Arizona Attorney General's Office

Office of Victim Services (OVS)

Investigation-based Victim Advocate Project (IVAP) Investigation Flowchart

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE RECEIVES CASE

Arizona Attorney General's Office (AGO) Special Investigations Section (SIS) receives cases through complaints or from other law enforcement agencies and determines if the case will be investigated

ASSIGNMENT

Case is assigned to a special agent for investigation and a victim advocate makes contact with the victim to provide victims' rights and allow victims to opt-in

INVESTIGATION

An investigation may take several months to years until completion and may include collection of evidence, interviews, and gathering information

INVESTIGATION CLOSED

After a review of information and records, the AGO determines the case is not moving forward and is closed by agent due to a lack of evidence and the victim advocate closes the case file

PROSECUTORIAL REVIEW

Case is submitted to a prosecutor for review of evidence and investigation outcomes

DECLINATION

Possible outcome #1: Prosecutor declines to files charges due to no "reasonable likelihood of conviction"

Prosecutor sends a letter to the victim regarding the decision and the right to confer with the prosecutor before the decision is final

RETURN TO INVESTIGATION

Prosecutor returns the case to the special agent for further investigation

Outcome #1: Declination

Or

Outcome #2: Charges

Case is opened by a prosecution advocate and contact with the victim is made once the defendant is served

CHARGES

Possible outcome #2: Case is presented

to a Grand Jury for a possible Indictment

(charges) against the suspect(s)