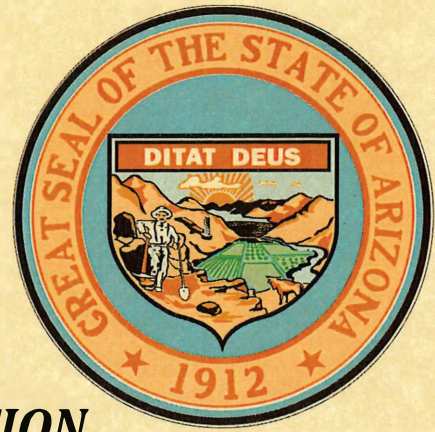


State of Arizona

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Secretary of State



OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION ***By Secretary of State Adrian Fontes***

WHEREAS, hundreds of homicide and missing person cases across the State of Arizona remain unsolved, leaving families and communities without answers, justice, or closure; and

WHEREAS, these unresolved cases are not simply statistics, but represent real Arizonans — sons, daughters, spouses, parents, and friends — whose loss continues to be felt by those who loved them; and

WHEREAS, families of cold case victims, alongside survivors, advocates, and community partners including Arizonans for Effective Public Safety, have organized Unresolved Case Awareness Week to shine a light on Arizona's unsolved homicides and missing person cases and the ongoing need for resources to pursue answers; and

WHEREAS, National Cold Case Month calls upon citizens, law enforcement agencies, and elected officials nationwide to reaffirm their commitment to solving unresolved cases and to supporting the families who continue to wait for justice; and

WHEREAS, advances in forensic science, DNA technology, and investigative genealogy have made it possible to solve cases once thought unsolvable, but only when law enforcement agencies have the dedicated staffing, training, and resources necessary to pursue these leads; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona has a solemn obligation to the families of victims, and to the broader cause of public safety, to ensure that no case is abandoned simply for lack of resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KRIS MAYES, ATTORNEY GENERAL AND ACTING GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA, do hereby proclaim the week of September 20–26, as **UNRESOLVED CASE AWARENESS WEEK** and recognize the month of September as **NATIONAL COLD CASE MONTH** in the State of Arizona, and encourage all Arizonans to honor the victims of unsolved crimes, to support the families and survivors who continue to seek justice, and to assist law enforcement agencies by coming forward with any information that may help solve these cases; and

I FURTHER CALL UPON THE ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE to provide dedicated, sustained funding to state and local law enforcement agencies specifically designated for cold case investigations so that Arizona's unresolved cases receive the attention and resources necessary to bring answers to grieving families and justice to their communities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kris Mayes".

Kris Mayes
ATTORNEY GENERAL AND ACTING GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this 22nd day of September in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Six

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adrian Fontes".

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE