



Fact Sheet

Who's Listening?
 Increasing
 Accountability in
 Child Safety

Community & Child Safety

Action Now

**Keeping the Promise of a Bright Future
 National Latino Children's Summit**

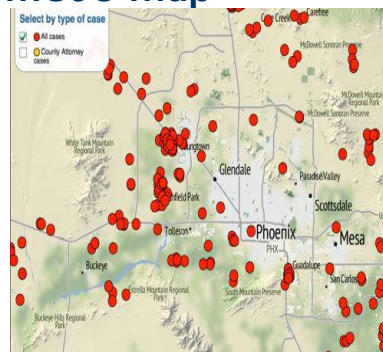
**Phoenix, Arizona
 October 19 - 20, 2012**

Law Enforcement MCSO

In September/October 2012, *The Arizona Republic* launched the series "A Betrayal of Trust" by reporters JJ Hensley and Rob O'Dell. The series is an investigative report about the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office sex-crimes audit where it found deficiencies in 400 plus cases between 2005 through 2008; in 60% of the cases, the victims were minors.

See www.trust.azcentral.com for more.

MCSO Map



<http://www.azcentral.com/news/maps/mcso/map.php>

Federal Concerns about MCSO

In a letter dated December 15th 2011, Thomas Perez, US Department of Justice Assistant Attorney General, writes to Maricopa County Attorney, Bill Montgomery, identifying serious concerns about:

- "Use of excessive force against Latinos;
- Reduction of policing services to the Latino community; and
- Gender and/or national origin bias by failing to adequately investigate sex crimes."

Source: US Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division Letter to Maricopa County Attorney, December 15, 2011

http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/spl/documents/mcso_findletter_12-15-11.pdf
 (see page 14 & 15)

What can we do to ensure all children live in safe homes and communities?

What will be done to ensure that crimes committed against children are deemed top priorities by the public and law enforcement?



City of Phoenix Crimes Against Children

In an October 2011 report, by the City Auditor Department, the auditors investigated case management practices within the Family Investigations Bureau, Crimes Against Children Unit (CACU) following an inquiry into a detective's "case management issues" from 2007. It was discovered during the June 2011 audit that "issues had not been resolved." In July 2011, the audit was started and found that 81% of the cases reviewed "did not follow case management policy or procedures and likely lacked sufficient supervisory review."

Recommendations and responses from the department were published in this report to include a reinvestigation of all cases that fall within the statute of limitations. The number of cases that are being reinvestigated, by a newly formed unit, was estimated at 2,500. The target date of completion was listed as September 30th 2012.

Source: Family Investigations Bureau Review, Police Department, October 20, 2011, Project Number: 3120007, City of Phoenix City Auditor Department; 17 S. 2nd Avenue, Suite 200 Phoenix, AZ 85003

City of Phoenix Progress

Daniel Garcia was sworn in as the new Phoenix police chief, May 14, 2012.

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/phoenix/articles/2012/05/14/20120514phoenix-police-chief-takes-oath-starts-job.html>

Public Safety Council Meeting Update

At a City of Phoenix sub-committee meeting on March 27th 2012, progress on the crimes against children reinvestigation was reported on by Acting Chief Yahner. According to the minutes of record, the focus of the Police Department was "first, to review past cases to ensure they were handled properly, and second, to implement practices that prevent similar occurrences from happening in the future." The number of cases reviewed was reported to exceed over 200.

Phoenix City Council
Public Safety and Veterans Subcommittee Summary Minutes
Tuesday, March 27, 2012:
http://phoenix.gov/webcms/groups/internet/@inter@citygov/@publicnotice/documents/meeting_notices/075793.pdf

Arizona CPS Child Abuse & Neglect Reports

In a **one year period**, between April 2011 and March 2012, the Arizona Department of Economic Security,

Child Protective Services (CPS) **received 40,132 reports of child abuse and neglect.**

Investigations of abuse and neglect are to be completed by CPS within 60 days of receiving a report. As of October 2012, however, CPS had **more than 13,119** child abuse neglect reports that they had and received from July 2011 through May 2012 that were **still open** for investigation.

Child Welfare Reporting Requirements, Semi-Annual Report for the period of October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012, and April 1, 2011 - September 30, 2011; Arizona Department of Economic Security, Division of Children, Youth and Families
https://www.azdes.gov/InternetFiles/Reports/pdf/emi_annual_child_welfare_report_apr_2011_sep_2011.pdf
https://www.azdes.gov/InternetFiles/Reports/pdf/emi_annual_child_welfare_report_oct_2011_mar_2012.pdf

AZ Child Fatality 2010

In 2010, 862 children younger than 18 years of age died in Arizona. Hispanic children accounted for 43% of the child fatalities (n=393). The percent of deaths due to child maltreatment increased from 7% in 2009 (n=64) to 8% in 2010 (n=70); 18 had prior involvement with CPS.

Maltreatment Deaths:

Hispanic = 39%
White Non-Hispanic = 36%
African American = 11%
American Indian = 10%
Asian = 3%

Arizona Child Fatality Review Program, November 2011; Arizona Department of Health Services:
http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/pdf/reports/Eighth-Annual-CFR-Report_Nov2011.pdf