Priorities

- a. Kennesha Jackson, AZ Attorney General's Office - No Legislative updates at this time.
  - i. If anyone wants input or possible support on legislation from AGO please reach out to Kennesha Jackson ([kennesha.jackson@azag.gov](mailto:kennesha.jackson@azag.gov)) or Kirstin Flores.
- b. Jamie Aragon, ACESDV – Not present
- c. Dan Levey – They have met with MCAO to discuss modifications to ARS §13-4434 that requires records to be redacted of any victim contact information before disclosure to the defense team or the defendant. Due to the volume of materials they are discussing possible changes to include notification to a victim and/or a right to be heard before a judge if their information would be disclosed to the defense team. These discussions are in early stages and Dan appreciates MCAO involving stakeholders and victim groups in giving feedback on potential changes.

#### VI. Updates from ACESDV, Jamie Aragon - Not Present

#### VII. State Agency Coordinating Team (SACT) – Funders Reports

- a. VRP – Kennesha Jackson, Arizona Attorney General's Office:
  - i. FY 2021/22 Funding Update – FY22 VRP second installments will be disbursed in January 2022. They are currently also preparing for FY23 grant period. FY23 Performance Reviews will be issued Mid December. If your agency is in the VRP Program and your agency anticipates vacancy savings for FY22, submit a budget modification request form. They encourage agencies to spend their full award amount.
  - ii. Distinguished Service Awards (DSA) – Currently soliciting nominations for 2022 DSA awards. Please share with your agency's employees and contacts. Nominations are due Friday, January 7, 2022. Awardees will be recognized during the National Crime Victims' Rights Week event during the week of April 24th-30th, 2022 in Phoenix. Nominations can be completed online at <https://www.azag.gov/dsa-nomination-form>. Keep in mind; you can nominate those you've nominated in the past who were not selected.
  - iii. Victims' Rights Education – Outreach and education presentations will continue to be conducted via webinar. New Advanced training curriculum and updated Basic are available for registration. For more information on the schedule, to register, or to request a private presentation for your office please contact [OVSTraining@azag.gov](mailto:OVSTraining@azag.gov) or visit <https://www.azag.gov/criminal/victim-services/training>. This year, victims' compensation training will not be included in the Basic and will only be available through the ACJC website. Instead, they have expanded the post-conviction section to help ensure a better understanding of that process. Advanced curriculum this year will, in addition to a legislative and case law update, cover death penalty cases and how those cases impact victims.



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- b. ACJC – Dorinda Johns:
  - i. ACJC is still looking at funding issues but they did get additional funding through the Governor’s Office to supplement Victim Compensation.
  - ii. At the January Crime Victims’ Committee meeting they will discuss funding priorities for the FY2023 Victim Assistance grant. If you wish to provide input or get more information please email Dorinda ([djohns@azcjc.gov](mailto:djohns@azcjc.gov)) to be added to their mailing list.
  - iii. Look for more information coming at the end of December about the FY2023 Victim Assistance grant application cycle and meeting information.
- c. VOCA – Carla Uyeda:
  - i. DPS VOCA staff is busy with the end and closeout of FY21 awards and opening FY22 awards. Carla thanked everyone for submitting reports on time.
  - ii. DPS has gotten a number of questions regarding match waivers due to the VOCA Fix Act that passed earlier this year. DPS VOCA has the same process they’ve had in place for match waivers. If your agency is in need of a match waiver at any time during the grant year please email Carla ([cuyeda@azdps.gov](mailto:cuyeda@azdps.gov)) to discuss the process.
- d. DES – Not Present
- e. DHS – Not Present

## VIII. Arizona Victim Assistance Academy (AVAA) – Connie Chapman

- a. The AVAA Advanced Academy was held on Monday this week. There were some great discussions on applying the training to working with domestic violence victims.
- b. The Basic Academy will open next week. It will be held January 24-28, 2022 and there will be 40 open slots.
- c. They are reinstating the AVAA Committee, if anyone is interested in participating as a committee member please email AVAA or Connie.
- d. AVAA is looking for presenters/speakers for training opportunities during the Basic Academy and MAP trainings. If interested please contact AVAA or Connie.
- e. Two MAP trainings were held in Yavapai County and another two are coming up in the spring.

## IX. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Board Report – Amy Bocks
  - i. Please consider putting your name forward for the Treasurer position. If someone in your agency is interested or if you have questions or want more information on the duties of the position please reach out to Isela or other Executive Committee members.
  - ii. Isela Devora is happy to answer anyone’s questions about the Treasurer position; she has really enjoyed the position and will stay on to help train the new Treasurer. She can share the guide and more information about the specific duties to anyone interested.
  - iii. The calendar dates for 2022 AVCS meetings were sent out and are posted on the ACVS website. At this time the 2022 meeting dates are to be held virtually



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but ACVS is working with the FAC to determine an appropriate return to in-person meetings.

- b. Treasurer's Report – Isela Devora as of August 31st, 2021
  - i. ACVS: \$21,026.08
    - 1. ACVS had a decrease due to administrative fees
  - ii. AVAA: \$3,848.80
    - 1. AVAA had an increase due to grant reimbursement and Advanced Academy registrations
  - iii. Relocation: Negative Balance (\$30.70)
  - iv. TOTAL: \$24,844.18
- c. Membership Committee – Amy Bocks
  - i. If you have questions or want information please contact Amy or ACVS.
- d. Relocation Committee – Amy Bocks
  - i. At the last meeting there was discussion about reviewing and revising the Relocation Committee structure and how it functions as well as looking at the application process itself. Tracy Wilkinson will be in contact with the Relocation Committee members and two others who expressed interest in looking at changes. If anyone else is interested in participating in these discussions to make changes that will keep the Relocation Committee as an effective resource please reach out.
  - ii. Funding for the Relocation fund will also be reviewed by the Relocation Committee. The ACVS Executive Committee will help facilitate with any decisions the Relocation Committee makes such as Fry's rewards, etc.
  - iii. A number of cell phones and tablets were turned in during the last couple of months and that money has not yet come into the ACVS account. It does take time for that to occur and when it does it will be reflected on the Treasurer's report. If you have questions or need labels please reach out to Tracy or Isela.
- e. Website Committee – Amy Bocks
  - i. The website has been updated with 2022 ACVS meeting dates and several announcements have gone out with job postings, events and/or training opportunities.
  - ii. If anyone has events or announcements for distribution or the website contact a member of the Executive Committee or use the ACVS email address.

## X. New Business/Open Forum

- a. Theresa Barrett shared that COVIC is also having similar discussions as those mentioned regarding reduction in funds available for victim services statewide. They are looking at what is impacting those funds and what can be done to increase the funding. She asked that anyone else looking at this please contact her so they can ensure they are working together on this.
- b. Katie Osselear announced that the Phoenix FAC now has a new permanent Director, Kevin Mattingly. He plans to attend the January ACVS meeting to introduce himself.
- c. Bianca Harper shared a document in the chat regarding the ACASI Quarterly Community Forum Meeting. There is a link to register via zoom:



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i. [https://asu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrfuyypqDkvG9f9TvvEt\\_4-M\\_cCoTRj4BR0](https://asu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrfuyypqDkvG9f9TvvEt_4-M_cCoTRj4BR0)

- d. Theresa Barrett shared that COVIC now has a permanent staff member, Carol Mitchell. She is returning to the AOC and will be responsible for staffing COVIC.
- e. Amy Bocks shared that Jo Fierstein from Defenders of Children will be presenting at a future meeting when we return to the in-person format. If you have other ideas for presenters or which to present on your agency please let Amy know.

**XI. Next Meeting**

- a. January 19, 2022 at 10:00 am, likely on Zoom but possibly in person at the FAC with a virtual option.

**XII. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned by Amy Bocks at 11:01 a.m.**

DRAFT