

The Mohave County Attorney's Office assists Kingman Police Department with KPD's 2025 Junior Police Academy

The Mohave County Attorney's Office is proud to collaborate each year with the Kingman Police Department during their annual Junior Police Academy summer program. During this program, local students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade are instructed in the responsibilities of law enforcement officers. Activities include instruction on crime scene investigation, evidence processing, and yes – court proceedings. County Attorney staff comprising of Matt Smith - County Attorney, Lyman Watson - County Investigator, and Bryn Zachreson - Legal Intern, were invited to speak on how criminal cases progress through the Justice System. During morning instruction, County Attorney staff explained how law enforcement and attorneys collaborate, how plea agreements are negotiated, defendants' rights and what happens during a trial. Students were then divided into teams and taught how to argue like lawyers, as well as direct and cross examination techniques. The instruction culminated in a mock trial that afternoon.

Zachreson coached the prosecution team, while Watson coached the defense team. All other courtroom officials - including witnesses, the judge, jury, and bailiff were also played by students. County Attorney staff provided feedback to the teams in real time, helping them understand the importance of following procedure. Mohave County Attorney's Office welcomes this annual opportunity to teach students about their Criminal Justice System.