



Meet Our Team! Agency Support Team (AST) Overview

What is the AST?

The Agency Support Team (AST), nationally recognized for its innovative multidisciplinary programs, continues to lead statewide efforts to promote uniformity and efficiency with victims' rights compliance through its various support and leadership programs to criminal justice agencies. As a direct result of the coordinated efforts of the entire AST, OVS has been able to identify and address systemic victims' rights issues throughout Arizona. OVS has observed positive changes and heightened awareness of victims' rights that have permeated throughout the Arizona criminal justice system.

In addition to administering the VRP, auditing funded agencies, providing victims' rights education and resolving victims' rights complaints, the AST reviews custom pre-conviction forms and procedures, assists with interpretation and implementation of victims' rights statutes into daily practice, can connect you with similar programs, communicates legislative strategies and will help identify best practices in victims' rights.

What can the AST do for me and my agency?

The AGO is the only agency in the state statutorily obligated to support the courts and any state, county, and municipal law enforcement, custodial, prosecutorial, and correctional agencies that have duties established and defined by victims' rights laws. The AST proudly and skillfully promotes compliance with victims' rights through these programs.

Why victims' rights?

The AST has experienced some recent staffing changes! We are so fortunate to continue our programs seamlessly with our highly trained and skilled team who are experienced and have a passion for victims' rights. Our ability to serve you is our priority and our commitment to excellence continues. We want to make sure you know us! Please meet our team!

Why introduce us now?

Inside this issue:

Meet our Team! Agency Support Team (AST) Overview
Page 1

Introducing YOUR Agency Support Team
Page 2

Introducing YOUR Agency Support Team Cont.
Page 3

National Crime Victims' Rights Week
OVS Outreach and Education
Page 4

Rule 39 Proposal - INPUT NEEDED and Remarks
Page 5

If you have questions, suggestions, or an idea for an article, please contact Ryan Clark at (602) 542-8848 or by email at Ryan.clark@azag.gov



Introducing the Agency Support Team (AST)

Director of the Office of Victim Services

Kirstin Flores



Kirstin Flores has been a proven leader of victims' rights in Arizona. Kirstin holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Management. After developing her administrative leadership skills in the public health sector, she started her victims' rights career at the Attorney General's Office of Victim Services (OVS) as the State Victims' Rights Administrator in 2000. In 2012, Kirstin moved into the role of Executive Director for the OVS where she oversees the victim advocacy component of the office which works with victims in investigation, prosecution and appeals cases; as well as the statewide compliance program which received national recognition by the a US Department of Justice in 2018. This model multi-disciplinary program ensures victims' rights

compliance statewide through victims' rights enforcement, training, technical assistance, collaboration and funding. As a long-time active member of action-oriented commissions including the NCVLI Post-Conviction Advisory Group, the AZ Supreme Court's Commission on Victims in the Courts, the Governor's Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women and the Chair of the Attorney General's Victims' Rights Advisory Committee, Kirstin is continuously working collaboratively to ensure victims' rights for every Arizona crime victim.

Assistant Director of the Office of Victim Services

Amy Bocks



Amy holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Arizona and a Master of Educational Psychology in Human Relations from Northern Arizona University. Amy began her work in victim services in 2001 with Cochise County Juvenile Court Services working with the victims of juvenile offenders. In 2004, she joined OVS as a Lead Advocate supervising the Tucson office and carrying a case load of trial, appeal and death penalty cases. Since 2011, as the Advocate Program Manager she supervises advocates and staff, works on policy and program development, and oversees the Volunteer Intern Program. As the Assistant Director, Amy writes grants and oversees OVS' grant monitoring and reporting to ensure continued funding and program development. She has had the

chance to work on legislation and state-wide policies directing affecting victim and survivors. In 2017 Amy was awarded the Attorney General's Michael C. Cudahy Award for Mentoring. Amy serves as a resource for victim service providers and agencies, and teaches and presents on Victims' Rights, victimology, and volunteer program management. Amy is the Chair of the Arizona Coalition for Victim Services (ACVS), serves as a Pima County Victim Compensation Board member and is an Ambassador for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation out of Tampa, FL. She's an avid runner and a wannabe tennis pro who loves reading and cooking.

State Victims' Rights Funding Administrator

Ashtyn Buechler



Ashtyn Buechler obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the University of Arizona and a Master of Legal Studies degree from Arizona State University. She began her work with the Arizona Attorney General's Office of Victim Services (OVS) as a Volunteer Intern Advocate assisting in the provision of direct services to crime victims during the prosecution phase. Ashtyn was hired as one of the first Special Investigations Victim Advocates in OVS and was integral in building the Investigations-based Victim Assistance Project program to embed advocates to work directly with agents and assist crime victims during investigations. After three years, Ashtyn transferred to the role of the State Victims' Rights Outreach Coordinator, providing education on victims' rights, and then

transitioned to her current role as the State Victims' Rights Funding Administrator, heading up the victims' rights funding program for OVS. Ashtyn is passionate about law and public policy, as well as about making the criminal justice system as fair and effective as possible. She finds great importance in educating others about victims' rights in Arizona and victims' journeys through the criminal justice system

with the hopes of ensuring anyone who works with victims is prepared to provide them with information about their rights and the system as a whole.

State Victims' Rights Compliance Administrator

Ryan Clark



Ryan Clark has been involved in public service for the entirety of his professional career. In 2008 he joined the United States Army as an Infantryman in the 101st Airborne Division. He deployed to Afghanistan one time, where he served as an infantry team leader, company RTO, and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. After his military service, Ryan completed his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice while also serving as a full-time police officer in Texas. In 2018, he was honored as a regional officer of the year, and in 2020 he was promoted to patrol supervisor and second in command of his agency. Ryan has just over 5,000 hours of professional and course training through the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, and his experience includes supervision of patrol operations, investigation of misdemeanor and felony offenses, and he served as chief of police in the chief's absence. Eventually, Ryan's focus shifted, and in Fall of 2021, he began law school at Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul Minnesota where he currently attends as a 2L. Shortly after beginning law school, Ryan was placed in charge of the victim assistance program for a county attorney's office in Texas. He moved to Phoenix in October of 2022, and in November, the AZ Attorney General's Office of Victim Services welcomed him as the State Victims' Rights Compliance Administrator. In this role, Ryan manages the Victims' Rights Compliance Program and his primary duties include investigating alleged victims' rights violations and ensuring victims' rights compliance through program audits and providing technical assistance to agencies.

State Victims' Rights Outreach Coordinator

Kendall Schaub



Kendall Schaub is currently the State Victims' Rights Outreach Coordinator with the Arizona Attorney General's Office, where she has devoted majority of her professional career. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, as well as both a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Criminal Justice all from Arizona State University, Kendall initially embarked on her criminal justice career with the Department of Child Safety as an Investigator. She found herself thoroughly enjoying the more administrative duties of her role, leading to her employment with the Arizona Attorney General's Office of Victim Services (OVS) as the Office Administrator. During her time as the OVS's Office Administrator, Kendall provided great assistance to the Outreach program and became very invested in it. She officially took on the role of State Victims'

Rights Outreach Coordinator in May of 2021. Kendall is extremely passionate in helping others not only learn about state law and public policy, but also teaching better ways to navigate the system. She finds immense satisfaction in life by educating others about victims' rights in Arizona and the criminal justice system. She hopes that those who work in victim services and attend her trainings become better prepared to provide victims with information about their rights and the system as a whole.

State Victims' Rights Outreach Coordinator

Veronica Driz

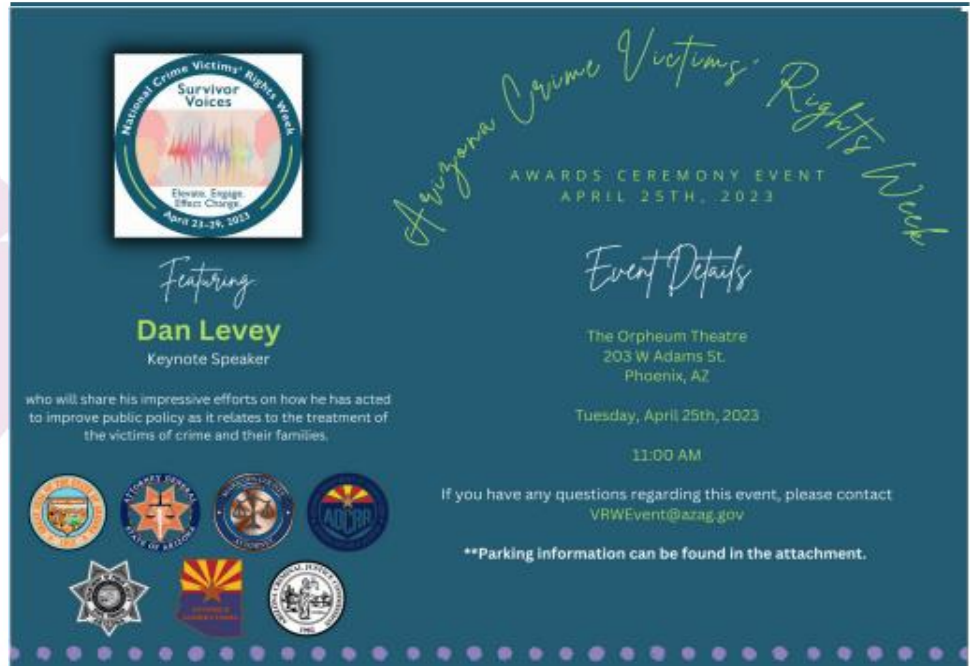


Veronica Driz obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Management and Policy from the University of Arizona. While pursuing her degree, Veronica sought an internship with the Arizona Attorney General's Office of Victim Services (OVS) as a Volunteer Intern Advocate. She assisted advocates in ensuring crime victims received adequate notice of their rights under Arizona statute. Veronica was hired part-time to cover a vacant caseload while completing her degree and promoted to a full-time Victim Advocate with OVS upon graduation in 2019. Veronica worked with crime victims in the prosecution and post-conviction phases of their cases, including supporting victims in their collection of restitution. Further, she volunteered with the Pima County Attorney's Office as a crisis advocate and has experience collaborating with victims and law enforcement in the immediate aftermath of a crime. With OVS, Veronica also supervised Volunteer Intern Advocates, during which she found great contentment in

educating college students on the niche of victims' involvement in the criminal justice system. She was recognized in 2021 as a recipient of the Arizona Attorney General "Emerging Star" Award and was nominated in 2022 for the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council Advocate of the Year. After several years as an advocate, she transitioned into her current role of State Victims' Rights Outreach Coordinator and remains based in Tucson. Veronica is passionate about interpreting the nuances of policy, problem-solving, and ultimately ensuring victims have a better understanding of the system through the criminal justice professionals they encounter.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

April 24th-28th, 2023



National Crime Victims' Rights Week
Survivor Voices
Elevate. Engage. Effect Change.
April 23-29, 2023

Arizona Crime Victims' Rights Week

AWARDS CEREMONY EVENT
APRIL 25TH, 2023

Event Details

The Orpheum Theatre
203 W Adams St.
Phoenix, AZ


Tuesday, April 25th, 2023
11:00 AM

If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact
VRWEvent@azag.gov

**Parking information can be found in the attachment.

Featuring
Dan Levey
Keynote Speaker

who will share his impressive efforts on how he has acted to improve public policy as it relates to the treatment of the victims of crime and their families.



We are excited to host this year's event in-person!

This Arizona collaborative event is held annually to recognize National Crime Victims' Rights Week and to honor the outstanding achievements and tireless efforts of those serving victims of crime in Arizona.

FEATURED KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dan Levey - Who will share his impressive efforts on how he has acted to improve public policy as it relates to the treatment of the victims of crime and their families.

OVS Outreach and Education

Registration for FY23 Victims' Rights Basic and Advanced presentations is open through May.

To register visit our website or the link below:

Victims' Rights Outreach and Education | Arizona Attorney General (azag.gov)



The Arizona Attorneys for Criminal Justice (AACJ) filed a petition to amend Rule 39(b)(12) by removing subsections (A) and (B). The petition would remove the requirement that a request for a defense interview, and the response, must go through a prosecutor's office.

As many of you know A.R.S. § 13-4433(B) was ruled unconstitutional in violation of the First Amendment by the US District Court in AACJ et al. v. Brnovich et al., No. CV-17-01422-PHX-SPL (Nov. 2, 2022). Since the judgment, defense attorneys are permitted to directly initiate contact with victims without going through, or notifying, the prosecutor. The judgment did not address the Arizona Rule of Criminal Procedure 39(b)(12) requiring requests for defense interviews to go through the prosecutor. I have heard of confusion from victims, victims' rights providers, prosecutors and defense counsel about what constitutes an interview. The case is not final but the ruling is in effect.

The Arizona Supreme Court has opened the petition for public comment until May 1, 2023, and will consider the petition during its August 2023 Rules Agenda. For information on the petition or to submit a comment visit:

<https://www.azcourts.gov/Rules>



Arizona Attorney General's Office of Victim Services Information

The Arizona Attorney General's Office is dedicated to a system of justice that is inclusive of crime victims and will remain vigilant in striving to provide the most efficient and effective service to the people of Arizona. The services provided to crime victims and the technical assistance and support provided to criminal justice agencies and other service providers is the responsibility of the Office of Victim Services.

For more information and resources about the Arizona Attorney General's Office, please visit: azag.gov

Phoenix Victim Service's Office:
Mainline: 602-542-4911
Fax: 602-542-8453
2005 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ,
85004

Tucson Victim Service's Office
Mainline: 520-628-6459
Fax: 520-628-6566
400 W Congress, S-315, Tucson, AZ,
85701

