

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Attorney Offers Insider's Look at Prosecution

(Tucson, AZ) – The Pima County Attorney’s Office will hold its highly acclaimed **Citizens Prosecution Academy** beginning **Wednesday, September 16, 2009**. The Academy is a popular course offered free to the citizens of Pima County; the course demystifies the criminal justice system and the workings of the County Attorney's Office. The course lasts seven weeks and participants receive a certificate upon completion.

“This is an amazing opportunity for people to meet prosecutors and staff from the County Attorney's Office and get an insider’s look at what we do and how we do it,” said Barbara LaWall, Pima County Attorney.

The Academy introduces citizens to the inner workings of the County Attorney’s Office, law enforcement, and the criminal justice system. The course includes opportunities for on-site visits to the Office of the Medical Examiner, TPD Crime Laboratory, the Pima County Jail, and the Wilmot State Prison.

A diverse group of speakers from the County Attorney’s Office, law enforcement, the TPD Crime Lab, and the Office of the Medical Examiner will discuss topics, including cold case homicides, the “CSI effect,” and prosecuting sexually violent predators. In addition, issues such as narcotics, gangs, ballistics/firearms, witness protection, internet crimes, sex crimes, domestic violence, stalking, public integrity, and the workings of the criminal justice system will be covered.

Praise from those who have attended a previous Academy is strong. One graduate wrote, “I walked away a more informed citizen; I enjoyed this class very much! Thank you for providing this opportunity to the community.”

The fall 2009 Citizens Prosecution Academy will begin September 16, 2009 and will conclude October 28, 2009. Classes will be held Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to Noon at the Legal Services Building, 32 North Stone Avenue, Tucson. An application is required and is available at <http://www.pcao.pima.gov/> under Latest News.

Mail your application to:
Pat Wiedhopf
Pima County Attorney's Office
Suite 1400
32 North Stone, Suite 1400
Tucson, Arizona, 85701

or fax it to 740-5495 by August 28, 2009. Class size is limited. Applications should be received at the Pima County Attorney's Office as early as possible to ensure participation in the class.

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