

Justice Matters

A Quarterly Publication of the Navajo County Attorney's Office | August 2014

Calling on Youth to Lead Out on Anti-Bullying

Watch for news later this fall about a youth video contest sponsored by Navajo County Victim Services when area teens will have the opportunity to compete for prizes for the development of short films or public service announcements about anti-bullying.

Stay tuned.



NAVAJO COUNTY ATTORNEY
BRAD CARLYON



Navajo County Attorney Brad Carlyon, Deputy County Attorney Sarah Wolfe and Elizabeth Ortiz, Executive Director for the Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council. (Courtesy photo)

Wolfe Arizona's Juvenile Prosecutor of the Year

The Arizona Prosecuting Attorneys' Advisory Council (APAAC) has named Deputy Navajo County Attorney Sarah Wolfe as the 2014 Juvenile Prosecutor of the Year for the state of Arizona, after she had served as a prosecutor for only two years.

Wolfe, who has been with the Navajo County Attorney's Office since 2012, recently received the honor at the APAAC 2014 Annual Conference in Tucson. The award, which is presented to only one recipient each year, recognizes the extraordinary achievement of an Arizona juvenile prosecutor; one who has demonstrated outstanding and exceptional performance.

"Sarah is a rising star," said Navajo County Attorney Brad Carlyon, "After just two years as a prosecutor, she has shown that she wants to make a difference to protect the quality of life in our communities. Not only does Sarah handle the 400 plus juvenile cases filed each year in Navajo County, she is working to improve the juvenile justice system and protect the public."

The award can be given for a specific case, or for a series of outstanding prosecutorial accomplishments which demonstrate the prosecutor's exceptional advocacy. Wolfe was recognized for her accumulation of accomplishments

during the past year, aiming to improve the effectiveness of our juvenile justice system.

Wolfe found herself last year handling the cases of a number of serious juvenile sex offenders who were too young to transfer to adult court. While she was able to secure sex offense adjudications against the juveniles, she was disappointed that some of the youth were sentenced only to out-patient counseling, especially since sex-offender counseling services are not offered for juveniles in Navajo County. She was discouraged to see some of the same adjudicated juveniles offend again in short order

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Stay Connected



GOT DRUGS? Rx Drug Take Back On Sept. 27

Arizona has the 6th highest drug overdose mortality rate in the U.S.

In Navajo County, one out of every 1,000 babies born are diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, primarily caused by opiate use.

Prescription drug misuse and abuse is on the rise, so the Navajo County Rx Drug Misuse and Abuse Initiative is joining with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), urging residents to bring outdated or leftover prescription drugs to a drug drop off location in communities across Navajo County. Check the NCAo Facebook page for a drop off location near you.



Generous Benefactors Help Raise Nearly \$30,000 for the Navajo County Attorney Family Advocacy Center this Summer

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because they were not receiving the services they needed.

Wolfe recognized the reticence judges, defense lawyers and probation officers can have toward sentencing juveniles -- even violent, sexual and escalating repeat offenders -- to the Juvenile Department of Corrections, because of the perception that these are young people who shouldn't be taken away from their families, or because of the concern that offenders would emerge from the Juvenile Department of Corrections system "worse" than they entered it.

Wolfe initiated education programs for Navajo County judicial employees to increase understanding of the services and rehabilitation treatment programs offered through the Juvenile Department of Corrections system, as well as the appropriateness of remanding serious offenders.

"Receiving this award validates the time and effort that goes into working with juveniles. While harsher consequences aren't always appropriate for every juvenile, we are very limited on what we can offer locally -- I

want to make a difference and help them become productive members of society, even if that means being the "mean lady" and asking for them to be sent to the Department of Corrections; which can offer them treatment within a secure environment and doesn't need to be funded the people of Navajo County. It can be emotionally trying to work on some of these cases and I am very grateful and humbled by the acknowledgement of APAAC. I hope to continue educating myself and others on the best practices for dealing with the serious issues facing our juvenile population nowadays," said Wolfe. "We still have strides to

"Sarah is a rising star...she is working to improve the juvenile justice system and protect the public."

make, but I think there's at least a better understanding of the help these offenders can receive while in corrections, and that's a start."

Wolfe was also recognized for her work with the Navajo County Juvenile Probation Department and local law enforcement agencies to expedite juvenile referrals to the County

Attorney's Office. Where the cumbersome process had previously sometimes taken weeks, and on occasion months, referrals are now taking less than a week from the time law enforcement personnel submit reports of an alleged crime. Wolfe helped achieve the decreased processing times by assisting in revising the county's juvenile probation policies and procedure.

In addition to her work with the juvenile court, Wolfe is also assigned to handle misdemeanor cases in the Snowflake/Taylor Justice Court, a felony caseload and conflict cases from Gila County.

"Navajo County is blessed to have so many outstanding prosecutors working to keep our citizens safe. For Sarah. A young attorney from a small rural county, to beat out prosecutors from all the counties and municipalities across the state for this prestigious honor speaks volumes about her skills and dedication" said Carlyon.



In Brief,
BRAD



Marijuana: It's time to dispel the myth

To many, legalization of marijuana seems inevitable. For years we've been hearing that marijuana is safer than alcohol. That marijuana is not addictive. That marijuana never killed anyone.

It's time that we start talking about the real impact on people and our communities. And that impact, especially on our children, is dramatic.

Smoking pot gets you high by altering the state of your brain. Scientific studies show that using marijuana as your brain is still forming (until your early 20s) disrupts the normal development process and can result in decreased cognitive function and impaired memory.

A research report by the National Institute on Drug Abuse followed

1,000 individuals from age 13 to 38 and assessed their use of marijuana at several points as they aged. The participants who used marijuana heavily in their teens and continued through adulthood showed an average loss of eight IQ points. The loss of eight IQ points could drop a person of average intelligence into the lowest third of the intelligence range.

High doses of marijuana can cause psychosis or panic attacks. Scientists do not yet know if marijuana use causes lasting mental illness. But it does worsen psychotic symptoms in people who already have the mental illness schizophrenia, and it can increase the risk of long-lasting psychosis in some people.

Marijuana is addictive. THC stimulates the brain to release the

chemical dopamine which creates a feeling of pleasure. It is one of the main reasons people continue to use marijuana and why they become addicted. It is estimated that one in 11 adults who use marijuana become addicted -- and the younger someone starts smoking, the higher the risk. One in six people who start in their teens will become addicted.

Since states have been adopting medical marijuana in the last few years, marijuana has been the number two substance people seek in-patient addiction treatment for, only behind alcohol.

It's time we dispel the myth that marijuana is safe and harmless. The facts tell a different story.

More from Brad Carlyon's Blog at NavajoCountyDrugStories.com.

'Shooting
Straight' on
City4 TV &
YouTube

Navajo County Attorney Brad Carlyon and Navajo County Sheriff KC Clark host 'Shooting Straight,' a 30-minute program exploring legal and law enforcement issues facing Navajo County. New programs air monthly on the City of Show Low's City4 TV. Subscribe to new episodes on City4 TV's YouTube Channel.



NAVAJO COUNTY
drugstories
.com

Wanda's son started out using pot.
He died in prison by age 35.

Wanda tells her story, and that of her son Brian, for Navajo County Drug Stories. See her at <http://navajocountydrugstories.com/portfolio/wanda-jo>



Summer Benefits Net Thousands for FAC

Benefits held this summer at Torreon Golf Club near Show Low netted nearly \$30,000 for the Navajo County Attorney Family Advocacy Centers (FAC), which serve victims of abuse, primarily children who have suffered sexual or physical abuse, or witnessed domestic abuse or another traumatic event.



Sheriff KC Clark modeling evening and sleep wear was one of the highlights of the annual FAC Fashion Show in August.



Like the FAC Fashion Show, the annual Put It On the Tee for the FAC golf tournament at the Torreon Golf Club in June was a sold-out event. The tournament included golf, dinner and dancing. Among the silent auction prizes was a night in KC's Condos, featuring a steak dinner, and biscuits and gravy breakfast prepared by Sheriff KC Clark and County Attorney Brad Carlyon, and a night of games and entertainment in Navajo County Jail for the winner and five friends.

NCAo extends sincere gratitude to all of those who helped in the tremendous effort of organizing and hosting these and other FAC benefit events. Special thanks to Torreon, the amazing women of Torreon who leant their fundraising and organizing expertise through countless hours, the many community volunteers, and Aaron Ulibarri and Michelle Adams of the FAC. Your commitment to the FAC is invaluable — it allows us to serve the vulnerable among us.

2nd Annual FAC Golf Tournament

Put It On the Tee For the FAC

Benefiting the Family Advocacy Center providing services to children of physical and sexual abuse

Friday, June 6th

12:30 Shotgun

Torreón Golf Course

Step Aside Scramble

\$100 Entry Fee

Includes golf, cart, lunch, dinner, dancing, and Sheriff's Hollow Band!

Call Sheriff's Contact Center at (909) 246-2200

EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY

Win a Night in KC's Condos

