



Arizona Coalition for Victim Services (ACVS)
Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2023
 Virtual Meeting –via Zoom

I. Call to Order – Amy Bocks

- a. Meeting was conducted virtually on July 19th via Zoom and called to order 10:02am

Attendees

Adam Gendreau, DCS	Ashtyn Buechler, AZ AGO, Victim Services
Erica Williams, Maricopa County Attorney, Victim Services	Virginia Rodriguez, Pima County Attorney, Victim Services
Karina Aragon, Mesa PD	Nicole Guzman, Alice’s Place
Johanna Fierstein, Defenders of Children	Renee Gronski, City of Surprise Victim Services
Amy Bocks, AGO OVS	Carol Mitchell, Arizona Supreme Court
Connie Chapman, AVAA	Alice Ghareib, Area Agency on Aging, DOVES
Tracey Wilkinson, Scottsdale Police	Sierra Bes, ACESDV
Heather Eggleston, Pinal County, Victim Compensation	Melissa Brickhouse Thomas, Glendale PD Victim Services
Ryan Clark, AZ AGO, Victim Services	Patricia Young, Surprise PD
Tina Ashelford, Mohave County Attorney, Victim Services	Vanessa Lopez, Maricopa County Attorney, Victim Services
Bianca Harper, ACASI	Denise Burley, NACASA
Amy Palisano, La Frontera/EMPACT, Trauma Healing Services	Christina Wesnitzer, Yavapai County Attorney, Victim Services
Laurie Kalivas, ALWAYS	Kevin Mattingly, City of Phoenix
Heather Harpest, Defenders of Children	Jamie Balson, LSCVA

II. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Introductions

III. Approval of May 2023 Meeting Minutes

- a. Motion to approve by Virginia Rodriguez, 2nd by Adam Gendreau

IV. Presentation from Ryan Clark from AGO on complaint process State Victims’ Rights Compliance Administrator

- a. Mail, email, phone, online submission - <https://www.azag.gov/criminal/victim-services/victims-rights-enforcement-officer>
- b. Criteria
 - i. Complainant has to be a victim, lawful rep, or Victims’ Rights council
 - ii. Complaint has to be made within one year of alleged violation
 - iii. Has to be regrading a specific Victims’ Right in a criminal case
- c. Initial contact is made
 - i. Victim will be required to provide relevant info and documents



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- ii. Info given to Ryan Clark is not confidential or privileged
- iii. Every complaint receives a response
- d. Agency is contacted so they can initiate investigation on their end
 - i. Interviews may be scheduled
- e. If no violation is found, Kirstin Flores sends a letter to the agency and to the complainant
- f. If a violation is found:
 - i. Meeting is scheduled with Kirstin Flores, council, and sometimes AGO Criminal Division Chief
 - ii. A letter of findings is sent to the victim
 - iii. A letter of findings is sent to the head of the agency with the violation – including steps necessary to avoid future violations

V. Arizona Victim Assistance Academy (AVAA) – Connie Chapman
(avaacademy@gmail.com)

- a. Leadership training June 8 – 86 ppl came @ Gilbert Training Center
- b. AVAA Trained 325 people this year,
- c. AVAA will have a similar schedule next year
 - i. no dates yet – registration will be sent out sooner than it has been historically so agencies can plan funds
- d. Basic Academy Aug 7-11
 - i. Currently full but please continue to add people to waitlist, cancellations occur
 - ii. Register w/pay later option
- e. info@azcvcs.net

VI. Update regarding Lifetime Injunctions – Amy Bocks (amy.bocks@azag.gov)

- a. If a defendant and Application to Set Aside Judgement or Petition to Seal Criminal Case Records, the Lifetime Injunction is not affected
- b. The statute does not give defendants the chance to object to Lifetime Injunctions, but per Jamie Balson the courts are allowing it
 - i. Courts have been waiting 21 days for defendants to object or be heard and so it is taking 30-45 days
- c. <https://www.azcourts.gov/selfservicecenter/Lifetime-No-Contact-Injunctions>

VII. Legislative Priorities

- a. Ryan Clark, AGO:
 - i. HB 2184 - Severe Threat order of protection (STOP), Rep Jennifer L. Longdon – (NO MOVEMENT) (Laurie Kalivas asked for an update)
 - 1. Establishes the option for petitioners to file a STOP under specific circumstances.
 - 2. No movement
 - ii. HB2482 - Appropriations; crime victim notification fund, Rep Payne – (NO MOVEMENT)



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1. The sum of \$3,750,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in fiscal year 2023-2024 to the law enforcement crime victim notification fund established by section 41-180, Arizona Revised Statutes.
 2. The sum of \$250,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in fiscal year 2023-2024 to the state treasurer to evaluate, certify and pay for any costs associated with the law enforcement crime victim notification fund established by section 41-180, Arizona Revised Statutes.
 3. Transmitted to Senate 3/07/23
- iii. SB1197 - Juvenile offenders; monetary sanctions; repeal, Rep Gowan – (NO MOVEMENT)
1. Proposes *repealing* ARS 8-418 which currently requires parents of juveniles adjudicated delinquent in cases with a victim to pay \$25 into the VRP.
 2. Transmitted to House 3/09/23
- iv. SB1244 - Appropriations; crime victim notification fund, Rep Kavanagh (NO MOVEMENT)
1. Makes clarifying amendments to ARS 41-180.
 2. Minority/Majority Caucus 3/07/23
- v. SB1304*** - Home arrest; electronic monitoring, rep Kaiser (NO MOVEMENT)
1. Adds 41-1604.21 (E)(F) and allows for home arrest for persons convicted under certain circumstances. Bill includes eligibility; victim notification; conditions; fees; timelines, etc
 2. Victims notice and rights included (but not written in victims' rights statutes) and consist of: notification of the inmate's application, victims' right to request a hearing and be present at the hearing and to submit a written report.
 3. Does not indicate if victim must be opted in for post-conviction notice.
 4. If BOEC does not receive a hearing request from the victim, they shall approve the release to home arrest
 5. Includes conditions of home arrest
 6. Does not mention payment of restitution but does mention payments of various fees
 7. Majority Caucus 2/21/23
- i. SB1475*** - Death penalty; repeal, Rep Mendez (NO MOVEMENT)
1. 13-751 Sentence life or natural life imprisonment; victims' rights
 - a. If the court imposes a natural life sentence, the court shall order that the defendant not be released on any basis for the remainder of the defendant's natural life.
 - b. In B. adds in victims' rights at sentencing (which already exist in victims' rights statutes)
 2. Amends other statutes related to capital cases
 3. No movement



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- i. SB1645 – Sexual assault kit; victim access, Sen Burch/Alston (NO MOVEMENT)
 1. Adds 13-1426 (J) A public accredited crime laboratory shall provide a secure internet portal that allows a victim to anonymously access the following information relating to the victims sexual assault kit evidence: the current location of the sexual assault kit, the date of the testing, the results of the testing, whether a DNA profile was obtained from the sexual assault kit evidence.
 2. No movement
- i. Email Ryan for more info on specific bills or that you would like AGO to keep their eye on

II. ACESDV – Sierra Bes, Sexual Assault Coordinator

- a. Working with the Governor’s Office for a plan regarding VOCA budget cuts

III. State Agency Coordinating Team (SACT) – Funders Reports

- a. VRP – Ashtyn Buechler (ashytn.buechler@azag.gov)
 - i. For VRP recipients:
 1. Annual Reports are due on August 11. If you have questions, please reach out to me via OVSVRP@azag.gov.
 2. We are still awaiting the FY24 appropriation from the legislature in order to disburse awards. For planning purposes, we anticipate awards will be the same as last year.
 - ii. For County Attorneys’ Offices:
 1. Both the English and Spanish PCNR/PANR forms for your county have been distributed to all county attorney’s offices; the forms have been updated so you must remove the old forms from your systems. If your agency did not receive the new forms, please contact me.
 2. By request, I am planning to start holding an all-county CAO meeting regularly to discuss challenges/issues in victims’ rights. If you have any thoughts on issues to discuss, please let me know.
 - iii. Training:
 1. Starting All-County Attorney Meeting – send topics to Ashtyn
 2. The final presentation for FY23 is scheduled: Basic on Aug 15. Presentations will resume for FY24 in September-October and the Advanced topic will be Restitution.
 3. As a reminder, if you are funded by VRP or VOCA, you are required to take Basic every 5 years and Advanced annually. Additionally, you are responsible for maintaining your certificate after attending training.
 - iv. Email Ashtyn for PCNR forms, OVSVRP@azag.gov
- b. ACJC – not present
- c. VOCA – Carla Uyeda: (cuyeda@azdps.gov) – not present, sent update to Ex Comm
 - i. FY23 Updates:
 1. Thank you to subrecipients for completing their final amendment(s) to reprogram by the June 30 deadline.



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2. Quarter 3 program reports are due in SAGE and OVC PMT no later than July 30.
- ii. FY24 Updates:
 1. Thank you to subrecipients for submitting the renewal applications by the June 23 deadline.
 2. Grant Coordinators are working diligently to review the renewal applications.
 3. Grant Coordinators will return renewal applications if corrections are required; please be sure to update and resubmit in a timely manner.
 4. DPS anticipates the Subgrant Award Agreement Package will become available in August. This will include the contract, general conditions, and all required certifications.
- iii. Other Updates:
 1. Site monitoring visits are continuing
 2. Civil Rights Compliance Reviews are continuing. DPS is aware of a change in the Federal EEO reporting system and will be sure to share updates when further information/instructions are received from the Office for Civil Rights.
- d. DES – not present (Joining next meeting with info on funding from Interpersonal Violence Program)
- e. DHS – not present

IV. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Board Report – Chair Amy Bocks (amy.bocks@azag.gov)
 - i. Exploring funding options to keep costs for training low for FY25, more info to follow
- b. Treasurer’s Report – Karina Aragon (karina.aragon@mesaaz.gov)
 - i. ACVS: \$21,651.42
 - ii. AVAA: \$11,567.05
 - iii. Relocation: \$755.37
 - iv. TOTAL: \$33,973.84
 - v. ACVS had an increase due to membership renewals
 - vi. AVAA has had an increase due to grants
 - vii. Relocation Fund have remained the same. The cell phone drive for the relocation project has continued
- c. Vice Chair – Adam Gendreau (adam.gendreau@AZDCS.gov)
 - i. Membership closed on June 30 – July 1 started FY23-24 cycle, 2-year membership available, no reduction in price
- d. Relocation Committee – Tracey Wilkinson
 - i. Start collections cell phones, iPads, etc. for Oct DV Awareness Month
 - ii. Please send ideas for increasing Relocation Fund to Karina Aragon

V. New Business/Open Forum

VI. Next Meeting

- a. Sept 20th via Zoon, Angel Flight West presentation on relocation



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VII. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned by Amy Bocks at 11:02am