

Mohave County Attorney's Office Highlights Success of Deferred Prosecution Program

The Mohave County Attorney's Office (MCAO) continues to see strong results from its Deferred Prosecution Program, one of its diversion initiatives, launched in 2023 to provide eligible individuals with an alternative path to resolution that promotes accountability while reducing recidivism and protecting victim rights.

The Program is designed for qualifying individuals—primarily first-time and low-level offenders—who agree to complete structured interventions in lieu of traditional prosecution. These interventions may include counseling, educational programming, community service, and restitution. Upon successful completion, participants may have their charges dismissed, helping them avoid the lasting consequences of a criminal record.

“The MCAO Diversion Program is about accountability and opportunity,” said Diversion Specialist Wendy MacEwen. “We are committed to holding individuals responsible for their actions while recognizing that not every case requires a conviction to achieve justice. This initiative allows us to focus resources on more serious offenses while offering certain defendants a meaningful path toward rehabilitation while protecting victims,” added MacEwen.

Participants are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Eligibility is determined by factors such as the nature of the offense, prior criminal history, and willingness to comply with program requirements. The program also incorporates Specialty Treatment Courts and partnerships with local service providers to address underlying issues, including substance use, mental health challenges, and economic instability.

Since its inception, the Deferred Prosecution Program has recorded more than 451 successful case completions, with over 287 cases currently active—a number that continues to grow.

For more information about the MCAO Deferred Prosecution Program or other diversion initiatives please contact the Mohave County Attorney's Office.