PRESS RELEASE

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County Attorney Offers Insider's Look At Prosecution In Citizens Prosecutors Academy

The Pima County Attorney's Office once again offers the highly acclaimed Citizens Prosecutors Academy to the community. The Citizens Prosecutors Academy is a popular course that demystifies the criminal justice system and the workings of the Pima County Attorney's Office for the public.

The Academy introduces citizens to the inner workings of the County Attorney's Office, law enforcement, and the criminal justice system. The course also offers special opportunities for visits to the crime laboratory, the adult jail, the juvenile detention center, and the state prison.

A diverse group of speakers from the County Attorney's Office, the Tucson Police Department Crime Lab, and the Office of the Medical Examiner will discuss topics such as cold case homicides, the "CSI Effect," and prosecuting sexually violent predators. Prosecutors will also cover narcotics, gangs, crime scene investigations, ballistics/firearms, witness protection, internet crimes against children, sex crimes and stalking, domestic violence, and the workings of the judicial system.

Classes will be held twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays (6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.), from September 7-30, 2010 in the Copper Room of the Randolph Golf Course located at 600 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson. The program lasts four weeks and participants will receive a certificate upon completion. Please sign up right away – the program is free, but space is limited. An application is required; is available online at http://www.pcao.pima.gov, and is due August 27, 2010.

"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.

Praise from those who have attended a previous Academy is very strong. As one Academy graduate wrote, "I walked away a more informed citizen. The classes were fun and fascinating; I enjoyed them immensely. Thank you for providing this service to the community."

For more information, contact Stephanie Coronado at the Pima County Attorney's Office (Stephanie.coronado@pcao.pima.gov) or call (520) 740-5201.

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