



**Partner Agency  
Contact Information:**

- Child Protective  
Services Hotline .....888.SOS.CHILD
- Phoenix Children’s Medical Center: ...602.282.0078
- Pinal County Attorney’s Office  
Victim’s Services Unit ..... 520.866.6813
- Pinal County Sheriff’s Office: .....520.866.6800
- Apache Junction Police Department ... 480.982.8260
- Casa Grande Police Department ..... 520.421.8700
- City of Maricopa Police Department... 520.316.6800
- Coolidge Police Department..... 520.723.3091
- Eloy Police Department ..... 520.466.7324
- Florence Police Department ..... 520.868.7681
- Mammoth Police Department ..... 520.487.2348
- Superior Police Department ..... 520.689.5254

# Uniting Law Enforcement in the Administration of Justice

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## Lando Voyles Pinal County Attorney

# The Family Advocacy Center

# Uniting Law Enforcement in the Administration of Justice

## The Pinal County Attorney's Family Advocacy Center

With staff consisting of representatives from the Pinal County Attorney's Office, Pinal County Sheriff's Office, Eloy and Casa Grande Police Departments, Child Protective Services, and Phoenix Children's Medical Center, the Family Advocacy Center's goal is to reduce the stress families and children may experience, during the investigation of a crime against them.

### The Family Advocacy Center aims to accomplish this by:

- Ensuring victims receive respect and dignity throughout the investigative process.
- Performing forensic interviews and medical exams in a child-friendly and safe environment.
- Minimizing trauma and re-victimization, by limiting the number of interviews and medical examinations, to which victims are subjected.
- Providing counseling and advocate services to assist victims and their families.
- Improving the lives of abused, neglected and at-risk children by utilizing the multidisciplinary team approach to child abuse investigations mentioned above.

## Types of Child Abuse

**Neglect** – defined as the caregiver's failure to adequately provide for the child's physical or emotional needs.

**Physical Abuse** – defined as a physical act, which may cause physical injury.

**Emotional Abuse** – defined as a systematic destruction of a person's emotional well-being.

**Sexual Abuse** – defined as involvement of a child in sexual activity to provide sexual gratification or financial benefit for the perpetrator.

## If you suspect a child is being abused or has been abused...

- Call law enforcement at 911 and Child Protective Services at 888.SOS.CHILD (888.767.2445).
- Provide support for the victim, but:
  - DO NOT** – question the child
  - DO NOT** – show emotion or make comments (positive or negative)
  - DO NOT** – contact the offender
  - DO NOT** – conduct an "independent investigation"
  - DO NOT** – force or attempt to convince the victim to confront the offender
  - DO NOT** – allow the accused to confront the victim

## A Child Friendly Environment

The Family Advocacy Center also offers a playroom, which provides a safe environment overseen by a caregiver, who is sensitive to each child's individual needs and attempts to minimize the negative impact of such an experience.

The on-site medical room allows specially trained medical professionals to conduct forensic exams, intended to collect any forensic medical evidence of a crime and to determine the health and well being of crime victims.

