Maricopa County Attorney
BILL MONTGOMERY

301 WEST JEFFERSON STREET, SUITE 800
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85003
WWW.MARICOPACOUNTYATTORNEY.ORG

PH. (602) 506-1260
TDD (602) 506-4352
FAX (602) 506-8102

August 15, 2016

Elizabeth Ortiz, Executive Director
Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council
1951 W. Camelback Rd., Suite 202
Phoenix, Arizona 85015

Re: The Maricopa County Attorney's Office Annual Activity Report on the Multidisciplinary Protocol for the Investigation of Child Abuse, Fiscal Year 2016 Report

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

The Maricopa County Attorney's Office hereby provides the ***Maricopa County Attorney's Office Annual Activity Report on the Multidisciplinary Protocol for the Investigation of Child Abuse Fiscal Year 2016 Report*** as required by Arizona Revised Statute § 8-817.

This version of the report, in addition to the Multidisciplinary Protocol, is also available at the Maricopa County Attorney's Office website, http://www.maricopacountyattorney.org/.

Sincerely,

Bill Montgomery
Maricopa County Attorney

enclosure

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The Maricopa County Attorney's Office Annual Activity Report on the Multidisciplinary Protocol for the Investigation of Child Abuse

August 2016

SUMMARY

Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) §8-817 requires each County Attorney to independently prepare and submit an Annual Report of Activity under the "Multidisciplinary Protocol for the Investigation of Child Abuse." New changes to this legislation in 2012 direct that the report should be independently prepared and submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate and the Secretary of State without any input from or communication with other reporting entities.

Each report is a publicly available document and shall include the number of criminal conduct allegations (CCA) investigated and the number investigated jointly, the number of cases presented for review, the number of persons charged in those cases, the reasons why charges were not pursued, final dispositions and the reasons why a joint investigation did not take place.

Prosecution Activity – Maricopa County Attorney's Office (MCAO)
July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

- The following table represents MCAO activity on the number of cases presented for review under these A.R.S. codes, the number of persons charged and final dispositions.[1]

Maricopa County Attorney's Office	NUMBER OF CASES PRESENTED FOR REVIEW	NUMBER OF PERSONS CHARGED	DISPOSITIONS
Totals	3,550	1,077	2,150

[1] Includes Arizona Revised Statutes 13-1102, 1103, 1104, 1105, 1303, 1304, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1410, 1417, 3212, 3552, 3553, 3554, 3601, 3623. These numbers were identified via a customized report recently created in our new case management system. The report is currently under final quality control and verification.

- The MCAO is reporting information on the number of CCAs presented for review and charged. We have created a new customized report in our Case Management System (Prosecutor by Karpel) and that report is nearing final status. An addendum will be forwarded as soon as this report is finalized and we can accurately report on the number of CCAs jointly investigated by our office.

- **Number of Cases presented for review** reflects law enforcement reports (submittals) received by the MCAO, which totals 3,550 cases during fiscal year 2015.

- **Persons charged** does not equal the number of cases presented for review because defendants may be charged in multiple cases and each statistical category presented is independent of each other.

- **Dispositions** include cases completed by Deputy County Attorneys that resulted in pleas, conviction, acquittal or dismissal. A total of 2,150 cases reached final disposition. Cases disposed during this reporting period may have been submitted prior to this period. Dispositions may or may not represent the same cases reported in the "Number of Cases Presented for Review" section.

- **Reasons why charges were not pursued** include 1) no reasonable likelihood of conviction; 2) referred to another agency for prosecution; 3) the charges were used as an aid to prosecute another pending matter; or 4) unable to locate witness(es).

- ***Note:*** Each of the three statistical categories reflects a separate query into a unique part of our Case Management System. Therefore each category is independent of each other and the same cases/persons are not necessarily included in each. This data is from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

2015-16 MCAO Accomplishments and Future Plans

- The MCAO continues to partner with Arizona law enforcement and criminal justice professionals to improve the way they investigate and prosecute cases of domestic violence and child abuse at a series of specialized training events. These training sessions address topics including best practices for investigating child sex abuse. Related to these specialized training events are the various joint operation apprehensions in 2015-16 that resulted in the arrest and conviction of several unregistered sexual offenders.

- The MCAO continues to provide experts from our Speakers Bureau for presentations to schools and other agencies on the importance of "Mandatory Reporting."

- In September 2015, the MCAO won a $1.9M grant from the New York County District Attorney's Office to analyze previously untested sexual assault evidence kits. With this support, the MCAO will be able to seek justice on behalf of victims of sexual assault, including children.

- Several pieces of Arizona legislation passed in the 2016 Session that will continue to protect children.

    - HB 2375 now requires the court to allow a victim under 18 years of age to have a facility dog, if available, accompany the victim while testifying in court.
    - HB 2383 maintains that a person making a public records request for a record that visually depicts a crime victim or a minor must establish that the public interest in the record outweighs the victim's right to privacy.

- HB 2468 requires a portion of the proceeds from vending machine lottery ticket sales to go to a newly created ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) Enforcement Fund. It also appropriates $1.8M to the ICAC Taskforce for FY2017.

The current version of the "Multidisciplinary Protocol for the Investigation of Child Abuse" is always available at the Maricopa County Attorney's Office website (http://www.maricopacountyattorney.org/), in addition to the 2015-16 version of the Annual Report of Activity from the MCAO.

Sincerely,

Bill Montgomery
Maricopa County Attorney