



# Chronicle

## Maricopa County Adult Probation Newsletter

Issue: October – December 2022

A Force for Positive  
**CHANGE.**

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# CHIEF'S

# CORNER

## Season of Giving Thanks

As you read through this edition of the *Chronicle*, you will see highlights of the Maricopa County Adult Probation Department's (MCAPD) 27th annual Turkey Feast. It's an event that MCAPD has faithfully provided for families at one of our Phoenix community offices. Kids come streaming through with their families to see Santa, receive a gift, and a full hot turkey dinner. The Phoenix Fire and Police Departments come out to interact with the kids and Terros Health was out to provide voluntary flu and COVID-19 vaccines. The Arizona Probation Officer's Association (AZPOA) provided free books and their volunteers joined in **servicing the community**. Department staff dressed as Christmas elves, worked as DJs, served food and did so much more. Hundreds were served that day and fun was had by all. Alongside the Judicial Branch's National Adoption Day, they are my two **favorite events** of the year both taking place in November. It's a picture of the reason why our profession exists: to **bring hope**, to enter the community proactively with solutions and assistance, and to **intervene positively** changing someone's trajectory. They are public events each year that get our best energy. What's most noteworthy is that it takes place every day of the year. While it may not include a meal or a chance to talk with Santa, it is the work MCAPD **officers and staff do every day**. Some do it through their caseloads, others through resourcing the Court in initial appearance units or presentence, and others of us by supporting those professionals.



Time and again, community corrections has empirically demonstrated it is one of the most effective tools for reducing crime and improving community life. Probation staff across Arizona represent one of the most effective probation systems in the country as seen in the results they get. I could not be prouder of the part of that workforce serving in Maricopa County. In a **season of giving thanks**, the staff in the county's adult and juvenile probation departments give the Judicial Branch in Maricopa **much to be grateful for** with the professionalism, high competency, and results that they deliver.

To our staff, I hope you realize the **importance of your work**, the difference you are making, and that it's an impact that will echo into future generations. I hope you have some time this holiday season to spend with those who matter most to you and doing what is renewing for you. I look with hope and optimism for what 2023 will bring for us as we serve both the residents of this county and our Court. We are grateful for each of you and **appreciate all you do** to serve our Court and MCAPD. It remains a privilege and honor to serve alongside you.

# NEWS &

# INFORMATION

## 27th Annual Turkey Feast

By Kristi Wimmer

The 27th Annual Garfield Turkey Feast was held on Thursday, November 17, 2022, from 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. The weather was perfect, the mood was energetic, and the event went off without a hitch! The line started forming one hour before the start of the Turkey Feast, and we had neighbors moving through steadily all afternoon. After serving the Turkey Feast as a carryout meal the last two years due to the pandemic, this year we returned to serving a full, hot Thanksgiving meal that included turkey, mashed potatoes, corn, stuffing, and cookies for dessert. Turkey Feast is an event designed to give back to the neighborhood in the form of a delicious meal made by [Community Kitchen](#), a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus (Bryan and Jessica Ethington), music from DJ Manny Barron, and gifts for all the children.

This year was a smashing success! In total, 511 Thanksgiving meals were given out to adults and children attending the event. Each child received a gift bag that included a new toy, a book, and hygiene items; in total, more than 300 gift bags were handed out to neighborhood children. In addition to their gift bags, each child was also given an adorable stuffed animal. The stuffed animals were donated by a connection established by Probation Officer Terry Lee - the [Who I Am Foundation](#), a local non-profit organization that partners with PetSmart. They also got to sit with Santa and Mrs. Claus to tell them their holiday wishes.

The Turkey Feast Toy Committee worked diligently to ensure there were enough toys for kids of all ages. Department staff really came through with generous toy donations, including dropping off new toys at their offices in the toy donation box or by ordering items off the Turkey Feast



Children who attended Turkey Feast were visited by special guests Santa, Mrs. Claus, and elves thanks to MCAPD staff volunteers.



MCAPD probation officers Alex Battest, Julie Wise, Megan Gonzalez, and Sunikia Bullen took a quick break from volunteering.

Amazon Wishlist, which was updated weekly by the toy committee volunteers, who sorted, counted, logged, and bagged up the toys. We received hundreds of toys, books, and hygiene items for all age levels and every child who came to see Santa got a gift. It was wonderful to see their excited faces.

The 71 volunteers from MCAPD, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), and Maricopa County Human Services Department, ensured the event ran smoothly due to all their hard work. Many of the volunteers were there early to set up as well as volunteering during the event. So many staff stayed after the feast to help cleanup that we were finished in a record setting 38 minutes! Face painters also donated their time and painted over 100 kids' faces. In addition to meeting Santa and Mrs. Clause, the children

got to meet a Star Wars Storm Trooper, played by Judicial Branch Court Security's Steve Cockrell. Additionally, firefighters from the Phoenix Fire Department came to show off the truck and hand out stuffed animals to the kids.

Each year, MCAPD invites other agencies to attend the Turkey Feast to provide needed resources and information to the community. This year, we were joined by [Terros Health](#), who provided flu and COVID-19 vaccines and booster shots as well as many other healthcare services. [Arizona@Work](#) was also on-site helping with vocational opportunities. The AZPOA gave out books and Frisbees while staff from the Department's Adult Education program let those in attendance know about a variety of free educational and workforce services available to them through MCAPD. Staff from the Phoenix Police Department and Phoenix Neighborhood Services also participated in the community event.



Phoenix Fire Department attended the Turkey Feast and passed out stuffed animals donated to the children by the Who I Am Foundation.

Turkey Feast is a one-day event, but it takes numerous people, countless hours, and generous donations to pull off each year. The Department wants to thank each and every staff member who contributed through donations, volunteering, or both. It truly was a team effort, and everyone pitched in to make it happen. You

made a difference in the lives of children and adults and furthered trust building in a community which we serve. Volunteering for this event is such a privilege and seeing the children's faces and hearing "thank you" from the adults makes every minute of work worth it. An additional thank you goes out to the couriers who brought the donated toys from the buildings to Garfield, as well as the Judicial Branch warehouse, who received all the packages from the Amazon Wishlist and delivered all of them to Garfield. Last, but not least, we would like to thank the MCAPD Executive Team for providing financial and logistical support for the Garfield Turkey Feast each year. **Without all of you, this event would not have been possible.**



Criminal Presiding Judge Green and the MCAPD Executive Team meets Santa and Mrs. Claus!

# National Adoption Day 2022

By Savanna Hopp

Over 100 children in Maricopa County celebrated their adoptions being finalized on National Adoption Day, Saturday, November 19, 2022. This was the first in-person event held at the Superior Court since November 2019. Children that are officially adopted on this special day were all in the foster care system due to abuse and/or neglect and have patiently waited for their adoption day. Some children have waited **years** for this day to come. The average time a child spends in foster care before being adopted is 2-5 years, according to the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) [website](#).

This is no ordinary day at the courthouse, it's all smiles and tears of joy from the children, families, court staff, judges, attorneys, and volunteers. Six volunteers from MCAPD staff attended Adoption Day to make this day special for the kiddos and families – around 135 volunteers total. Judges and court staff came into the courthouse on a Saturday, big inflatable slides were set up in the grass, volunteers painted faces, dressed as clowns and juggled, set up booths with toys for the children, manned a photo booth for the new official families, and even members from Star Wars showed up to celebrate!

"This was my first year attending Maricopa County National Adoption Day and it was absolutely life changing. Witnessing so much love in our community is something I will never forget. Families who had never met were cheering each other on as they headed in and out of the courtrooms," said Emily Vance, MCAPD employee and Adoption Day volunteer photographer.

Juvenile Court Administration and all of their volunteers played a huge role in making Adoption Day in Maricopa County so successful. Karen Sailer, Superior Court employee, and her team ensured each child being adopted received a backpack with their initials on it and the judges were well prepped for each adoption.

To learn more about adoption through the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS), [click here](#). Read inspiring adoption stories in Arizona - [click here](#).



Middle bottom photo, MCAPD staff volunteered at National Adoption Day. Pictured left to right: Alexis Torres, Rachel McKay, Kemberly Holguin, Brandon Shimizu, and Hannah Mercier. Not pictured: Emily Vance.

# MCAPD Domestic Violence Units Support the Community in October

By Heather Redmond

October is National Domestic Violence (DV) Awareness Month. MCAPD has three dedicated DV units that directly supervise more than 900 justice-involved individuals (JIIs) serving a probation sentence for a domestic violence charge. During October, DV staff held bake sales, coordinated donations from other companies such as a barbeque grill, and auctioned items with all proceeds donated to [Chrysalis](#), an organization that partners with MCAPD to provide advocacy services to DV victims. Additionally, DV staff initiated a donation drive to further support [Control Alt Delete](#), a volunteer-led non-profit that uses 100% of donations to support victims leaving violent relationships. MCAPD staff participated in the [Annual Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence](#) (ACESDV) Diamondbacks baseball game as well as the Scottsdale Victim Impact Panel to support and honor victims of DV. Also in October, DV staff connected with community stakeholders about the incidence of DV among military services members during the 14th Annual City of Chandler Commission Event as well as connected with DV service providers at the Community Partners Addressing Domestic Violence Forum.

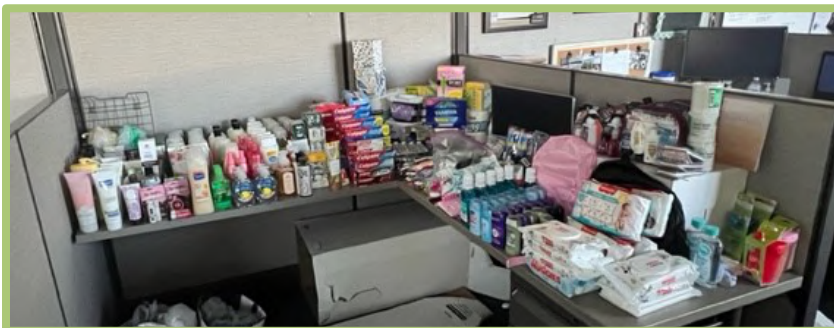
Staff assigned to DV tirelessly work to fulfill its mission year-long although extra efforts like those listed above happen in October. Staff continually sharpen their skills by participating in continuing education opportunities like the recent training "Unpacking the New Lifetime Injunction Law" also known as "Kayleigh's Law." Domestic violence staff visit standard probation units to familiarize them with signs of DV and provide resources for victims and points of contact within the Department. Staff have also partnered with the Glendale Police Department as it performs its DV Roundups that enhance victim and community safety by arresting individuals with active DV warrants.



MCAPD DV Unit 37 pictured left to right with items donated: Jorge Ortiz, Diane Bracamonte, David Silvas, Rebecca Sifuentes, Gaby Perez, Joe Lopez, Ryan Price, Chrysalis partner, Stephanie Vega, and Linette Hartle.



MCAPD employees and their families attend a Diamondbacks game for an ACESDV event. Pictures left to right: Mark Hannon, Christina Hannon, Ileana Salvatierra, Daniel Atkinson, Kymani Atkinson, Lindsay Redmond, Heather Redmond, Michael Holly, Erin Howard, Casey Friith, Jennifer Handschumacher.



# October was Cyber Security Awareness Month

By Kendall Vaughan



The purpose of Cybersecurity Awareness Month is to provide individuals with the knowledge and tools they can use to protect themselves against online threats. As cybersecurity threats continue to increase, it is important to be aware of how to protect yourself personally as well as the Branch's network. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's theme "See Yourself in Cyber," reminded everyone that not all cybersecurity is complex and that whether its professional or personal, we can all practice smart cyber hygiene techniques.

Four techniques that you can practice to stay on top of your cyber hygiene are (1) think before you click, (2) keep your software up to date, (3) use strong passwords, and (4) enable multi-factor authentication. Watching what you click can sound vague, but there are ways to identify if a link or email could be a potential threat. Cyberattacks often begin by attempting to gain the trust of the victim to obtain access to critical information or networks. The most common roles adapted to gain trust is the impersonation of a bank representative, managers, tech support agents, or a friend in need of help. If you receive an email or text from someone, keep an eye out for urgent language, bad grammar, awkward phrasing, and unexpected attachments and/or links. Although they may seem trustworthy, it is very important to pay attention to this unfamiliar language that may indicate a possible threat to your confidential data. Please share these common threat indicators as well as the cyber hygiene practices with your friends so that we can ensure everyone has the proper tools to defend themselves against cyberattacks.

To learn more, visit <https://www.cisa.gov/cybersecurity-awareness-month>.



# ACHIEVEMENTS

## & CELEBRATIONS

### Another Large NOTES Class Graduation

By Jim Sine

Please join the Staff Development and the Safety Unit in congratulating 21 new probation officers, three surveillance officers, and one new supervisor promotion. On December 5, 2022, Criminal Presiding Judge Jennifer Green and MCAPD Deputy Chief Jason Walker officiated the swearing-in ceremony for our latest New Officer Training, Education, and Skill-building (NOTES) class and supervisor promotion at the Board of Supervisors Auditorium. This is the second consecutive class where 24 officers graduated. Overall, 2022 has been a very productive year for the number of new officers joining the Department, with the smallest class being 17. In addition to our new officers, we had one supervisor promotion to celebrate. Shelbi Carpenter was officially sworn-in as supervisor and will be supervising a sex offender caseload at Black Canyon Building (BCB).



New MCAPD officers being sworn-in by Criminal Presiding Judge Jennifer Green at the NOTES graduation.



Shelbi Carpenter was sworn-in as a new MCAPD supervisor.

So, who are the new officers you ask? We had three surveillance officers in the class who all went to sex offender units. Roy Gonzales is joining Western Regional Center (WRC), Lucas Melendez is joining the Probation Service Center (PSC), and Jocelyn Renteria went to BCB. As for the probation officers, Eddie Reyes, Karina Taylor, Franchesca Aguirre, and Mercedes Smith all went to PSC in standard caseloads. The WRC welcomes Wendy Zamora, Francisco Quijada, Ashley Rodriguez in standard caseloads, plus Marcus Edel and Angel Montano in sex offender caseloads. Alexa Hearn and Selena Echeveste Manzano join the team at Garfield while Hilario Saucedo was placed at the Southwest Regional Court Center (SWRCC). Shelbi Bottoms was placed at Northport and Brandi Anderson was placed at Southport. BCB received the largest number of new officers with a total of seven. Two new officers, Lizbeth Ruvalcaba Urbina and Brandon Dimasin-Cabulong, were placed in



sex offender units, while Alejandro Gallego is supervising a seriously mentally ill (SMI) caseload. Giovanni Sanchez, Tayia Bush, Jeremy Roti, and Alexandria Smith were all placed in standard caseloads.

Welcome aboard to everyone as you begin your new careers! No NOTES academy would be complete without the important contributions from the MCAPD adjunct faculty. Thank you to everyone for your ongoing dedication and knowledge. On a sad note, this was the last class for Staff Development Supervisor Jonelle Acosta and Safety Supervisor Michele Butcher, who both have moved on to new assignments. Thank you for your dedication and support over the last several years! MCAPD welcomes the new Staff Development Supervisor Ivy Kinney and Safety Supervisor Tim Schouten. They are joining the team in time for the upcoming 2023 NOTES class which, as of this writing, already has 18 new students registered.



NOTES graduates pictured left to right; front row: Marcus Edel, Hilario Saucedo, Wendy Zamora, Selena Echeveste Manzano, Karina Taylor, Tayia Bush, Ashley Rodriguez, and Angel Montano. Middle row: Franchesca Aguirre, Alejandro Gallego, Lucas Melendez, and Francisco Quijada. Back row: Mercedes Smith, Jocelyn Renteria, Brandon Dimasin, Roy Gonzales, Jeremy Roti, Alexa Hearn, Lizbeth Ruvalcaba Urbina, Brandi Anderson, Eddie Reyes, Alexandria Smith, and Giovanni Sanchez.

## Heather Beaman Promoted to Adult Probation Dispatcher Supervisor

By Sarah Harp

In 2015, Heather Beaman started with the Department as a dispatcher when the Communications Center was located at Durango. She was promoted to probation dispatcher supervisor, effective October 17, 2022. During her tenure with the Department, she has seen the Communications Center relocate to the MCSO and has served the Department by participating in several committees. Heather previously served on the Strategic Projects Committee and the Morale Committee and currently is a member of the Probation Recognizing Individual Deeds of Excellence (PRIDE) Committee as well as a member of the Red Book Committee for the Communications Center. Prior to joining the Department, Heather obtained her associate of science degree in criminal investigations from Everest College. In her seven years with the



Department, she has been recognized four times with PRIDE awards. When asked what she most looks forward to in her new position, Heather stated, "...every day at work is an opportunity I have to contribute to the growth of the Communications Center. I am looking forward to aiding and mentoring my team into becoming the best they can be."

## Cassandra Dobbs Promoted to Adult Probation Supervisor

By Sarah Harp



Cassandra Dobbs began her career with the Department in 2015. Her first assignment was managing a standard probation supervision caseload out of Southport. In 2017 she transferred to her current assignment managing a SMI caseload, also out of Southport. Known for her willingness to volunteer, Cassandra has presented at an American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) national conference, worked on the Social Media Committee, the PRIDE Committee, and co-chaired the Saving Trees by Reinventing Electronically Paperless (STRiVE) Committee. She currently serves as a facilitator for Thinking for a Change (T4C) and Risk Reduction, is a ride along host, assists with the AOC certification class for new probation officers and is on the Probation Violation Workgroup. Cassandra is looking forward to "learning the ins and outs of the Communication Center and

utilizing the experience of those around me to provide the support and resources to the Department and Judicial Branch; and to continue to develop a team that loves what they do." She begins her supervisory role alongside her new team of MCAPD staff at the Communications Center on January 9, 2023.

*Congratulations and best of  
luck in your new positions!*



# 3rd Quarter P.R.I.D.E Winners



## People Recognizing Individual Deeds of Excellence

**APDCC – Dispatch:** Hance Wilhite

**BCB:** Ana Ochoa, Francisca Salazar, Melissa Rivas, Adriana Rodriguez, Dameon Ortiz, Gregory Scott

**CCBLL:** Maria Burgos, David Gonzalez

**CSC:** Sandra Cumming

**DTJC2 Training:** Jonelle Acosta

**DTJC3 Admin:** Michelle Medina, Raquel Shackelford

**DTJC3 – Unsupervised:** Carolina Juarez, Gayle Swindle

**Durango Westport:** Jake McGowne, George Fairburn

**Garfield:** Jamie Lopez, Nathan Chaplin

**ITR:** Rochelle Harlin, Abilio Aranda

**Luhrs:** Ruth Manner, Arthur Hernandez

**Northport:** Brittany Craine, April Demarbiex, Jill Wilkinson

**PSC:** Arianna Cannady, Heather Odell, Wayne Benton, Victoria Metzger, Candice Baldino, Stacey Lanenga

**Scottsdale:** Cleo Quinn, Lane Gunderson

**SEF:** Sue-Ilem Rivera Aceves, Robin Hargrove

**South Court Tower:** Kenneth Walker, Judy Chacon, Lindsay Hertzler

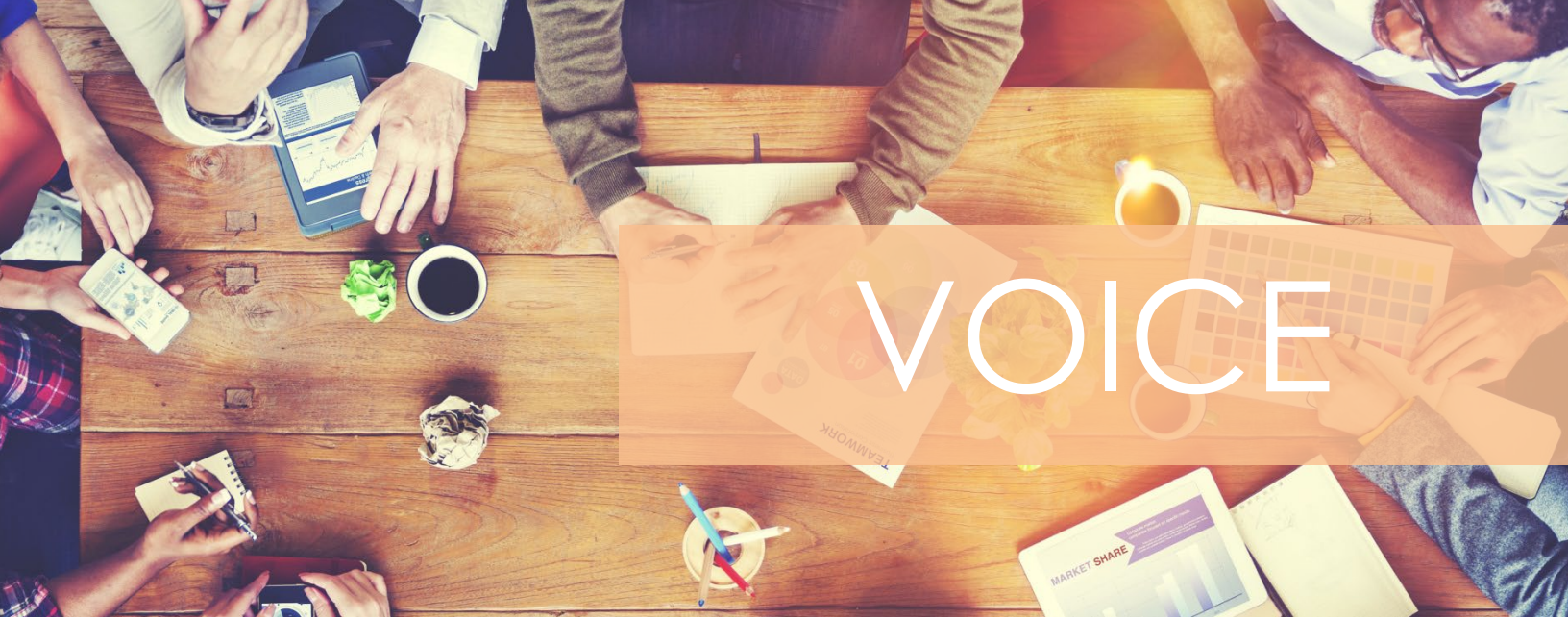
**Southport:** Wallace Clark, Jeny Moran

**Sunnyslope:** Savana Cray

**SWRCC:** Emily Orta, Brianna Balzer-Martinez

**WCB:** Brenda Gobeli, Alicja Podlacha Sabo, William Grimes, Lisa Levardi, Nora Franco

**WRC:** Jeff Gallimore, Trishann Hayes, Monserrat Perez, Pat Daily, Rodrigo Arce, Doris Tucker



## Ruff Day? Adopt a Pet or Volunteer with MASH!

By Brandon Shimizu

The [Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Animal Safe Haven](#) (MASH) program cares for animals seized by Sheriff's deputies in cruelty and neglect cases. This no-kill shelter is a collaborative effort of a diverse partnership. MCSO rescues the animals and along with incarcerated individuals works to rehabilitate the animals for adoption. Volunteers from the MCAPD, the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, the Maricopa County Office of the Public Defender, and the Maricopa County Superior Court walk dogs and socialize cats to aid in their rehabilitation journey.

MASH is a positive, morale-boosting experience for everyone involved, especially the animals and those incarcerated. They consistently tell me caring for and rehabilitating the animals is not only therapeutic, but beneficial in teaching them employment skills and pro-social habits while allowing them to earn community restitution credit. Upon completion of the program, inmates earn a letter of recommendation to help them achieve employment in animal care to continue their positive change momentum.



MASH adoptable dogs dressed up in their princess and BB8 for their Halloween walk with volunteers.

Dog walking season is November through March. Dog playtime in the MASH Unit lobby located at 102 W Madison Street is April through October. Cat playtime and socialization is indoors and year-round. Time slots are one hour in duration, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. To volunteer, email [Alicia.Calderon@Maricopa.Gov](mailto:Alicia.Calderon@Maricopa.Gov). To see the animals up for adoption, go to [www.facebook.com/mcsomash](http://www.facebook.com/mcsomash). To schedule an adoption meet and greet, please call (602) 876-1212.

MCAPD Probation Officer Brandon Shimizu took part in the MASH Halloween walk with one of many adoptable dogs.



## DIA Gets Spooky

By Savanna Hopp

The MCAPD Data Integrity & Analytics (DIA) team gathered together on Halloween for a highly competitive costume contest. Each team member showed up in costume and the stakes were high; the winner to receive a three-tier trophy attached to multiple boxes of candy. Costumes included Batman, Boo from Monster's Inc., Robert Celaya (dressed up by Randy Tirado), a shrimp, a cereal killer, a hippie, and a milk and cookie duo. Chief Cimino stopped by to judge the best costume - he was stumped and couldn't choose just one winner. Tazman Briggs won for commitment on being a shrimp all day (she even walked from the parking lot, through court security, and worked all day in her full shrimp costume) and Kendall Vaughan won for originality of being a cereal killer.

When asked how the inspiration to be a shrimp came about, Tazman Briggs said, "I saw the costume and I *shrimply* couldn't resist."



Top left photo: Tazman Briggs and Kendall Vaughan accept best costume award. Top right photo: Tazman Briggs working all day in her shrimp costume. Bottom photo from left to right: MCAPD DIA staff Robert Celaya, Sarah Harp, Randy Tirado, Tazman Briggs, Kendall Vaughan, Savanna Hopp, Vanessa Gillette, and guest William Cicerelli.

## Another Year: I am Still Here, a Perspective

By Antony Bidonde

When I joined the MCAPD I had no idea I would still be here nearly 11 years later. After my initial interview I did not think I had nailed it. Two weeks later I received a call from my future supervisor offering me the position and here I am over a decade later!

The job as a Victim Services Unit Coordinator is not always easy and often involves an upset victim wanting to know why they are not receiving the Court-ordered restitution or why something is not being done regarding a perceived violation of probation. On any given day I take many phone calls and answer numerous emails. I receive calls from law enforcement agencies, attorneys, outside stakeholders, victims, and the community at large, most looking for information. Some folks also call me when they feel overwhelmed by the system. In these cases, I try to provide a resource so they may receive assistance from someone that can help them. I also do a presentation for incoming officers to assist them in better understanding victims' rights and sit on two committees that were formed to find more innovative ways to assist victims. At the end of the day, it feels like I have done something worthwhile for my community. Maybe not everyone can make that claim, but for those of us working for probation, that is what our job is all about: keeping the JII accountable, providing

them with the opportunity to change their behavior, assisting victims of JIIs by enforcing Court-mandated restitution and providing them with information, and help to keep the community safe. It is my belief that most people want the same thing, to make a life for ourselves, our families, and neighbors while feeling safe in our communities.

I am still reeling, trying to figure out where did this year go? The Flash might be surprised to know the year was a lot faster than he is. In closing, I would like to thank the supervisors, probation officers, case administrators, and the rest of the MCAPD staff that takes time to listen and assist the victims when called upon. At the risk of sounding cliché, nothing worthwhile ever comes easy. All of us should be proud of our accomplishments, but know the job is not finished.

**Happy holidays to one and all!**

## Veterans Day

By Sarah Harp

The origin of celebrating Veterans Day on November 11th comes from the end of World War I (WWI) when the Allied Forces and Germany signed an armistice at 5:45 a.m. that decreed fighting would end that day at the 11th hour which happened to also be the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918; the fighting did not actually cease until that evening. The formal peace agreement known as the Treaty of Versailles was not signed until 1919, but the date of November 11th was inextricably tied to the cessation of fighting and the need to commemorate the significant losses caused by the first World War.

On June 4, 1926, the United States Congress passed a joint resolution asking President Calvin Coolidge to create a national day of observance recognizing the sacrifices made by those individuals that served in WWI. As a nation we not only acknowledge those that volunteer to serve their country, but also the sacrifices their families make while they serve.

The Department wishes to thank its **four retired military personnel**, the **fourteen reservists**, and the **thirty veterans** that exemplify what it means to answer the call of public service by not only serving the community of Maricopa County, but also the United States as a whole. We sincerely thank you for your service!



# EDITORIAL STAFF

# & POLICY

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Antony Bidonde  
Tazman Briggs  
Kendall Vaughan



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If an article receives significant edits, changes, additions, or deletions it will be returned to the writer for review before publication.

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