



# MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AUGUST 2012 NEWSLETTER

“ Our job is to put the bad guys where they belong: away from you. ”



## FROM THE DESK OF BILL MONTGOMERY

July heat and humidity have given way to August heat and humidity. These are the months that swimming pools look particularly inviting to children, including young non-swimmers. I know we sound like a broken record, but we are all working to try and stop the needless deaths that occur when children slip away from parent supervision.

On a positive note, the 2012 Safe Kids Summer campaign has been a success reaching 4,000 young swimmers at 25 public pools from one end of Maricopa County to the other. I would like to send a big thank you to all of our MCAO volunteers for their commitment at these pools during some of the hottest afternoons this summer.

As a measure of how fast time flies, our Friday Night Football Patrol season starts the last Friday in August. We will again be asking students to sign a pledge promising not to use drugs and alcohol and not to abuse prescription drugs. Pledge signers will be eligible for an exciting new prize this year, courtesy of Rockford Fosgate.

I'm pleased to have attended a special meeting in Governor Brewer's Office this month where she ceremonially signed the "Life Means Life" Law. This measure takes a big step toward honoring the rights of victims of crime and ensuring society is safe from those who commit the worst of crimes.

I hope August is safe for you and your family, especially as schools are once again open for business.

Until next time,

*Bill Montgomery*

Bill Montgomery, Maricopa County Attorney



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# “LIFE MEANS LIFE” IS NOW LAW

## COUNTY ATTORNEY BILL MONTGOMERY PRAISES THE CHANGE IN SENTENCING

On July 30<sup>th</sup>, Governor Jan Brewer signed HB 2373 into law requiring convicted murderers to serve a just prison sentence for certain first and second degree murder convictions.

Known in the legislature as “Life Means Life”, the legislation increases the maximum sentence for second degree murder and eliminates the possibility of release for those convicted of premeditated first degree murder or first degree murder of a law enforcement officer.

“Victims of crime in Arizona have a constitutional right to a final conclusion of a case after a sentence. Permitting a convicted first degree premeditated murderer to seek release even after 25 years betrays the guarantee of finality,” remarked Maricopa County Attorney Bill Montgomery, who attended the signing ceremony, along with members from his staff. “These changes to our sentencing laws will go a long way toward honoring the rights of victims of crime and safeguarding society from those who commit the worst of crimes.”

Sponsored by Representative Eddie Farnsworth (R - District 22), who chairs the House Judiciary Committee, HB 2373 increases the maximum sentence for second degree murder from 22 to 25 calendar years and from 25 to 29 calendar years if aggravating circumstances are proven. The legislation also mandates a sentence of death or natural life for adults convicted of first degree premeditated murder or first degree murder of a police officer, thereby eliminating the possibility of release from confinement.



Governor Jan Brewer signs HB 2373 into law



From left to right: Magdalena Jorquez, John Gillis, Mark Faull, County Attorney Bill Montgomery, Representative Eddie Farnsworth, Representative David Burnell Smith, Beckie Miller, Rebecca Baker, Tim Jeffries, Daniel Seiden

## THE 2012 JASON SCHECHTERLE OUTSTANDING LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATIVE PERFORMANCE AWARD GOES TO SUZANNE COHEN AND PATTI STEVENS

Suzanne Cohen and Patti Stevens are two of the hardworking Deputy Maricopa County Attorneys in the Homicide Bureau. They are responsible for prosecuting some of the most dangerous offenders who pass through the Maricopa County criminal justice system and now they are being honored for their successful prosecution and conviction of serial killer Mark Goudeau.

Defendant Mark Goudeau was charged with nine murders, multiple sexual assaults, kidnappings and robberies. The investigation has been described by the County Attorney's Office and Phoenix Police as the single largest and most significant criminal case in the state's history. Over 200 officers were involved in the investigation and surveillance of potential suspects. Tens of thousands of documents were produced for the 15,000 page departmental report.

Cohen and Stevens worked countless hours, including nights and weekends, to pull the case together so justice could be sought for each and every victim and their families. They sacrificed two years of their lives including time with family and friends to work on a prosecution strategy that would end in the conviction of one of the most dangerous criminals in Arizona history.

They were innovators in the courtroom as they developed "Jury Books." These books included short biographies of every state witness and general highlights of their testimony. This allowed each juror to recall key information presented by individual witnesses during the long and complicated trial. As a result of the lengthy prosecution, Stevens and Cohen made personal connections with victims and their families and ensured they were kept updated on the case.

The culmination of this massive effort was the conviction of Mark Goudeau, who now sits on death row. His conviction resulted in 9 death penalties and an additional 1,200 years in prison.

The two will be honored for their work on September 29<sup>th</sup> at the Jason Schechterle Scholarship Ball, sponsored by the 100 Club of Arizona. Jason Schechterle, a Phoenix Police Officer, was catastrophically injured in the line of duty in March 2001. Jason wanted to find a way to give back to the 100 Club for their support during one of the toughest times he and his family could ever face. With input from many people, the Schechterle Scholarship program was launched, making funds available to all family members of active Arizona public safety officers or firefighters. The 100 Club will award 87 new scholarships totaling more than \$327,000 this school-year.



Patti Stevens (left) and Suzanne Cohen (right) win the 2012 Jason Schechterle Outstanding Law Enforcement Investigative Performance Award.

# LEGO BRICKS HELP MCAO REACH KIDS WITH A DRUG FREE MESSAGE

The Maricopa County Attorney's Office and Bonanza Educational celebrated America's Independence Day at two different events in the east valley, continuing their efforts to educate students about Arizona history and teach them how to be safe at home, school and on the Internet.

An 8-foot by 10.5-foot Arizona Flag made entirely of 114,000 Lego bricks was recently built in Tempe. The Arizona Flag and a U.S. Flag are touring Arizona for the next few months as part of the Arizona Centennial. The U.S. Flag was built with 125,000 Lego bricks following all the U.S. code requirements in both design and dimensions. Both flags were on display at Mesa's Arizona Celebration of Freedom on June 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The flags also made an appearance at the Tempe Town Lake Festival on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

The two events were designed to encourage kids to build a strong foundation for making good choices. In return for signing a drug and alcohol free pledge at Mesa's event or signing an "I'm a Safe Kid" certificate at the Tempe event, kids were put into a drawing for the chance to win a Lego set kit valued at \$100.00.

Mesa's winner was Christopher McCuistion, age 7, who attends Falcon Hill Elementary in Mesa. He has two brothers and one sister and hopes to grow up to be an artist one day.

Tempe's winner was Anthony Prado, age 13, who attends Estrella Vista Elementary in Avondale. He has a little sister and plans to be a Police Officer when he grows up.

Both young men were excited to hear they had won and the MCAO is excited these boys are making such great choices!

## GRAFFITI COVER-UP TRIO

Our MCAO Graffiti Cover-Up volunteers braved the heat and took care of an alley near 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Hazelwood this month.



The graffiti covered walls and garbage receptacles up and down an alley. Most of the places that needed to be painted over appeared to be gang tags.

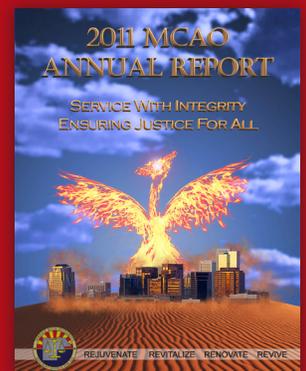
Daisy Gonzalez, Crystal Reidy and Kara Kunz expertly handled the paint brushes as they have on many other occasions.

"I'm happy to work on these graffiti cover-up jobs because you can immediately see how it helps the community," said MCAO volunteer Daisy Gonzalez.



## 2011 MCAO ANNUAL REPORT

Decreasing crime rates, a new Civil Services Division, community events and another successful Victims' Rights Week are among the featured accomplishments in the MCAO's 2011 Annual Report. Recently released and available at [MaricopaCountyAttorney.org](http://MaricopaCountyAttorney.org), "Service With Integrity, Ensuring Justice For All" features significant cases, community efforts and award-winning programs from the past year. The MCAO has some of the most talented prosecutors, paralegals, detectives and legal staff in the nation and we're proud to feature many of them in this report. Please visit our website and take a look.



# FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PATROL SET TO BEGIN



The 2012 season of Maricopa County Attorney's Office Friday Night Football Patrol in partnership with 104.7 KISS FM is set to kick off the first of this year's 10-game schedule on Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup> when the Desert Ridge Jaguars host the Tigers from Gilbert High School.

Students who sign the new 2012 drug and alcohol free pledge at one of the Friday Night Football Patrol games will be entered in a drawing for a Rockford Fosgate car stereo system. Included in the system is a bass, a pair of full range speakers and a 125 watt two-channel amplifier designed to work with existing car radios. This rocking sound system is valued at nearly \$300.00.

This year the drug and alcohol free pledge also includes a promise to not misuse prescription drugs. The improper use of prescription drugs like Oxycontin is having a devastating effect on teenagers in Arizona and around the country. Oxycontin can be legally prescribed for a family member but may be kept in an unsecured bathroom medicine cabinet. Tablets can easily be stolen by your teen or their friends - and the consequences can be fatal.

Teens who take the pledge at the weekly Friday Night Football Patrol games are eligible for the halftime drawing where they can win one of the ten Rockford Fosgate stereo systems.

Check out [SafeTeensAZ.org](http://SafeTeensAZ.org) for the complete 2012 Friday Night Football Patrol Schedule.



## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

### SALT RIVER DUI PREVENTION SATURDAY, AUGUST 18<sup>TH</sup>

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Salt River Tubing and Recreation  
9200 North Bush Highway  
Mesa, AZ 85215

### FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PATROL FRIDAY, AUGUST 24<sup>TH</sup>

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Desert Ridge High School vs. Gilbert  
10045 East Madero Avenue  
Mesa, AZ 85209

### FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PATROL FRIDAY, AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup>

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Westview High School vs. Tolleson  
10850 West Garden Lakes Parkway  
Avondale, AZ 85392



# COURT BRIEF

## **Cordell Lamar Jude Indicted for Murder of Daniel Adkins**

A Maricopa County Grand Jury has charged Cordell Lamar Jude with one count of second degree murder for the April 2012 shooting death of Daniel Adkins. He will be arraigned on the murder charge at a hearing set for August 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am.

“Our decision to prosecute this case is based on a thorough review of the evidence gathered during an extensive investigation by our law enforcement partners, and after a separate and careful analysis of the defendant’s assertion of self-defense,” said Maricopa County Attorney Bill Montgomery. “After engaging in this deliberative process, we are confident in moving forward with our efforts to hold this defendant accountable for his actions,” he added.

<http://www.maricopacountyattorney.org/newsroom/2012-07-27-Cordell-Jude-Indicted-for-Murder.pdf>



**MARICOPA COUNTY  
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

