



OFFICE OF THE PINAL COUNTY ATTORNEY
Kent Volkmer • Pinal County Attorney

TO: PINAL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM: KENT VOLKMER, PINAL COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

SUBJECT: PINAL COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE REQUEST FOR USE OF RICO FUNDS

DATE: OCTOBER 23, 2023

The Pinal County Attorney respectfully requests the Board of Supervisors approve an application for payment of up to \$5,000.00 to Silent Witness of Casa Grande, Inc. from the Pinal County Attorney's Office anti-racketeering revolving fund account. This is for use as reward funds to assist the Casa Grande Police Department and other Pinal law enforcement agencies investigate crime tips and make arrests of identified offenders in unsolved crimes.

In accordance with statutory changes made to A.R.S. 13-2314.03 (County anti-racketeering revolving fund; use of fund), when the County Attorney desires to use monies from the anti-racketeering fund for purposes related to the county attorney's office, the statute requires an application that includes a description of what the requested monies will be used for be submitted to the Board of Supervisors. In turn, the Board of Supervisors shall approve the County Attorney's use of the monies if the purpose is authorized by statute or federal law.

Pursuant to the U.S Department of Justice Guide to Equitable Sharing for State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies, permissible uses of forfeited assets include "A.- Law enforcement operations and investigations— Support of investigations and operations that further the law enforcement goals or missions. Examples include reward money (annual dues paid to a crime tip organization or payment for a specific reward for information in a specific case),"

In accordance with the Department of Justice Guide, I am submitting this application for the payment of up to \$5,000.00 to Silent Witness of Casa Grande, Inc. The Silent Witness program was established by the Casa Grande Police Department in 1989 and became directed by an incorporated board of directors that use funds provided by individuals and businesses interested in assisting the police department investigate unsolved crimes. Silent Witness of Casa Grande, Inc. receives crime tips for unsolved crimes both within and outside the City of Casa Grande. Those crime tips are forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agency to assist them in identifying suspects and making arrests in unsolved crimes. Over the last two years, Silent Witness has received 330 crime tips, leading to 33 arrests in unsolved crimes while paying out over \$12,700 in rewards.