

# AZSOMB Juvenile Guidelines and Standards Subcommittee Meeting-20260514\_203011UTC-Meeting Recording

May 14, 2026,

2h 34m 18s

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My name is Scott Naegele. I'm the chair of the Juvenile guidelines and standards subcommittee. I want to make a motion to start the meeting the time is 1:34. We have a couple items on the agenda before we have all you fine people share with us information. So, I want to go to the first item on the agenda and old business is discussion of the guiding principles.

We had a task as a group to.

Ohh, sorry, with with your assistance? Yes, OK. Yeah, pardon me.

Rituals I'm not good at, so we need to do a quick roll call of those subcommittee in attendance. All right.

So the date is May 14th, 2026. The time is 1:35 pm. And I'll start the roll call. Chairman Naegele is present. Mr. Barney.

**BB** **Blake Barney**  
Here, present.

**JM** **Jenna Mitchell**  
Ben Galarneau.

Present

**JM** **Jenna Mitchell**  
Miss Opheim.

Present.

**JM** **Jenna Mitchell**  
Judge Young.

**YA** **Young, Anna**  
Present. We can't see the room though, Jenna.

**JM** **Jenna Mitchell**  
We're working on that, so give us just a few minutes.

**YA** **Young, Anna**  
OK, perfect.

**JM** **Jenna Mitchell**  
Okay, thank you. And thank you for letting me know, Chairman, you do have a quorum.

Okay, excellent. Let's proceed so that we can make our way through these couple first agenda items. I was about to say that we as a group had a task at research in other states to ascertain. One of those states have sex offender management boards. Big surprise when you say this, the internet's whether somebody does or doesn't, because when you dig into it, you think they do, but then you find out they don't. So what we've been doing is doing research on other states and looking at the guiding principles.

that those states have created with the oversight of juveniles and their families, kids that present with these issues. And today we need to make a decision about kind of adopting some standards relative to that research that we've been done. The state of Colorado clearly has done the most comprehensive job of this as many of the states. There were a couple other states that we also thought had some good things. So what we collectively, as members of the subcommittee, have to decide is, do we adopt Colorado's standards as is as a starting place?

Do we adopt Colorado standards and add some things that we acquired from our research from a couple other states who seem to have done a fairly reasonable job of the task? Or do we write something? I guess I'm just going to ask the committee members to chime in. their thoughts. And hopefully I have Judge Young and Blake still in here. Judge Young, did you catch any of that?

**YA** **Young, Anna**  
Yeah, I caught all of it. Thank you. Yeah, I mean, I think Colorado has done a really comprehensive job. You know, I mean, to me, why reinvent the wheel?  
I would be in support of moving forward with kind of Colorado as our model.

Yeah, that's my sentiment too, but obviously I want to hear what others have to say. Does anybody...

Have other thoughts than that, Blake.

**BB** **Blake Barney**  
So I share the same sentiment that there's no reason to reinvent the wheel. What I do think is Idaho kind of adopted the Colorado model and then adapted and adjusted a few things over time. They're 12 or 13 years in now. So that might be something that we also look at as Right now, this is what makes the most sense for us. And if we need to adapt or adjust things

moving forward, we can. This is not a concrete guideline that can't change at all. So my thought is we start with Colorado because they've done the most.

And then we...

Here and there, as needed, implement changes or adjustments to better fit Arizona.

So before we go about hearing a motion and taking a vote on this, I want to ask the five subcommittee members if they had a chance to see the document that was passed to us an hour and a half ago or so. And that's the first question. The second question is, if you did see it,

Are you aware that that's a proposal for having one set of guidelines for both adults and juveniles? When I saw that, I quickly grew somewhat concerned. And so let me give people a chance to answer that question.

whether you saw that document or not.

Melony Opheim. I saw it very briefly. Obviously, I was finishing up a few things and it just came out to us. But I agree, I'm all for adopting Colorado standards, as long as the juveniles are separate or they are addressed. I just don't want to be lumped in with the adults at the end, how I see it. You know.

Other thoughts, anyone?

Ben Galarneau. I am in agreement with the rest of you in adopting the Colorado standards.. That's the view, think about the Colorado standards, the best way to go. I didn't read the document sent to us an hour ago.

Okay.

Yeah. So let me just say a couple more things about that. If we move forward with a vote and people are in agreement to adopt Colorado standards as a starting place for us, please know that we're going to have another discussion about this when it comes to the larger board meeting on Monday, because that document is an agenda item.

on the larger board meeting. And I can't support that as a document for both the juveniles and the adults. And I guess I just want people to be aware of that. We can make a decision today with respect to how we proceed as a subcommittee, but the discussion is going to come up again on Monday.

So if you haven't seen the document, the proposed document, which is a document to govern both adults and juveniles in a singular set of guidelines, I would ask you to very kindly take the time between now and Monday to kind of put them up side by side so you know how they're similar and how they're different. And how in my view, there are things lacking from that proposed document that are very important things as it relates to juveniles. The other part that I had a reaction to, and I may as well say it out loud, is that in my view, the danger of having a singular document is that we think about these two

populations as if they're one population.

and they're not one population. And I don't want to create the tone or the essence to suggest that they are. And I think that having a singular document unintentionally does that. So those are my concerns.

**YA** **Young, Anna**

I think that was really well put. I completely agree with you, Mr. Naegele. I would have a lot of concern. I didn't, I was on the bench until about 12:15 and then I jumped from one meeting to another. So I've just skimmed through it, but I have the same exact concerns that you do. And I would not be in favor of having one guiding principle for both juveniles and adults because they are very different.

Um...

Yeah. Well, with that in mind, unless somebody else has...

something additional to add to this. Can I get a motion so that we can take a vote on whether or not we adopt the Colorado standards for juveniles, for our juveniles here in Arizona?

**YA** **Young, Anna**

I would make that motion. This is Anna Young.

Second to that,

Ben Galarneau. second.

Let's take a vote then. Do I do I proceed with that or is that?

**JM** **Jenna Mitchell**

I can do a roll call for you.

Okay. Let's do it.

**JM** **Jenna Mitchell**

So you have a first and 2<sup>nd</sup>, for voting. Chairman Naegele.

I vote that we that we adopt Colorado's guidelines. Yes.

**JM** **Jenna Mitchell**

Mr. Barney.

**BB** **Blake Barney**

Uh, yes.

JM

**Jenna Mitchell**

Mr. Galarneau.

Yes.

Miss Opheim.

Yes.

And Judge Young.

YA

**Young, Anna**

Yes.

JM

**Jenna Mitchell**

Motion carries with five yeases, no nos, and no abstentions.

Very good. Let's move on to the second item on the agenda.

So we, when we had our last meeting with the DCS folks giving us a presentation similar to one that the folks at juvenile court are going to give us today, I asked the question just because I was trying to get my brain around the scope of those youth that are duly adjudicated, that is both

wards of the state and on probation. And Mr. Kelroy provided us some information about that. And the number that he provided was a total of 355 in the state. I don't know if anybody in this room has anything else to say about that. What I didn't know is whether or not that was 355 duly adjudicated kids.

that are on probation for anything and everything, or whether that was the kids that are on probation for these issues. So these, the kids with these issues are a subgroup of that 355. Is somebody, is that accurate?

That would be my guess, just knowing my caseload and.

how many that is, which is not that many, so I can't imagine all 355.

Well, we'll cover that in part of our slides.

OK, very good.

Get more clarity about that then. The other item on the agenda prior to the presentation was for us to begin a discussion about the framework and format for psychosexual evaluations. We haven't really had any discussion in here yet about that. So what I'd like to do is ask all the subcommittee members

To take some time between now and your next meeting to.

Think about and look at.

what your individual beliefs are about what needs to be involved in a psychosexual evaluation. And perhaps to think about it in categories in terms of different kinds of data that

we're trying to bring to the equation and be prepared in our next meeting. as an early agenda item to talk about that in some more detail. My sense is everybody has thoughts about that, but we haven't had, we haven't had any discussion about that. Is that something everybody thinks is reasonable?

**BB** **Blake Barney**

Yes.

Yeah.

Okay, so then let's plan to come and further that discussion because we need to be able to put forward some recommendations about that in this.

in as fairly timely a fashion as we can.

Is there anything else that needs to be said about that for now?

Sounds like not. So we were asked to make sure that we left as much time as we could for you all to share the information you're going to share with us. And with that in mind, I will pass the torch to Chief Meaux.

All right. Well, thank you. As Chairman said, my name is Eric Meaux. I'm the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer for Maricopa County. I was asked by Jenna, the committee manager here, and then had a conversation subsequently with Scott and Joe Kelroy, who sits on the larger board of the Sex Offender Management Board to provide or hold together with folks that I consider subject matter experts to share with you information as to what happens right now. And I think a lot of this is very relevant to what we just heard you all discuss, I think, and what your charge is from the legislation that created this body.

I think one of the main things when I looked at the legislation that you're charged with doing is looking at the evaluations, management, and treatment and compliance of juvenile offenders. And I don't think you can really, in the juvenile space, have those discussions or lean into that without understanding the juvenile process, because unlike the adult system, the juvenile court is very intimately involved in lots of these cases. I think that's a real distinguishing factor that needs to be recognized going forward. So what I hope to accomplish here is go through what you have assembled in front of you, or introduce it real quick, is the stakeholders from the juvenile court.

But I want to provide kind of a broader overview of what the world looks like relative to these juveniles and these offenses that are coming into the court system. I think it'll answer some of the questions and shed a light on the number that are duly involved and what kind of numbers and magnitude we're talking about here. But then we'll and then we'll sequence from there and move into

what the role of the prosecutor is, public defense. We have members of the judiciary. So I'm

going to let them real quickly go down the line, introduce themselves, because what I want to do, we've got a lot to go through. When I go through the data slides at the beginning, I think there will probably be questions doing this before. So I want to pause for that. And then if you could allow each.

group to present their information. And then we'll hit the pause button and see if there's other questions, because in talking to this group, I think when questions come up for a particular presenter, it's very likely there may be an additional answer contained within one of the other subgroups of the people we have represented here. So is that the picture?

Yeah, absolutely. So with that in mind, we kind of had an informal agreement that we were going to let you guys give your presentation. in totality, while we, you know, listen to that and take notes. And then at the end, whatever time we have left at the end, kind of proceed with asking questions. Okay. Yeah. Fair enough.

So, do you want to let the group introduce themselves real quickly? Please.

I'm Chris Phillis. I'm a defense attorney. I've been doing this 34 years, 30 years here in Maricopa County and the last four in Pinal.

I'm Lori Leon. I am the delinquency supervisor at the Durango Courthouse in Maricopa County. I work for Copia. So I've been doing this, solely this type of work as a defense attorney for over 16 years. I have a particular interest in these types of cases. I see a lot of value in the work that we do in juvenile court.

Um...

and working together as a collaborative unit.

I'm Judge Nicole Hartley. I am now on the family bench. I was appointed last week by Governor Hobbs, but before that, I was on the delinquency bench as a commissioner at Durango for 3 1/2 years, where with almost everybody in this room, I very proudly created, with all of their help and support,

Healthy Boundaries Court that we run, which was actually inspired by Anna Young's Healthy Boundary Court in Yavapai. Before that, I was a public defender in Maricopa County for 12 1/2 years, the last six of which I represented only sex offenders. I represented individuals who were committed to the Arizona State Hospital, essentially violent persons, pre-commitment and post-commitment.

I represented juveniles tried in adult court for sexually abusive behaviors, and then I represented individuals attempting to get off of lifetime probation. And so I have a lot of information and knowledge and am very passionate about this population as well.

I'm Colleen McNally. I've been retired from the court for about 9 years already. But when I was on the court, I served for 20 years. In the last five years, I was a presiding juvenile court judge in Maricopa County. And I loved it there. I missed everybody here. And I was here when we were trying to work through some of the issues that have birthed some of the stuff that's happened that I'm really excited to hear about. And I can hopefully provide you a

little bit of history about how we got to some of the places that we were at. And I'm still really involved with community issues and really happy to see all again.

Rachel Yonas. I work for the County Attorney's Office. I have been out at Juvenile Durango, so the west side, for 11 years, a little over 11 years now. It was kind of a break for me. I came from adult sex crimes. I prosecuted adult

sex offenders for almost 10 years. I've been to the county attorney's office since 2003. And I frankly always thought I'd go back to adults. I love jury trials. I love it. All the stress. But the more I stay at Juvie, and I really, really

Love it. I think it's a...

I think we get it right here in Arizona. Having gone to many, many ATSA conferences, talk to people and see what people are doing in other states, I think we do a really good job here.

We all work together very well. Healthy boundaries, this court has been amazing. And we're going to, we'll talk about that. I don't know that I get to talk much about it, but

I will say that we have heard really nothing but absolutely positive feedback. And so I handle all the sex cases out in the West Valley. My colleague here, Kristen, she handles them all in the East Valley. And I am very, very passionate about this. I want to, if I could have a full caseload of sex offenses, that would be perfectly fine with me. I grew up with a mother who was a forensic psychologist, and she does a lot of work in this field as well. So we grew up talking, unfortunately, about sex abuse at my dinner table. So it's not something that I find uncomfortable. And I really think that

And, especially in Juvie, it's still hopeful because we have really some good treatment options.

Good afternoon, Charlotte Shrum with Juvenile Probation, and my partner is also here Olivia. I've been Probation supervisor over the JSAB units for over 8 years, and before that, I spent about 8 years as a field officer working with JSAB U, so I did both as a field officer investigation and now supervisor.

So, uh,

Hi, Celena Angstead, Deputy Chief for the Community Supervision Bureau of Maricopa County Juvenile Probation. I've been in this field for 28 years, 25 of which I spent in Pinal County, and 13 of those years were in the field directly supervising youth who were charged with sexual offenses.

And I've been here in Maricopa County for three years and been able to observe how things are different and be able to compare both the Maricopa County way of doing things and also the rural counties.

Good afternoon. My name is Marina Lantsman-Waugh and I'm a Clinical Services Manager for Maricopa County Juvenile Probation. I am a licensed clinical psychologist. I worked prior to be in this current position of a clinical services manager. I've been in this position for about 7 years. Prior to that, I worked as a mental health provider in detention.

For the, I oversee a couple of different units in probation. Two of those units are JSAB units. Overseeing those units, I've been doing that for the past three years, and those three years I've

learned A lot. I've served a lot of groups. I have read a lot of literature and I have been educated by the supervisors and the staff that do the work on the daily. Everything that we expect of probation work in terms of building rapport, making connections, believing in youth, that's what happens in JSAB, so I'm very grateful and privileged to to to work with these units.

Thank you. So, as mentioned, if you want to next slide, please.

Did we loose our slide person. Give me a minute. I'm here doing everything right now. And I'm trained to do none of this. Here we go. You can all see the screen just fine. All right.

Sorry about that.

There appears a screen that shows everybody. So we'll go through this. And so I do think that we'll be able to touch on some of the issues real quick since we were sharing war stories. I've been in Arizona since 2012. Prior to that, I served in the same capacity in the largest county back in Wisconsin.

serving the same population, different practices, different regions of the country. One thing I would add from that experience, just to help that I think has some relevance to this, I do understand this is a very, can be a sensitive topic. It's hard for people to get their hands around these issues and make good informed public policy decisions.

to not get caught up in the one-offs and horrible situations we hear about. Back in Wisconsin, I did have the, I don't know if it was a privilege, but opportunity to engage in residency restrictions. I formerly served as an alderman. There was a wave of registration and regulations going around the states. And so

right or wrong, sometimes people feel that those are electable issues that can be run on. And so we had to bring in some subject matter experts to really talk about it. And primarily because the residency restrictions around this population that they wanted to adopt were both applicable to adult and juvenile. And there was just

true distinct distinctions between the impacts we have on kids. So not saying those were comfortable meetings to have, especially when they're aired over the public airwaves, but I appreciate the position that you're in and the creation of this board and understand these are some challenging topics. So with that said, if you can go to the next slide, as mentioned, I want to give a quick overview. You can go to the next slide.

of what the world looks like relative to Maricopa County, specific to this population. So let me say JSAB, this is the population talking about. DCS uses SMB, we're talking the same population, sexually maladaptive behaviors or sexually abusive behaviors. What you see here is just the overview of the last 10 years of overall referrals. We're talking about referrals, we're talking about police reports that are coming to the court system, and then the county attorney reviews and the decides the petitions we see filed. Down on the bottom is a reflection of

what makes up the cases that we'll talk, that we'll say are sex offense cases or SAB cases.

Generally over time, if it's really consistent, it's about 2% of the overall population. So relatively speaking, not to minimize the nature of these offenses, but generally speaking, this

is generally a relatively small portion of our overall referrals. You can see the dip is COVID. It rose up to about 3%. One thing that I think stands out here is that these offenses stayed relatively constant during COVID, even though other offenses took a dip down, thus the 3%. But generally speaking, it's been somewhere 1 to 2% of our overall population. Within that context too, because some of the prior meetings talked about, you know, less youth being in certain levels of care and services over the last few years, part of that is clearly explained by the number of referrals have just changed. You can see that

Going to the far right in 2025, this is calendar years we had just under 150 cases or 1% of the cases that came in for JSAB. Any questions there?

And we'll pause for these because I know we get lost with these data slides. So if nobody has any questions, then we can go to the next slide. This gives a broad categorization of what these offences look like in terms of their overall severity. So you can see that it's relatively constant as well.

sexual abuse felony cases up at the top, child molestation and sexual assault felony cases is the third highest one. And if you look at the far right, You can study this as you want the percentages, but they're pretty much constant over time in terms of the categories. But so the most serious offense, which would be sexual assault felony, Child Molestation. I can stand to get corrected with attorneys in the room but its about 22 and 27 cases respectively in last calendar year 2025. So just again, giving you an overall feel for what is coming at the door. And again, these are complaints. And as we move forward, we'll kind of sift through the system.

to what actually gets petitioned and what those outcomes look like. So any questions there? Oh, Chief I just have a question. When it says lewd behavior, felony and lewd behavior, misdemeanor, what are we talking about there? Those are.

Lewd felony would be things such as indecent exposure, public sexual indecency to a minor, sexual conduct with a minor under 13 years of age, person of 15 years of age. And lewd misdemeanors are that those are more indecent exposure, solicitation of unlawful disclosure. Public indecency. So more of misdemeanor

Can I just confirm that this is what was, these are the charges that are submitted by law enforcement on the referral? Yes. Okay. We'll get to that. So this is what comes in the door. This isn't actually what ends up in the courtroom. But that's the categorization.

All right, next slide.

So within what comes in the door, it doesn't necessarily see the light inside of the courtroom or get petitioned. So what this graph is showing you is of those, and I'm just going to ground myself in 2025, the most recent year, where there was 147 referrals for these type of offenses, a good portion of them do not get filed.

There were 70 that weren't filed, about 50%, and you can see that's relatively constant, so... A strong percentage of these cases, and the county attorney's office and public defense can

Speak to this issue, don't formally move forward. There's a very, very, very small percentage that could get diverted, your lower level misdemeanor cases. And then there's also a very small percentage that would go to the adult system.

And those would be your very serious cases, and usually for an older group, so...

So, what comes in the door?

A good amount of these, I'll just roughly say about 50% sort of get shut off and are either not pursued or they end up in diversion to adult system.

Questions on that?

All right, fast forward.

So just to put that in a similar slide, this is over the last 10 years. Total SAB complaints come in the door to the court center for law enforcement, and then on the right, the middle, or the third, you see the total petitions that are actually filed. So that's the percentage.

Generally speaking, around 59% or 60% are actually petitioned to the court.

Next slide.

All right, so those that get petitioned to the court, same general.

scheme here of categorizing those cases. They typically fall into the same buckets of categories and percentages for those cases that get petitioned. So again, if there is a slight shift, the sexual assault felonies were, I believe, #2 before they dropped down to #4.

with your lewd behavior, whether it's misdemeanor or felony, rise up to category three and four, if you will, relative to the number of overall petitions. And I'll just kind of stop there.

2025, as things have been increasing in terms of referrals coming in,

There was 75 petitions filed in calendar year 2025. Again, we're going to switch back to the old slide. This pretty much looks the same. Overall, it just reflects that about half the case is given.

Was there a question?

See none. Next slide. Thanks, Jenna. And so what happens to these petitions out of those?

I think it was 75, that 147 under 2025 reflects the overall petitions. This now shows you the breakdown of what ultimately happens to those petitions in terms of resolving them in the courtroom. So most of them end up on probation. So they end up with either on standard probation or special supervision that we'll hear more about.

There is a percentage, that's the gray bar there, ultimately get dismissed for whatever reason in the court. And then we have a smaller percentage that go to state juvenile corrections.

There's a small, very small percent that jurisdiction gets lost. Likely that's an older youth.

if the case gets extended out and then they can't pursue it after that, that is a very small percentage though. But as you can see, of those cases that do get petitioned, the majority of them end up on probation that's operated by the county.

And because this goes years back, you'll see on the left there's one pending. Yes, some cases do not get resolved as quickly as we'd like.

Linger on, so.

Any questions on that slide?

I have a question about the ADJC. Are those kids that were initially disposed to ADJC? not kids who ultimately get there.

Yes.

Okay.

Good question I asked you. Any questions on that? And again, the attempt here is just to really give you a good idea of the overall universe of what we're talking about and how the case is ultimately to the system and what happens to them. And we'll obviously get into the more detail in terms of how we get their decision making, psychosexual evaluations, assessments that feed into that.

All right, next slide.

Yeah.

As far as the question, so in answer to the chair's question about dually involved, the 355 number is the statewide number. Does it have anything to do with the type of offenses that are dually involved? And just for definition, when people talk in our space about dually involved kids, those are youth that are formally involved in both systems, so they have a petition filed. I say that just to say that we do know that we have a number of kids, for example, on county probation that may have had a referral to the Department of Child Safety or had a case closed out some years ago. They were reunified, returned home. At that point, they don't get counted as a dually involved youth. So when we talk dually involved youth, it's kids that are formally involved in both systems. So as you can see here, of our population of youth that are on probation, anywhere from 10 to 15%, given the fluctuations over the years, are formally involved.

dually involved in both the dependency system and the probation system. Of those, so that records about 11%. This is a snapshot, just to be clear. This is the way we can call our data out. This was taken on February 28th. We do this regularly for some other reasons.

that we have to give a snapshot of what the dually involved youth look like. But specific to answer your question, of those 303 youth in Maricopa County that are formerly involved in both systems, just under 10% had a sex offense as the reason that they're on probation. So that's about.

That's 29 kids out of that dually involved. So you can see out of Mr. Kelroy's number of 355. We have a lot of kids on dually involved, but we are in Maricopa County.

Any questions I can answer there?

I know there were some questions about the DCS involvement in these cases, so...

All right.

And, next slide.

So just in terms of re-offense and registration, because quite frankly, we can never have any conversation in our space without talking about re-offense, we did go back and look to 2020. So over that course of time, until April 5th, which was when we ran the information, there was a total of 285 youth that

were adjudicated and dispositioned to probation for one of these offenses. 277 of them have unique kids. We took, if you're asking, 277 versus 285. Yes, there were some kids that had some other referrals that came in the door. This is as of their first adjudication for this particular offense.

Out of those 277, again, this is over 2020 to 2026, there was 175 kids that had at least one year or more to recidivate. So you could have a kid that was on probation in 2020. We looked unlimited in time, if you will, to see if we saw any of the re-offense. And that included looking in to the adult system if once they had turned age 18. And not surprisingly, I guess it was very low. So we found three youth that had a new complaint for that, another sexually related offense. Those offenses could be something serious and they could also be something I know, I believe one of them was for indecent exposure. Point being there, just that low number is consistent with the research and literature says about this population. I know there'll be some discussion maybe about how registration decisions are made. It's relatively low.

in the juvenile space. So for the last 10 years, there's been 27 orders for youth to be registered. So that represents about 12% of the overall population.

Any questions on?

So the re-offense, there's any kind of re-offense?

No, unless specifically offenses that we would consider to have sex offenses.

Now that is not saying that any of those kids didn't have another offense of some kind. And we know that within this population and the research I think is important that generally speaking, the risk to re-offend is relatively low. You are probably more likely to re-offend in some other way rather than a new sexual offense.

So that three just represents. A re-offense of a sexual nature.

Any Questions.

I was just going to ask, are we going to have access to these slides in the email, but

I think everything I share with Jenna becomes public, so

We will.

Yeah, but we didn't have it before the meeting. They brought it with them today. So after the meeting or tomorrow, we'll post it to the website.

If I may, the 285 number represents what?

The number of youth that were adjudicated and placed on probation for a SAB offense over that period of time. Okay, so that's not a reoffense number. No, no, no. That's the total

number of kids. That's why I was asking. I was wondering if that was 285 kids who were on probation for anything that...

No, no, no. We have way more kids than that. No, but re-offence. Yeah. Yeah, that is over the entire five-year-ish period.

Can I ask a question about that then? So that does not include kids who had dismissal agreements? Does that requires an adjudication? No, I don't believe it does. Okay, and then the new complaints, the three, that's kids where? That's A referral, not necessarily petitioned or...

Because I understand that includes kids that may be 19-20 at this point. They could have been charged criminal.

Basically, we're doing 277 of the 285. We're kind of missing a little number in there.

Yeah.

Thank you.

Okay.

Oh, good. I think that was all I had. Again, hopefully...

got a little better understanding of the universe we're talking about, at least in Maricopa County. But with that said, I'll, I think, switch it over to Rachel, talk about how when they get the cases.

So it's my understanding that you guys are interested to how do, how does the case come to the county?

the attorney to begin with, and then how do we make our decision in terms of are we going to file, and if so, what are we going to file? So, thank you, please. Next slide. The next slide.

Okay.

Just a second.

And you know, we hear a lot, and I know you guys probably, I everybody in this room probably is aware it is a low recidivism rate.

So, but from I, I just have to remind everybody that that because vast majority of victims of these

type of offense, don't disclose. And often when there's a disclosure, it's a delayed disclosure sometime decades. And so when we're talking about kiddos, and generally speaking, although we have seen a tiny increase in cases that involve adult victims and or stranger victims, but the vast, vast majority of the cases that I see and deal with in juvenile court is a child perpetrating against somebody, another kiddo, right? And so usually it's somebody in their home, somebody they have access to. And so I just think we need to take this recidivism rate with a little bit of a grain of salt, because not only do we need

the victim to be comfortable and make a disclosure, but we need the person to whom that victim has disclosed to then say, I need to report this. And then we need the police to do a full and thorough investigation and actually submit the case to the county attorney's office, which I didn't realize this, but there is a huge percentage of cases that we never, ever see.

Because if they don't believe they have probable cause, then they don't submit it to us. And then at least as of right now, Kristin and I and my supervisor and our supervisor's supervisor, we review, we review the police reports and then we staff them. We staff every single case for charging.

just to make sure that we're all on the same page, because we want to make sure that we're being consistent across the board in terms of what we're charging and when we're charging it. So, and then we need to ultimately get, well, I guess, based on our recidivism rate, that's where we stop. If I've charged the case, then

It's considered that that child has has re-offended.

Ah.

So we get these police reports, we read them. I think you guys are all familiar with sort of the way that these cases get investigated, but just in case not, the kids usually end up having a forensic interview, a forensic interview, open-ended neutral questions that are asked either by a dedicated forensic interviewer or by a law enforcement officer who has been Trained to conduct that type of interview.

We are seeing way more cases involving cell phones these days that's the part of reason I asked about the diversion and if that was included there because Kristin and I also review cases where kids its more of a surreptitious viewing

Kids are bringing their phones in the bathrooms and locker rooms and taking pictures and think its so funny, then to post on social media.

And if we don't think there's any sexual motivation, or any reason for that child to be in this particular unit I mean, we file surreptitious viewing which you know doesn't get that stats.

But, if there is unlawful disclosure.

So, which is, I think, commonly referred to as revenge \*\*\*\*. And so those are offenses that I think would get lumped in here.

I did notice, and I know you guys did not get the full PowerPoint, but when I was reviewing the documents that Chief Meaux sent out, I noticed that the sex offender, the definition of a sex offender is somebody who's been, I think, accused and convicted or adjudicated of a chapter 14 offense.

Which then takes a some of our kids out of it...because we sometime will plead a child to child abuse or aggravated assault with sexual motivation, but those are not chapter 14 offense. Chapter 14 offense are things like sexual conduct with a minor...

So

We have a lot of discretion, frankly, we have all the discretion when it comes to what do we charge. And we see things and sometimes we get cases, honestly, where letter of the law, yes, we could file these charges. But from my perspective, and I, like I said, I came from adults, which is a

Whole different world, um, Scott knows that, I know that Judge Hartley knows that, um...

It was all about punishment there. And when I came to juvenile in 2015, I was frankly

shocked by sort of like, oh, like this is how we do it here. It really is a rehabilitative process. And one of the things that I thought was absolutely amazing was that for every single kid that we...

adjudicate, so we either go to trial or offer a plea deal, before we determine anything about the treatment and the consequences, they get a psychosexual. And that was not something that I had the benefit of in adult court. We really only got them if they wanted some sort of a deviation or they want, you know, a better offer. But

So from my perspective, I think that's really great because as I think you guys all know, psychosexuals are really a super comprehensive psychological, then we add these risk assessments tools to see, do we think that there's a risk to re-offend sexually? And that's what we're looking for when we are trying to decide what are we going to charge. Really, honestly, we're looking for sexual deviancy. And I think it's changed because our kids are changing.

And unfortunately, these days, kids are exposed to so much more than probably any of us that are sitting in this room were when we were growing up. We didn't have cell phones. We barely had the internet when I was growing up. We didn't have all these like TV channels.

You could not go online and access \*\*\*\*\*.

\*\*\*\*\* is horrible in terms of...I think raising the number of offenses we have that the kids are committing at least I am aware of

and so what we're looking for is deviancy does this kid need some sort of intervention right now and we technically can file charges against a 8 year old I don't

I ever have. I know I've had nine year olds on my case load. I know that Kristen has as well. And I may be in the minority in my office here, but I would love extended jurisdiction. They, when it initially came out, I think it was geared towards kids like the shoplifting kids, the low level misdemeanors. And I remember asking was.

Bill Montgomery at the time said, what about our kids? Like, I would love having seen what's waiting for them in the adult world.

I'd absolutely love to keep them in juvenile. And frankly, that slide, I appreciate it because there were no direct files that were noticed there, I think, in the last year or two. I didn't see any adult cases. And we do everything we can to keep a kid in juvenile.

because I have seen that it is truly rehabilitative. So, but what we're not charging are a lot of consensual stuff...

And it's very, very difficult for the county attorney's office to prove lack of consent. to prove a sexual assault. And I've got an ethical obligation. I cannot file a charge if I don't believe there's a reasonable likelihood of conviction. And what that means is right now, what I've got on my desk is I'm reading through these police reports, I'm watching these interviews, do I think if this went to trial, I have a reasonable likelihood.

that the prior of back and then juvenile, that's a commissioner or a judge, pretty much usually a commissioner, do I think that they would say, state, I believe you approved your case beyond a reasonable doubt. And so there's tons of cases that unfortunately, when we sit down and staff them, we say, I absolutely think that this kid did this.

I absolutely feel terrible for this victim. I cannot file this charge because I don't have enough evidence to prove it in a trial.

So that's kind of like from our perspective, what we're looking for in terms of like when we decide, are we going to file a case? And it's gotten frankly harder because we don't mirror the adult world, but we work very closely with our adult counterparts in terms of we're talking about cases where kids are 16 or 17.

In Arizona, if you're 15, 16, or 17, and we, you're charged or you're alleged to have committed a sexual assault, a forcible sexual assault, it is technically a mandatory direct file into adult court. But having learned that there is really no treatment in adult court, or certainly not mandatory treatment in adult court,

We do whatever we can, if we think it's appropriate, to keep that kid in Juvenile Court.

I can't remember what our next slide is, so.

You did this one. Perfect ahead of myself. So, we put up there the 45 days to review, because timelines in juvenile are extremely, extremely short. My office likes us to review things and make a decision within 30 days.

which means from the time our office gets the case and stamps it with the date, they'd like us to decide within 30 days and have that petition filed or have letters sent out saying, unfortunately, or we didn't file this case. Technically, by statute, by rule, we have 45 days. If we want some additional information,

in the investigation, I'm not allowed to direct an investigation. I can't say, hey, go do this, but I can say, if I had this, then maybe that would be helpful. Then we gain an extra 30 days. So literally from start to the end, we've got 75 days max to make a decision. If the case, because, and I'm still learning this.

ins and out of this. But if the case is initially sent directly to diversion, and then diversion says, this is not a case, it's appropriate for us. So pre-filing diversion, it comes to us for review. We have 30 days. We don't get any extra time. That is it. We have 30 days. And it can be very frustrating because sometimes those are cases that we think,

We need a lot more information on it. We just don't have the time to do it. Now, if we turn a case down and we're not able to file it, and then down the road, new information comes to light, then that's something that law enforcement can resubmit to us.

So again, we staff, we meet once a month. We staff all of our cases. We basically present, here's the facts, here's the evidence that we have, and then we decide what we want to do with it. We can charge it, we can further it, or we can turn it down. And so then when we're talking about charging the case,

it's, well, what are we going to charge? Because frequently, and this is probably why I asked you Chief Meaux, oftentimes law enforcement will submit and sometimes they are spot on, but I would say more than often they are not. And so they're submitting or they'll submit one count of sexual abuse, which I was actually surprised to see that that was so high because I don't have sexual abuse cases. But I can think of right now, I don't remember having sexual abuse cases because that's a, in my opinion, a slightly lower level offense. Sexual conduct

with a minor is something that's very common and I think that was included in the lewd offenses. But so then we decide what can we prove.

And frankly, I'll charge a molestation of a child over sexual conduct with a minor in a lot of cases, because in some ways it's easier to prove. And another difference in juvenile is it doesn't matter the level of offense. It doesn't matter the number of counts that I have. You know, in adults, it was all about what's your exposure to prison.

But here, it's just as long as I have a count that has some sort of sexual component to it, I know that kid that if we adjudicate that child, usually by plea, I don't think I've done a trial in two plus years. So it's usually by plea that they can then reap the benefits of

this group that we have. So I think that will move us to our next slide. And I think this is partly what I think is just so awesome about juvenile court is that we are all very specialized.

Now, Lori will tell you, Miss Leon will tell you that they,

Defense attorneys, the public advocates, they don't they don't specialize. She'll assign cases, I think, across the board. But Kristen and I are the only ones in the county attorney's office who do any reviewing of sex cases, most people. And I think that's really important because, frankly, you guys all know this, but like you have to read a police report. There's a huge percentage of our population that can't even stomach that.

They literally cannot even read the report, much less than talk about it, think about it, decide what to do, like just live in that world. And so I think it's really, really important. And so then, you know, when I first came, I had Olivia Omotunovan and Chris Jacobs. Chris is not with us any longer, but they were our two.

"I" officers and they taught me so much about juvenile and just sort of the way that these cases are handled. They...

because they were specialized. And I think that's really important. And right now at Durango, unfortunately, we do not have an I officer, an investigative officer, who is dedicated to the JSAB cases. And I think part of it is because our caseloads have been going down. And I can fully understand that we need numbers, right?

to support the bodies. But I, it's so important because not only do they have to be able to sort of understand and read, you know, these reports, but then they have to develop a rapport with these kids, with their families, in juvenile court probation officers from the get-go, not only coordinate with the offender and the offender's parents, but also the victim. And so, and they're doing reports and they're, we're probably hear more about this, but that they provide to the judge or the commissioner before every single hearing about what's been going on since we had our last hearing. What is the history of this child?

And then the other thing I think that is really, really beneficial, especially for the I officers, is that they develop really, really great working relationships with our treatment providers. Mel is one of them. And so when we have a kid who's kind of on, like, where is this kid going to go? Is this a kid that's safe to stay in the community? Or is this a kid that based on our recommendation for our psychosexual,

needs a higher level of care. Maybe they need a group home. Maybe they need to go to YDI

because they need a secured facility. Well, when you have this specialization, you have the ability then to have more like just person to person conversations. And I really think that's extremely helpful in getting these kids into the appropriate Placement.

We all know about, I think, the specialized needs. It's interesting because I think some people look at these cases and think, oh, these are the easy kids, right? These are often kids who are doing well in school. They don't have a history of like what we consider general delinquency behaviors. But we talk a lot about double life when we, in this,

world. And I think that's part of it. I think that some of these kids, a lot of these kids are living a double life. And I think a lot of them are very ashamed and embarrassed about the things that are happening, but they are not able to control their behaviors. And so they do keep offending. In 2016, I went to my first ATSA conference. And when I first came out to juvenile, they were, every offer was like a plea to the charge.

plea to the attempted molest class 3 felony, and that wasn't really a surprise to me because I came from adults where every, you know, how many handlers do we have, right? But I went to my first ATSA conference and I came back and I talked to my boss and I said, I think we need to really think about what we're doing here because, to be honest, I have...

I have zero interest in labeling these kids as sex offenders. I have zero interest in having these kids, I don't need to rack up felonies on them. If we could have all of our kids earn a misdemeanor, I would probably be okay with that. Again, I may be in the minority in my office here, but that is not the goal, at least not with these cases. The goal here is to make sure that we do not have any future victims.

And that's why I think that all of this specialization and all of this collaboration is so extremely important. So ATSA basically opened my eyes a little bit to the fact that juveniles are a much different population than adults. And that's you guys hit on that when you were talking about your guiding principles, right? Like this is a

This is a whole different world. And that often these are kids who can be rehabilitated with the right treatment. Sometimes kids, all it takes is just getting in trouble, right? Just getting the police, all of them having to come down to court with mom and dad. But otherwise we have some really great treatment options for them.

So, but I think that it's important for me to remain current on like what's going on. So we tried and go last year to ATSA to, but Kristen did. And there was one year, was that two years ago that we got that Judge Hartley got to go. We had a whole bunch of probation department officers that went. Lori did not go, but two people from her office went, we went.

And it was really, I thought it was really great. And unfortunately, I think that this year, there's a lot fewer people that are going to be attending. People have not been given the approval. And I get that for various reasons, but I do think it's really important to keep up on this stuff. I think that we've already talked about this, you know, just developing those like, really like almost personal but working relationships with county attorneys, with the defense, with probation, with treatment providers, and then healthy boundaries. And healthy boundaries court, in my opinion, is one of the greatest things to happen to juveniles who have

been accused of an offense like this in Maricopa County, because we see often they come in, they don't want to admit to things, their parents don't want to acknowledge that they've done anything wrong, or that they somehow have raised a child who committed, you know, what everybody thinks is one of the worst offenses ever. But it's really really interesting to watch the progression as they go through healthy boundaries. And you can only get to healthy boundaries if you take enter to plea or you've been, you know, if you're adjudicated, but I'd say the vast majority of our kids are. And so, and the way it's set up, and we're going to hear a lot more about this, is that, you know, these kids come in and they're at all different levels and they kind of talk to each other. And we actually hear from parents at the end, parents who I always bet we've got our, you know, we've got our probation parents who were probably the most difficult, obnoxious, like just non wanting to get on board with any of this from the get-go. We have them at the end of healthy boundaries saying, you know what?

This is a good program. Like trust your PO, trust your treatment providers. We didn't get first, but as I've watched this go. And they also, the other thing that I think is we've seen a lot of is it's brought families a lot closer together because not only are they addressing the sexually maladaptive behaviors in this treatment treatment, but there is family. family counseling as well. There's trauma treatment, right? A lot of these kids have their own like horrible histories of trauma and whatnot. So it's just, I think we're really like solidifying, building family, familial relationships with these kids that I hope I would assume is going to move on with them even long after they're done with us.

Benefits of Juve court and adult court, I think I already talked about that. I will, unless I absolutely have to, I will not file a case into adult court. I don't think it's necessary. We have a couple, I take it back. There are a handful of kids, the very older kids that make. You benefit from some extended supervision and more consequences, but other than that, we'll be. So, I think that was it for our.

Yeah.

So I work obviously in Maricopa County, but the Public Advocates Office, and we have between the two offices, I think about 18 defense attorneys, as Rachel said. The sex cases, the JSAB cases are spread out amongst all of the attorneys. However, with the creation of the Healthy Boundaries Court, we have designated 4. defense attorneys. It's only at the Durango courthouse. They only have the one healthy boundaries. So I've assigned 4 specialized attorneys that are very familiar, also passionate about the work with this population. So I'm one of the three and then the other three sort of rotate because the calendar is held every single month.

I know, Judge Hartley,

is going to talk about that a little bit more, but...

cases that get filed when they come to us, I review all of them, and my goal is to...

balance the caseload, because these are really sensitive cases that we handle, the type of

clientele it is, the type of content that we need to discuss with them. So I'm mindful of who I'm assigning to what case, but it does get spread out amongst all of the attorneys. So for myself, when I get a case, I'm reviewing it. I'm obviously reading the documentation that Rachel and or Preston have submitted to

Me, and my first goal is to reach out to the kid.

These cases, as we all know, are challenging to talk about, challenging to read through, challenging to build the rapport with sometimes a 12-year-old client that we're meeting with for the very first time. We have very overly involved families many times that want to be super involved with the case, which

is good in the long run. But part of my role as a defense attorney is to meet with the client, build the rapport with the client, explain my confidentiality requirements with the client, and then review.

case, petition, all of their rights, what can we do with their charges? Can we do a trial? Do you want to do a plea agreement?

So that's a lot of the sort of discussion with the client initially.

Then there's a discussion with the family. So whenever I meet with the clients, I usually bring the family in and I'm discussing with them, listen, for life as you know it to be is going to dramatically change for you to start from this today. There's going to be a lot of rules and restrictions that are going into place. There's going to be probation involved. There's going to be people coming to your home.

checking on you, there's going to be so many restrictions, not just on you client, but also to you family as well. So getting the family on board, I think is a really big piece of what I have to do as a defense attorney as well. They have questions. They're very concerned, understandably so.

My practice, and I think a number of the attorneys in my office's practice, is to devote time to families and making sure that they understand kind of where things are at.

So, I don't give anything to say about your experience with consultation with the clients. So I'm in Pinal County. It's considerably different. I have all of the equal sex offenders and they do direct a lot of these kids routinely. If they are 15 and above.

Yep, they direct file on these children and then I'm doing a lot of reverse transfers to try and get them back to juvenile court because our services are meant for that age group.

I found a huge difference when I left Maricopa County and went to Pinal County. I have a lot more parents who are willing to walk away from that child.

they don't stay involved, they walk away. They involve DCS and turn them over, or they come to court and like, you need to lock up, you need to take it. So my experience has been considerably different.

for whatever reason, when it comes to working with these families. I do try to get them on board. Like Lori, I reach out to them while in advance of a quick hearing. We start talking about, hey, we need to make sure we have a safety plan. What are you doing right now in your house? Is the victim in your house? Do we need to send this child to go?

live with Aunt, Uncle, Grandma. And sometimes we're finding out about those two, three years after the incident happened, right? So it gets disclosed, here we are two, three years later, and now we're gonna upset the Apple cart and change the way everyone's been operating.

Meaning that the victim and the alleged victim and the child are residing in the same home and have been for many, many years sometimes.

And one of the issues we have in Pinal County that I'm glad they are not dealing with in Maricopa County, I do have kids who are 8. I have several who are 9. I have several who are 10. I have a number who are 11. And I have a lot of kids on the autism spectrum and not high functioning autism way down on the spectrum.

And those get petitioned in and Pinal County, where I have a feeling in Maricopa County, that police report would get rather than be like, we got to do something else here. Can I just add really quick, the cases I've had where we have filed on somebody as young as nine or even 10 are where it's been a multiple.

usually multiple incidents and their parents or the adult in that child's life has been told, you need to get your child some help, this is a problem, and they just don't. And so at some point then, we're going to file on it. So, and I didn't even talk about dismissal agreements, I just realized.

Of.

which I don't know if we can cover. Yeah, we want to talk about it in a little bit here, but oftentimes then we'll take that into consideration. This is a very young child. Like I, again, I don't need this kid to have a registered for life and to have a felony on their record. I just want them to get the treatment and the adults are not doing it.

And so for a number of the really young clients and the ones who are on the autism spectrum or have deficiencies in the other ways, there's the competency examination. And if the child is found not competent and not restorable, that's the end of the case. So we always encourage the parent in the meantime.

You need to get them in counseling, you need to seek outside services so this doesn't happen again. But the thing I find with really young kids and even the ones on the autism spectrum, a lot of it has more to do with no one ever told them what was right and what was wrong and taught them boundaries. And they have the idea that they're just going to naturally know. dumb founding, especially is already spoken about, everything is out there on the internet. So they're seeing things on the internet that they don't understand and they don't understand their repercussions of what they're going to participate in with the younger sibling or a younger cousin, because neither one of them understands. So we have some of that going on. in juvenile court.

Just to back up a little bit too, so I don't know if you do this in Pinal County, but Chris I think is the one that initiated this in Maricopa County years ago. So we do the duly adjudicated view. So a lot of our cases, JSAB cases, as Rachel indicated, come out of the home. siblings, maybe a cousin that's living in the home, and many times that child, because they

get involved in the court system, our client no longer reside in that home. Detention is not a long term solution.

It's not even a solution. But what has to happen is if there's no family, like an aunt or an uncle or somebody that can take this child in, then we have to get to DCS involved. So sort of the good thing about our office is that there's consistency across both courts, both dependency and delinquency where the attorney is.

Other than probation, and I think sometimes it comes to the dependency hearings, the defense attorney is the sole person that really knows what's going on in both of the courtrooms and can share that information. So that's sort of a unique thing that we do that is very beneficial to the kid. So even if the delinquency case resolves, even if they finish up with probation and they can't go home for whatever reason, we still stay as their attorney throughout the dependency case. But we usually have a dual, we do have a dual ward judge, but with these types of cases, because all of them are filtered, at least in Maricopa County and the healthy boundaries, we have a separate dependency judge.

Obviously, separate only for the judge, which kind of complicates things when you have two judges.

having different opinions sometimes and wanting to make different orders and DCS for any one accord and probation the other. So I think you all kind of understand that. But a lot of our conversations too with the client and with the families is about competency. I know Chris touched on some of these

kids on the autism spectrum. We have a lot of mental health. We have a lot of sometimes cognitive delays. And so, and there's sometimes very young children. And we have to discuss, we have to meet with them, talk about legal stuff that the people in this room had to go to school for many, many, many years to learn. And now we're teaching at 12 year olds. What is a trial? How do you confirm a witness? And how do you review evidence? And you know, the state's case is weak here, and how do I explain that to you? And they're just like, I want to admit, or whatever their position may be. So then they go through the competency proceedings. So it complicates not just them coming to court on this JSAB case.

Now they have to learn about court and be involved with the court and have all these restrictions in place before we even get to the stage of getting a child treatment.

So there's some limitations there. I'm going to just jump down and I don't know if you want me to say anything more about the competency. No, because I think it's sort of running out of time. Okay, I'm going to be quick then. So a number of the things I talk about also with my clients and I have to do this with the parents too is treatment. That is a huge.

huge component of my discussion with the client. What does treatment look like? What does probation look like? What does healthy boundaries look like? And so I put the statute on there about that the probation department of Maricopa County has to comply with the professional code of ethics from ATSA, which I think you guys are all familiar with. I put 134066 up there. That is

some protections when a child makes a statement in court ordered treatment. So the thought

process is that if they make a disclosure in treatment, county attorney can't use that statement against the child. There are limitations to that. It's not an absolute immunity that is given to this child. There are still ways in which or a statement could be used against them or information could be obtained as a result of some of these disclosures. I know in Maricopa County, it has not been an issue as far as if information comes out.

county attorney getting in and filing charges. I think that it could potentially be an issue if it wasn't Rachel and Kristen. It's an issue in Pinal County. So if they do go ahead and file a new charge against the client and then I have to fight it in court. I would, so just because of, you know, obviously provide treatment providers are mandatory reporters, so.

It gets reported to law enforcement, it does still get investigated. If it's just more charges against the already the same victim, obviously, that's not something I'm going to file charges on. If it's charges, if it's, you know, now they're disclosing something with a family member that we didn't already know about and the parents are acting appropriately and they say, I don't, I don't want.

a lot of new charges, we likely wouldn't file that. The only time I could see filing new charges is if I had a completely separate victim who obviously has victims' rights, and, you know, that child now needs to get some victim services and things like that. But I had a couple cases where we've had to do that, and I certainly

Again, I don't need to now say, oh, I'm going to make you a CFO, chronic felony offender. Let's add another felony to you. Like, that's not the goal here, which I, and I've heard Pinal county it's very different. I think they charge he said, she said pieces down there, which we don't do that in Maricopa County.

But I think if these cases in that scenario, part of the issue we're trying to explain to clients that are children and to the parents too, that you do have legal rights. And while this is still a comprehensive group and the goal is to rehabilitate and to how juvenile court works, you still have legal rights. And if you

Don't exercise some of those. These are the possible consequences that could come from that. I do find that.

I've heard sometimes therapists provide some sort of like legal advice about it doesn't matter what you say in treatment. You can't be prosecuted for this and it can't be used against you in any way. I've heard, I've had parents come to me and say that and I have to explain there are limitations to this statute. It is not absolute. There can be things that are used against you.

And so

We need to make sure that we're being mindful of the legal aspects of things, even though these are children and we all just really want to get them the help that they need. Registration, I don't need to go into any of that. And that's a statute for the adults, but subsection D talks about kids can have to register up until the age of 25. We don't have this board where we can ask for it to be petitioned off the registry, it's just their order to register it is until the age of 25,

Although sometimes they're not taken off of it.

Well, I'm sure I'm not shocked. Yeah. And not to mention, if they don't register, if they don't comply with all of the requirements of registration, then they will get the charges for adult court. Now we're talking about life time registration

So.

We're passionate about that when we're talking about a twelve-year-old that did something with they were 12, and now the potential for lifetime sex registration is on the table for them. We're going to move it to another state, where it's mandatory life time registration for something in Arizona, we don't require registration, or even if you're ordered not to register in Arizona. But you move

to another state, right? I told my client don't ever move to Florida. I don't care that it's load success. I don't care if you successful on probation. I don't care that you ordered not to register. I don't care what your attorney told you. You will have to register if you go to Florida or other states, unfortunately.

On.

And then I think someone will probably touch on ATSA and sort of focus in the research that's been done. I know Chief Meaux talked about the statistics, the recidivism rate and how it's very low. All of that is coming from the Association for Treatment of Sexual Abusers. This is the research that was done by them. And they continually put out guidelines and different packets of information. In particular, I think what's important was there was a 2017 that talked generally about registration and polygraphs and treatment specifically. And then I think in 2020, they talked about registration and community notification.

So all that is obviously stuff that I try to keep up on. I think it's very important research. When it comes to, you know, handling these types of cases.

Can I just add really quickly, I think you guys may all know, but like we don't register these kids when they're disposed, right? We give them every chance to be successful. So if they, so we're either talking at the end of a successful discharge from treatment, then we address the issue and I'm not recommending registration if there's no

legal basis to do that, or they're aging out of the system. So they're either 18 or they're extended jurisdiction or 19, then we address registration. And that's one of the things I think we do right here in Arizona. You know, we don't have kiddos who committed an offense at age 11 who are on lifetime registry, and we're not registering all of these kids.

Very, very few of these kids ultimately end up registering. I think we do it right in most big county. Fair. I think when I say in Arizona, I, Maricopa County I, yeah, I think, yeah, Yavapai gets it right too. I think Judge Young does a great job.

Yeah, I think so. Real quick, we going to touch on assessments, evaluations, but I definitely want to be time for our judicial officers to share their perspectives on the bench. But I think one of the things that which you may have picked up on is when we talk about assessments,

evaluations, treatment, service compliance, highly integrated within the juvenile court. You can't really separate out whether it's the defense involved in it, prosecution, the judicial officer, probation, our providers, and all is kind of intertwined. So it is a complex question. You just can't separate these things out into separate things because I want a recommendation for this. It really cross-pollinates the whole system. So that's it.

And Marina walked us through some of the things. You should all have a fairly deep information packet, but all of our service that you can tell us all what to Marina kind of get the highlights for you all if you have questions. Do you mind going to the next slide?

So,

every youth will get an evaluation. That's one, right? It's very, so we have a couple of different evaluations and assessments, psychosexual eval being the most robust, the able assessment and the self-assessment. So the psychosexual evaluation, it consists of the psychological evaluation, kind of looking, is there a psychopathology? What is the young person's attitude? Is there a risk for violence? What is their IQ, cognitive functioning? What is their academic functioning? And then

When it comes to the psychosexual part, there will be focused on sexual behavior. And there's a slew of different assessments that the psychology evaluating psychologists will employ. Things that look at the sexual interest, looking at sexual attitudes, Looking at the child's sexual history, what is their experience with sex? How did they learn about it? What are some, you know, fantasies that they have? So they really take a very deep dive into the young person's functioning. As Chief said, we have provided for every service that I've

that we have mentioned here, there's going to be information in the packet. It is the AOC service specs. So these services are provided through AOC contracting.

And the service specs go into detail. What are the qualifications of the individual who is going to be doing the evaluation? What are the different aspects of the evaluation? You've been mentioning some assessments by Nate, like JSOAP, the risk assessment. So we typically do these for treatment purposes. That's kind of the whole goal.

What is going on with the youth? What has led them to this particular offense? And then what is the best treatment approach at what level of care? And then what should they be focusing on specifically in treatment? The other assessments that are done through the AOC providers, as mentioned, was ABLE assessment.

looking at the, or another, it also goes by sexual interest in the certain specs. And it's looking at the sexual interest of the youth, whether they find appealing, and then any kind of problematic behavior they may have engaged in or fantasize about.

And that the ABLE assessment usually it can be done as a standalone if the issue of, you know, maybe paraphilia or paraphilic interest comes up, then ABLE assessment can be done as a standalone or typically it can be rolled into the psychosexual evaluation. And then there is the SAB assessment and that's typically done

It cannot be done just as the first kind of intervention. It usually follows the psycho sexual evaluation.

And the assessment typically looks at what's been, how the kid is internalizing treatment. Perhaps they're mid-treatment, perhaps they're at the end. Let's do an assessment and see where they're at. And that typically involves the couple of different risk assessments, the JSOAP and the PROFESSOR. So the JSOAP typically looks at risk factors while the PROFESSOR looks at the protection and kind of creates this holistic picture of what's going on with the youth and then we use that information to tweak treatment or whatever else might be needed. So those are kind of the main assessments that are done.. And those are released, so for example, with the psychosexual evaluation, that is released to the treatment provider. So this way they can make a decision as to whether their program is able to meet the needs of the youth and what is the distance if they need to focus their treatment.

This right here is polygraphs. Polygraphs were mentioned. So this is a little bit about the statistics on polygraphs. As you can see, there is a drastic change that has occurred around 2020, and that's in reference to what we previously was talking about changes. updates or revisions in ATSA guidelines. So up to 2020, for the most part, the philosophy and the practice was to have polygraphs as part of treatment. The young person in treatment would get polygraphs several times. That's why you have kind of the total different differs from the unique number because one individual one kiddo would receive polygraphs several times a year, instant offense, the sexual history, the maintenance, and so on. But since the ATSA revised their guidelines and advised against using polygraphs for various reasons in terms of kind of, there was some research whether using polygraphs impacts recidivism. There's some concerns about the coercion that might be involved. But ultimately, it is a tool that's used with adults. And because adolescents are different from adults, that particular tool should be used with teenagers.

AOC, you know, did, from their perspective, they realized that there may be some situations where a polygraph may be appropriate. And so they came up with a protocol. for exceptional circumstances polygraph, that there may be situations that polygraph can be used in order to further treatment goals, but there has to be certain things that have to take place in order for the polygraph to be approved. So again, that is also part of your packet. There is a handout that explains explicitly kind of the thinking and then What is the process for requesting? So the polygraph now has to be, it has to be approved by the judicial officer. The judicial officer has to rule that this is appropriate. And the team, there has to be staffing, there has to be kind of a discussion, everybody has to be on board as to why polygraph is the way to go. The therapist provides a letter with the rationale as to why this is appropriate to benefit youth and treatment. And then so there is ability to get polygraphs done.

Yeah.

I'm going to jump in and I'm going to kind of jump right in off where we left off with the polygraphs. So, you know, Arizona history is pretty interesting, I think, because we've been at the forefront of a lot of things. And one of the things that I think is interesting about our history is that we have paid attention to evidence-based practices.

And the court as a whole, coming across the country, and I'm talking about FBI practices and everything. We in the 1990s, early 2000s, had fallen for some bad science. And there's some, if you look at death penalty cases, there was some really bad.

Evidence that was presented in cases that the court accepted without.

It wasn't it was a good plan, and it was later overturned, and it came to be known that that was that should never have been admitted into evidence. It's not only, you know, embarrassing, it undermines the, you know, confidence in the courts and process. It's and it's you know.

with liberty and life, are at risk do that. So, I mean, there was there was litigation over what what are the standards for for science-based evidence to come in for jurors for judges to consider. So, when just Chief Justice Bales was our Chief Justice, and we...

set out this strategic plan. There were evidence-based practices all over that strategic plan.

And all the courts went and did our own strategic plan within the juvenile court. And we were like, OK, evidence-based practices, what we're going to do, meaning let's only do things that are supported by the evidence. And that means including who we're going to treat treatment plans, are these treatment plans, things that really work.

to can we actually prove that we're going to use public money to do things that are going to actually be affected for the goals that we have. And so for me, when I was the presiding judge in Maricopa County, I was like, a little cognizant with polygraph which.

And so if you read the Caldwell Report that was .

Oh.

really great because it set out what what's going on, like you all are doing, what's going on across the country. It lays out what was going on, what other studies are showing regarding the use of polygraphs for juveniles. And you know, as the ATSA indicated, it's just it's not anything as a good practice. So, what I think is really interesting now is that we have some group of what goes on here in Arizona, we used it for quite a while, and that slide that shows that

They were using it, and I was like, "Hey, this information that shows that you know you're charged like \$400.00 or some change for each test, and we're using them about 400 or 400 tests a year, I guess, \$50,000 a year for these tests, and...

When we stopped doing it for the most part, we didn't have any change in recidivism, you know, like we're spending all this money for something that's not evidence based and that's not helping. So, and is it harming or is it is it?

coercive.

and I was talking to the kid. So I'm a little bit

I'm pleased to see that there's some proof now that perhaps this is really a bad idea and that

we stop doing it. And also, I'm pleased that the administrative office reports came up with a plan to be able to have this exceptional circumstance where

Hey, so we could actually come forward and prove this is a good idea, which is what we're gonna do. Now, it looks like that's happened couple times in the last year.

So.

I really like working in this area, which is, you heard from everybody else, because this really is a system of criminal justice where we go around and work together from all different perspectives to figure out what's the best way to actually achieve the goals of, you know, what's best for kids and what's best for kids.

for victims and public safety. And this is a great way to do it. And including what the this Board is doing is trying to find out what's going on all around the community and around the country. And I don't know, to me it's really the best way to make decisions like it. So.

Many, many of your time and attention of those matters, and I think that was good.

All right, so with that, healthy boundaries. So Rachel and I have known each other long time. Too long. And we used to do cases against each other. And when I came over to juvenile court, she approached me after about three months and said, you always wanted to do a healthy boundaries court, like the one that was being run in Yavapai County.

Would you be open to helping create it, knowing the background that I had? Because obviously Rachel and I used to do cases against each other when I was a defense attorney. And I was very lucky that I approached by then presiding judge and asked her about it. There was a time period that went by and then all of a sudden it was

Yes, let's go. So with that, we created this. The idea being, across many of the issues that we have talked about today, that if we have more contact with the families, more contact with the kids, where we can reaffirm good choices, give them immediate consequences, or have conversations about bad choices, strip some of the shame away from what happened.

I think both Rachel and Lori touched on a lot of these cases involving the victims in the family and the offender is in the family. The parents are overwhelmed, they're ashamed, the kids ashamed. How do they manage this? We put all these people in the same room.

and allow them to feel less alone and less isolated, will they be more successful? And anecdotally, it absolutely feels like that has been the product of this court, which will reduce recidivism, not only in a sexual manner, but in a just general delinquent manner. If you feel ashamed of who you are,

You're going to make it, it's going to be harder for you to make friends. You're going to make bad friends. You're going to make poor choices because you don't think you matter, that society is going to write you off. And so it reduces recidivism in a sexual way, but also in a general way. And so the idea was to create healing and recovery and give a space for the families and the juveniles to come together.

and move forward. So it was consistent engagement with the judge, with the probation department, with the defense counsel, with the county attorney, and with the treatment

providers. When I started this, I think most people thought I was crazy and skeptical. I didn't know Mel at all. And I went and walked every single one of Melanie's properties, so I understood what the kids were doing, where they were.

sleeping, what it looked like, who worked there. I met with all of Melanie's treatment providers and knew every single one of them. They were part of staffing. They were part of the hearings, which created a consistency because it was one judge getting to hear everything over and over. I got to create a rapport with all of the treatment providers.

and the probation officers and their personalities. I knew I knew how to communicate with them, to talk through situations, give them maybe a different perspective and work together. And I just think it made a much more, not I think it, I don't think it made, it made a much more consistent process overall in how

probation violations were sanctions were assigned and enforced, registration decisions were signed to assigned and enforced, and it just really allowed the kids to show growth. My theme, my trademark in that courtroom, and I was so mad at my judicial investiture that I forgot to say that, was

progress not perfection. I started off by telling the kids, we are all human. None of us are perfect, least of all me. You are going to make mistakes. We prefer that they be less serious, non-sexual mistakes, but you're going to make mistakes. We know that. The purpose is we want to see from the beginning to the end that you continually make better choices.

and make progress overall and shape it from that perspective. I do think as well that one of the experiences that I had representing youth and adult court who have been charged with sexually abusive behaviors was the families hated it. They felt they were on probation.

No one would give that recognition except the defense attorneys. And they felt very ill prepared. I don't want to say that was my cases, but I only got the case after they had already accepted a plea or gone to trial and was placed on probation. And so I had to sort of undo what a year to two years of work had been, or little work had been done as far as preparing them for the reality.

And what I appreciate about what Lori would say, Lori said, and I know that Kristen and Rachel acknowledge this in the courtroom, is that the entire family is on probation, not just the kid, the whole family. And being able to acknowledge that to the parents, I think you see some of them sigh,

they work better with probation. Not always, but I do think we had a lot of contentious situations between probation and apparent change as a result of these hearings and also hearing from other families that they were also restricted the same way, that it wasn't just their family, that

Everyone starts in the same way. We all have to enforce the same rules. We need your cooperation and support of your child. And then we need your clients, your child's cooperation and following the rules. And then the sooner all of that happens, the sooner normal life returns. I mean, we've had kids go to prom who engaged in sexually abusive behaviors.

But they had to do the work. They had to with their family. And so creating that collaborative court really allowed us to focus on rehabilitation, address underlying issues, and allow the child to continue to have as much of a normal childhood as possible. Having said that, where the victims fit into this,

So that was probably the hardest part of trying to figure this out, was they are entitled to be part of hearings. We didn't have, at least when I was there, very many victims that came a few, and I think they quickly realized, this is not a comfortable space for me because it's not about my child. And they are right.

One of the things I always said at the end of hearings regarding registration or adjudications is the system is what it is, and the juvenile system is focused on trying to rehabilitate the individual who abused. So there are no more victims, and there's very limited resources I have for your child, the victim, and I don't think that's fair.

but I, that's beyond my pay grade. I'm doing what I can with the resources I can, with the resources I have. And so that was the idea behind it. And I very, was very fortunate and so thrilled at continuing that there was so much collective buy-in with not only the community of providers,

but with the county attorneys, with the defense attorneys, and with probation. I think that we all really got to know each other, collaboratively work together, try to problem solve, get ahead of situations before they blew up. I think the other genesis of this was that there was a complaint from someone at ADJC, so at Adobe.

that there were so, even within Maricopa County, there were so many different decisions being made about the consequences in registration for youth that were essentially separately situated. And cant there be of 1 consistent voice. And so the idea also became that if I was going to run this probation,

court healthy boundaries that I would take every single registration hearing and do all of the decision making myself. So it was one brain, one voice on making all the decisions about the juveniles. And if I remember correctly, I think I only had.

two kids, maybe 3, I think two that were ordered to register. And those were incredibly different difficult decisions. There were a hand few were a few I can think of where Rachel and Kristen requested that they register and I didn't do it over their request. But for the most part, I want to say what 93%

Everyone seems to be on the same page. And I don't know if I should talk about registration now, but I just will really quickly. When I think about registration, and I want to say this did not represent Maricopa County bench, Superior Court bench at large, this is Judge Nicole Hartley's philosophy and perspective, I focus on the evidence first and foremost. I want to be making decisions, just like Judge McNally said, about evidence based. So I rely heavily on the evaluation that's done at the end, the able assessment if there is one, if there's a need for one, what the JSOAP says, what the PROFESSOR says, I rely heavily on the thoughts and opinions of the treatment providers, like the people that work for Melanie's and the comments that they make about the disclosures, the changes that they've

seen, what they struggles they thought were.

for this particular kid. When I'm thinking about...

probation. Technical violations never persuaded me to order a kid to register. It would have to be real serious behavior or concerns. And the reason why is registration is regulatory. It is about, is this person such a significant risk that we have to know where they're living?

and what community that they are in. So if someone is victimized, they know who to go to talk to. I don't know if you all know this, but the vast majority of juveniles are not on the community notification platform. So it really is about, do local police need to know? And when I'm thinking about that, my thought was,

What is the risk? And is this a kid that has demonstrated change? Maybe they started as a high risk, which is rare, but it happened and went to low. Or did they start high and stay high? That is a kid I'm going to be more concerned about than less concerned about. What kind of disclosures did they make? What progress did they make? What change did everybody see? because the implications of registration were, as ATSA had pointed out, so serious and so severe that, and as Lori pointed out, have long-term consequences. If I have a 19 and a half year old that fails to change his address in 10 days, he may have to register for the rest of his life if he gets prosecuted in adult court for that.

for something he did when he was 13. Is that necessary for this kid? And so I thought a lot about that with duly when I made registration decisions. I absolutely loved this Court. I miss it all the time. It was so great to see all the change and the connection and...

how hard these kids worked. And to have the validation, not only from me, but the other special thing about this court is that the county attorneys, which is not something that ever happens in adult court, they validate them when they do well. Obviously, their defense attorneys are usually encouraging and recognize their good behavior.

They should they should do that. But to have a county attorney turn and say to you, I am so proud of the change I see in you and you've done such a great job means so much to them. It's a lot for a judge to say it, but for the person that chose to prosecute them say it means a ton along with the probation officers. The probation officers recognize

the change and the great behavior and the accomplishments. You could see these kids light up and it just drove a lot of positive change. And so just generally how it worked, and I won't believe it because I know we're running out of time. All of the kids come in once a month. They all are brought in with their families in the room. We would staff the cases over lunch and I would

create a list of the order in which I wanted to call the kids. The kids that were struggling the most went last, in part because especially we were going to impose a consequence like going into detention. I didn't want a lot of the other kids to see that. But the kids that went first were the ones that were the most successful since I had seen them the last time.

And I really tried hard to give them the platform to talk as much as they could and not have it be us talking about them. Why? Because that gives them ownership in their accomplishments and they got to share it with the group. When they graduated and successfully completed

Healthy Boundaries, a lot of them would come in suits. They would make speeches. They would let their parents make speeches and encourage the parents that were brand new in the room to kind of keep up with them.

and keep going. And again, it's just ownership in their choices and their progress. It was really remarkable at times to see these kids succeed. We would applaud graduation from high school, we would applaud new jobs, we would applaud whatever we could that was an accomplishment or

show progress for these kids. And that is how healthy boundaries work. And I really do think it created a big change. And what I will say about the polygraphs, and this is just my anecdotal perspective, regarding when we didn't, we don't have them, obviously, they're very rare. I do think that having that collaborative court and that consistent contact with probation with defense, with the judge, with the prosecutors. I believe that...

That allowed the kids, that drove the kids, I think, to be more honest than not, even when they were breaking rules and trying to hide things. Not always. I know. I know. But I do think that they quickly realized once they hid something and it was discovered that it was going to be addressed in an open court to all their peers.

that there was going to be consequences. And I think it drove positive progress overall in not withholding information, not breaking rules and trying to significantly breaking rules and trying to hide it without the need to have a polygraph to get them to admit to it. So Hopefully that makes sense. But yeah, thanks guys. Thank you. And I really applaud this group I do. I would love to see this forever. I would love to see this philosophy statewide. They still have the resources in the smaller counties.

Back to you. Oh, is it? Oh, alright.

Um...

Before we roll, can we leave as much time? We're scheduled to go until 4. So if we can try to leave at, you know, a minimum of 20 minutes so that we can ask questions and then that would be immensely helpful.

I'll be very brief. So in terms of

Using assessments and evaluations, as I said, the main driver for that is we have a little picture of what's going on, the risk to re-offend, but ultimately it's treatment.

And so we, through AOC, now many of our, you do receive treatment through other sources as well, but through AOC specifically, we have a different type of, several different types of services, they range from outpatient to out of home, which will be on the next slide. So the services that we offer,

If, if you don't mind, there you go. So, the services that are offered to you are individual counseling, group counseling, very powerful methodology. I have observed several groups and the

The work that the youth do and then the therapists do in order to create an atmosphere of safety, honesty, integrity, holding each other accountable. It was very defensive.

And then of course, there's family, because as it was mentioned, family is part of probation.

Whatever had occurred, it is family dynamics have contributed. And so having family counseling is extremely important. And then the home-based counseling is for those who have difficulty communication.

Transportation, and so the AOC offers.

So these are out of home placements, residential, inpatient and group home. The residential is BHRF, behavioral health residential facility, old language therapeutic group home, level 2.

Inpatient is behavioral health inpatient facility.

old language RTC, level one, and then group home. So a little bit about different types of out of home services. So the residential service typically is 24 hours of provision by staff.

Schooling can take place in the facility.

Virtual school, or you get the you can attend school in the community and some on their needs and and what's available patient typically.

In order for it to be inpatient, it there has to be nursing 24/7

sites. And usually the inpatient is the highest level of care and is typically reserved for kids with significant pathology as well. So significant mental health issues, suicidal behavior history, harming behavior. So that typically is reserved.

A little bit about a group home, and this is a DCS licensed group home. As you can see, the number started 2023 because this is a new category for AOC, the DCS licensed group home specifically for JCW. It is kind of

maybe equivalent to a QRTP, but at a very high level. This is typically we use the service for you who are done with the out-of-home placement, but they're not able to return home. As it was mentioned, some of the families have reservations about returning back home.

and they may not have anywhere else to go. And so they are residing in this group home receiving outpatient services. So this way they can be in a facility that understands their needs, supplies them appropriately, make sure you know that they are attending counseling, counseling, and therapeutic interventions that priority, and then also helps them to address other things like education, like work, and then ultimately gives them kind of a soft landing spot where they can then plan for the future. Some of the youth that we use this facility with is our extended jurisdiction youth. So they'll post they aged out and again, can't make that return home.

Here they have a great facility that can support them.

Well, there is integrating to the and the.

I tried just a little bit, if you don't mind, just to go back. So, you know,

I tried to provide you with some information about successful.

you know, youth finishing successful, treatment successfully versus unsuccessfully. And as my team looked at these, at the numbers, it was very high. It was difficult to put the youth into discrete categories because these cases are complicated. So many of the youth, they had, they didn't have a straight trajectory to success, right? They would,

They would maybe take a couple of detours, go from different levels of care to higher to lower, then to higher again, maybe to move laterally. So it was rather difficult to identify

what would be considered, you know, successful discharge. Does anybody be successful in one?

facility, but then...

maybe not. And so, but I did want to share that we have identified that there seems to be a trend. And the trend that we have noticed is that youth who are funded through AOC tended to have a straighter trajectory towards success. So they would go to placement, for the most part, do well, maybe have a couple.

A couple of hiccups, and then be successful, while youth were funded by other funding sources like DCS and the have a lot more struggles into.

And it's not so much about the funding source, it is more about the circumstances of these. So obviously youth who are involved with DCS and a behavioral health system that funded their services had a lot more challenges, maybe more instability with family, more mental health concerns, and therefore they have

they tended to have a lot, their path towards success was a lot more difficult, a lot more stops and starts. There was a lot of detours. So I wanted to share that with you. At these cases, you know, tend to be complicated and success sometimes is hard to measure, but for the most part, I would we do do well. The reason there was a few, we kind of looked at about 125 cases. And for the most part, all the cases, it would not be discharged unless they, there was an administrative release meeting that they aged out or they were committed to a ADJC. Our system does not give up on release.

Looking for opportunities to make sure that they have appropriate treatment if they don't do well in one system.

On the facility, we tried to identify a different facility, and so we, like I said, we typically we don't give up on youth, we keep trying.

And the next slide talks about victim counseling. So victim counseling, we offer that to a subset of youth. Typically, youth who have shared a household with a juvenile or a victim of that juvenile, and there's an expectation for the juvenile to return it.

to continue sharing the household with the victim. We want to make sure that the victim gets the services that they need to address their trauma. One of the, this is not offered through AOC. We have an agreement, the judicial branch has an agreement with some of the providers in the community who offer this service. And it typically is a service that happens in parallel.

So the victim is getting the counseling and then the offending is getting the counseling in home, out of home or community. And so this way we make sure that the victim is, their needs are addressed. One of the things that happens, there's a couple of different classes. that happened in the victims services is the clarification process. So the clarification process is a victim-led process where the person, the juvenile who would have offended,

But.

admits and takes responsibility for the behavior that caused harm, helps this process, helps to provide healing, reconciliation, and then ultimately, you know, there is a plan and everybody

moves and this works out, they can proceed to return back home.

and that part is consideration process, and that's where you know, family, youth, victims are on board with this. Changes have been made in terms of supervision, understanding the dynamics, making sure that there is no more victims.

So, talk.

Maybe move on to the probation, and then please, a lot of what only covered is when probation overseas and supports some of that treatment process. Although we and I are involved in some of the services, and we're going to be brief in the last three slides, which Judge Hartley covered, so

I'm sorry.

No, that's OK.

you Say, much better than I do.

Once the youth lands on probation, again, it's everything that we talked about is part of that as well. But generally, all of our youth that are placed on probation for JSAB, they're going to participate in some level of treatment. And that treatment is going to be really set up around what their risk assessments, you know, that they needed.

you know, would be best, you know, what they need. They're going to have some level of restrictions on internet, electronic devices, some age restrictions, maybe no contact with certain children of certain age, no contact with victims, development of it. There's a safety plan before they're on probation is like a part of the release condition, but also we do safety planning while they're on.

probation with, you know, extra someone mentioned that a youth going to a prom. I mean, you know, there we want and encourage pro-social activities, so the time those come, but there's going to be monitoring around it. And then, of course, when we talked about a healthy boundaries Court, generally all of them, pretty much all of them will participate.

And help with that. I don't think so. So, youth that are placed on probation have probation rules, but then you that have the JSAB adjudications have these additional addendum rules, and these are relatively new, as noted there. They were, I believe, part of...

You'll get this package, so you'll have them. But these are the addendum rules they follow.

And then, of course, no, go ahead. That's good. Yep, thank you. So, again, this is kind of jumping into the healthy boundaries, for this is the first slide of that. The next one's, again, Judge covered. But I really want to emphasize that this kind of

already been said, but we really work on a multi-disciplinary approach. The POs are working very closely with the therapist, with the guardians who work at group home. DCS and highest case managers, if they're involved with that child, we're incorporating, you know, their treatment goals into all their case planning and their supervision.

That's very important. We're consistently having contract requirements with those involved to communicate barriers, progress. And one of the tools we have, if there are some barriers as a polygraph, generally some of the treatment providers find that to be a beneficial therapeutic tool to utilize if they have some barriers.

or if they need kind of some help with. And that's kind of probation. I feel like a lot has been talked about. I just have three more slides here. And again, they're all maybe go the last one, which talks about victims just really quickly. I think currently Judge Hartley covered that.

But I do want to mention this could be a difficult piece.

Sometimes victims aren't family members. Sometimes, not often, they do choose to come to Healthy Boundaries Court. And there's just a couple of bullets towards the bottom. I don't mean to read them off to everybody, but, you know, we really, it is a sensitive topic and we have to balance, you know, the offenders and celebrating.

Their progress and being also sensitive to the victim, so I just want to kind of...

Express.

I actually tell victims, not like the male little ones, but otherwise, especially when they come in and they are like, hot, sad, and I said, I'm sorry to tell you, but juvenile court is a terrible place to be a victim. Because, and Judge Hartley was amazing at talking with them. There are some of the judges on the adult bench that also were, and they just...

what if they make them feel validated and heard, even though ultimately they're not getting anything, they don't have a lot of times they want, you know, prison for years and registration for life and all this stuff. And so I try to work that in and I think Kristen does too, but just to let them know it's not that we don't care about you or your child, it's just the focus of juvenile court is so heavily on.

The offender or in this case, but...

Can I propose that maybe we go by presenter? I mean, I kind of jumped it like by the different discussions, because I have quite a few questions or comments, but I don't want to jump all around, so I don't know. Yeah, I think that's fine. OK.

Go ahead. OK. I mean, I don't know if everybody knows time. I know some of you very well, and some of you I mean for the first time, but it's nice that we kind of names to some faces.

And I might come up, you may not want to know, very, very vocal, and I don't know who all is on there, so I have to go ahead.

But...

I get fired. I, I'm pretty passionate about obviously these kids as well. I'm about 30 years now that I've been doing this, worked with YDI for about 8 years, and I think part of the performance for as well as the outpatient programs. So, I don't want to get into nitty-gritty and ask a lot of questions.

I think my bigger concern, and a lot of people have already heard about, especially the board, is right now in our system, there's a disconnect. And so I heard a lot about the numbers going down and the, and it looks like recidivism is down and kids are getting better. And I have to tell you, being

on the front line of kids, they're not easier at all. There's way more trauma, way more things going on. We've talked about some of those factors, especially phone and internet, but I still feel like there's a lot of kids not even getting to any of them. And I think it's a huge issue and maybe Meaux, maybe it's Joe Kelroy, like there's people that meet.

with some of these other systems. But I can tell you, if you only have kids that are on probation, and sometimes dual kids, but there is at least 100 kids in the DCS system that are just like our kids, that are not on the forefront of anybody's mind, not a cop, not a detective, not Rachel, Kristen, or anybody else.

And I don't have a number on that. I'm kind of asking DCS was here last month and they heard a lot more from me. But I just want to be careful with like, hey, I think they're getting better because there's a whole bunch of kids that aren't getting treatments. They're getting put into DCS homes. I still don't know who to call first. My therapist, it's like for years it was the law was you call DCS and the cops.

then you call PD, but if you don't have enough information, they don't do anything, you call DCS. I just think a lot of things are not getting reported or DCS is taking over. I just want to be careful with numbers and facts. Obviously you have your data and it is what it is and the numbers look great, but I just feel like there's a whole subsection that's not even getting counted in those big numbers. That won't be my first thing, which is kind of from the presentation.

Yeah, looks like it went from 220 to 147 in 10 years. I don't think that's because kids are not committing offenses. Personal, personal opinion.

I think my data suggests that the defending phenomenon has been pretty static and pretty stable across X amount of years.

So that was just kind of my first take of just like the introduction. So I don't have to keep in mind about that. It's just, and also recidivism, like I said, three kids were recidivism. I don't know how violations and probation or somebody can bring up violations. I have a kid who's offended three times since he was with us, but he keeps getting a slap on the wrist. But he, I would consider, I probably know all three kids if those are counted or they're not being counted the way I thought recidivism would be counted.

I just want to comment on the discussion about recidivism. My personal belief is we really don't know what the recidivism rates are. And I think there's different definitions of recidivism. Recidivism from the perspective of committing a new sex offense is committing a new sex offense. And until we have longitudinal data about our Arizona kids and our Arizona system,

I don't think any of us, frankly, are in a position to be clear about what the recidivism rates are. I don't think we know. I don't think we're ever going to know. No, I think we can know, but I think it's going to require some really systematic analysis and some really systematic analysis that involves larger criminal justice systems, FBI data. I mean, a colleague of mine did an analysis of recidivism using static 99 to determine whether or not static 99R was helpful in predicting recidivism in adult population. But she couldn't and her colleagues couldn't do that without the buy-in of some really high level institutions to be able to do real recidivism data. So to do that, we, I mean, that's what it would take to do that. I mean, I don't think, I mean, my sense is, and I've paid attention to this stuff over the last 30 years very closely.

I mean, when I talk about that, so I've been to ATSA, every ATSA since 1995, except for two. So if there's somebody who's gone to ATSA more than me, tell me who they are. And I'm a data hound, and I pay attention to the data very carefully. I don't think re-offense rates for successfully treated juvenile are very high. That's my belief. I mean, so, but I want us to be cautious about talking about recidivism and in what way we're talking about recidivism, because I personally don't think we know for our kids in Arizona, one way or the other. So one more comment about recidivism stuff. And we're not going to have time to do it today, but I would love to be able to have more conversations with select people at some point in time in the interest of solidifying some of what is clearly really good work that's going on. I have lots of questions about how we make decisions.

about which kids get drafted into which silo and that kind of stuff and those kinds of things. But with respect to polygraph, I just need to make a statement. The only metric that gets talked about is whether or not it reduces recidivism. And I think that there's other points that need to be talked about with respect to polygraph.

And that is unknown victims who live in the same homes with kids that we already know there are victims in. And for me, that's one of the biggest reasons that the polygraph has merit is because it helps us identify unknown victims that don't ever get talked about.

And yes, I think that our systems and structures help facilitate more honesty and those kinds of things. But there are going to be some people who just drag their feet until the very end and never will never tell us the truth unless we have that we have a way to help facilitate that. I have lots to talk about in terms of what I think are misperceptions about polygraph. And this gentleman can probably talk about them better than I can, but let me give it back to Mel. Because I think my, you know, I have questions that I think will be beyond the time that we have to try to figure out something.

For sure. Just, I guess, later on the polygraph.

I agree. Obviously, I'm coming from a clinical standpoint, so I'm not, I'm not, I'm not a judge, not prosecutor. I, again, am seeing the kids. We've had over 500 kids in the future, and that's just at the group homes. We have probably 1000 of the outpatient, but I'm sure I have that actual number because they can go a little quicker.

We use it for the same reason as the cops. We don't use it for, we're not trying to prove it in court. We were never a big advocate. That was kind of probation's way of taking a tour in the judge to hear about a polygraph, but it's always been a clinical tool to find out about it. So we know it's not reliable, but our kids.

And I agree. I'm just saying in court, it hasn't been proven that, but we, I have an alumni party. I had it last week and I've had over 500 kids and usually about 50, 60 kids show up to come say hi. And it's been 23 years. I had an almost four year old who could have been several of my staff's father. It was very awkward this last time. Makes me very old.

But they, when they asked about a polygraph, they brought up something about a polygraph. And when I said, we don't have them anymore, their response is hands down, like, what are you talking about? I never would have told them about my other three siblings. Now, I

appreciate the fact that some of them are honest now that we have healthy boundaries, there's lots of team, there's lots of support, but we don't know what we don't.

So I think more honest is awesome. But again, we also do it for the victims. We send kids back all the time. And this is our new hand signal that we pray that the other five kids in that home are not victims and not going to have reoccurring victimization because only one was reported.

Or maybe none were reported in the police file, but you've got similar, you know, kiddos in the house, siblings who are similar age or gender as the victim.

We just had a different experience with the kids, and that's all I can speak to, is the kids and the family, and the experience has not been negative. Now, what they tell their defense attorney may be the opposite of what they're telling us, but for the most part, a kid who passed a polygraph was on cloud dying and soared through treatment after he could tell the truth. And a lot of them have a hard time doing that without it.

Despite great relationships with therapists, it's kind of a misnomer that if you have a really good therapeutic relation, they'll tell you everything, but then somehow gets a lot of stuff out of them. And a lot of them do it for the same reason. They don't want to be in trouble later, and they tell, and anyway, we miss them. We miss them a lot. I'll just say that. Back to, I think, Rachel's part.

I think we love that you guys are specialized. And I love that there's four attorneys with the health boundaries court that absolutely helps. We've always loved the probation was specialized. I know it's harder in the smaller counties, but we absolutely love that from a treatment perspective, having people that know what they're doing, but we get case managers that don't know anything about our population.

It's very confusing because our kids are straight A's and yes ma'ams and they look a lot different than their criminal cases. We love that. I did want to ask you, when you say sometimes there's not enough evidence. I don't, I feel like the P MTA's and some of the, some of the, not having his, again, I never heard it put the way you did and I'm not an attorney. I want to go to law school.

I chose this, but when you say we have to have substantial evidence to make it, and I've never heard it phrased like that, it's obviously something you're legally bound to do, to have, to know that you could,

You have a reasonable likelihood of conviction.

Very good. Same with that. Well, that's not my phrase.

What does that mean? Because it seems like back in the day, it was, I sound old, but it's like, if she says he did it and he says he didn't, is that just not evidence? Like, I don't know how some of these are going away. We're not that successful. Well, absolutely evident. And frankly, I'm a true believer, like, in terms of if a kiddo discloses, they've been abused, unless you can show me.

Why they're lying? I research is clear. So when you say not evidence, I didn't know if you need

Research is clear around lying about things. It happens, but it is far and few between. It's limited. So when somebody says it happens, most of the time it absolutely happened. In fact, they're probably saying about 1% of what's happened. So when you say we don't have enough evidence, if somebody's saying something happened, or insulation. Is it one other person, whether it's a family member, a parent, or just both get dismissed? With the kiddos, we often get admissions, more so than I ever saw in adults, or a witness, or these days, everybody's recording everything. So you've got something, you know, on video or recording, that sort of thing. We sometimes do confrontation calls where it's like a police, you know. Initiated. It just it just like the number was high, ones that just going to kind of get tossed out. So I didn't know what exactly evidence had to be. It's very, very high, the number of cases that we turn down. It's unfortunate. Yeah. And I think you guys know that DCS does nothing. DCS says it's a child on child, parent, deal with it. If you don't, I'll report you for neglect.

I, I, I don't know, you guys can jump in, please, please, sure.

So the thing I'm saying is that you're asking us to spend public funds on something that's not evidence-based. So I'm just saying, so you're saying. The Supreme Court ruled on in 1970 something was not evidence-based. I think there's, that's argued.

to do an argument to be made that that's no longer true. No, I mean, there's no, there's no, there's no support. You know, it can't, it can't be introduced. Right. So, so, so there's no, there's no support in the in the scientific community that that that can actually show whether someone's telling the truth or not. So you want us to pay for that.

Someday, there might be a tool that we could use that would work that way, and then that might be the tool that we can use. This tool isn't there yet, so, so that's that's one of my concerns. Do you want to comment about funding? Well, I actually say funding is like that's one day in a residential or one less in YDI, yeah.

On the American association website, then.

I do.

And so, if I may, just so I don't forget it, psychologist David Thornton, one of the premier researchers in the world.

did an analysis of polygraph testing and put it through the rigors of science, which he is very much. And he said when he set out to do this research about whether or not there was psychometric validity for polygraph testing, he absolutely thought there was not. And when he when he when he when he took it to the mat and he did his own research on it,

And he gave a online presentation through ATSA about a year ago. He said, what I found was is that it's higher predictive validity than a whole bunch of the actuarial risk assessment scales that have been accepted by the court, adult actuarial risk assessment scales that have been accepted by the court. So this is a

This is a psychologist of the highest level with respect to the issues of sexual misbehavior

who set out to do research, I think, basically kick it to the curb. And what he found was it's just the opposite, that it had better psychometric properties.

Then in his own words, actuarial risk assessment scales that all sorts of really important decisions get made up. And are you saying that this is juveniles or was it for the adult?

I'm saying what the discussion, we're having a discussion about the validity of polygraph testing.

Just . General.

That's correct. Yeah. So, part of the Caldwell, I know, talk specifically about the distinctions between the adult polygraphs that are given to adults and then obviously juveniles and the validity of it being done on juveniles specifically. And so I think that there's a big distinction in the Caldwell.

the overall report was what kind of led to families involvement with the discussion about polygraphs in Maricopa County and then ultimately the AO that sort of eliminated exceptional polygraphs. But there is a distinction between administering polygraphs on adults versus administering polygraphs on juveniles.

and what's valid for either set of people. So I want to know his perspective if it's on juvenile specific polygraphs or if it's just adults in general. Yeah, I'd have to look more closely at what is being referenced as polygraph research that was done in Michael Caldwell's review of Kurt Bamby's previous analysis. Let's Call it what it is. It's Bamby's report.

But one point is, I won't go off, on to my point. My point is this. I don't recall specifically what Dr. Caldwell was talking about in terms of his evidence of it not being valid with juveniles. But I don't think it's the same discussion that I'm having with what I mean by true validity of the instrument.

as has been demonstrated through use in the with adults. I don't think we know the answer, because I don't think, frankly, there's very much, if at all, really good research that's been done with respect to the use of polygraph with juveniles. I don't think we know the answer to that. Yeah, yeah.

But the absence of it doesn't mean that it doesn't have merit. And that's why I felt really important with this group assembled here for me to say out loud, this is not just about recidivism.

This is about trying to help victims. And if we're going to try to help victims, we need to we need to accept the fact. The reality is, is that most of our kids, very few of them in terms of what their presenting issue is, is where the road ends with respect to their sexual misbehavior. And we know and we know that

Those of us that have used polygraph, you know, consistently for 30 plus years, we know that to be true. And so my struggle with how we got to where we got to with the decision to kick polygraph to the curb was is I thought we threw the baby out with the bathwater.

I thought, I thought, because here's the deal. I mean, many of the concerns I hear from many of you articulating, I shared them across time too, and I continue to share them. I just think that we went from one extreme to the other and didn't have a fully complete discussion about

what the instrument brings to the equation, and what it tells us about unknown victims, and then the importance of trying to do right by those people.

as well as the ones that we already know about.

Just to be clear, we represent the, we are here to treat you. Our goal isn't to treat the victim if we never victim is, that's one thing, but our goal isn't to bring these children into treatment to have

them questioned about every victim they may have and then have that reported to the police and to create new charges against that. So if somebody can tell me, honestly, if somebody in this room sitting in this room can give me an incident of somebody being charged for new offenses,

It was a disclosure and as part of the treatment process. I want to know about it because I don't.

I have.

Well, are they Maricopa County or Pinal County?

Pinal County. Well, that's a problem and I agree with you 100% that that's a problem. I had one case where we did file new charges because like I

As I explained before, that was a victim that was completely separated.

They did, police did a full investigation of it. It was an independent investigation. Well, but based on the initial offender saying, I offended on this person, police went out and did an independent investigation and we charged it. But we offered them the ability to not, I'm not sure who offered a misdemeanor or the ability to earn a misdemeanor when they already had that.

So it's not like we're trying to stack the charges. So, and I just wanted to point out, my understanding of ATSA was they were getting the treatment providers, they were saying internationally, because ATSA is an international, internationally, there's a lot of people that are abusing this and it's not being used the way it's supposed to be, but we're going to give the treatment providers the discretion on

whether you want to use it. And then Maricopa County came in and said, no, we're not. We're going to give the judicial officers, in all due respect to the judicial officers, but I'm not sure why they're in the best position to make that decision. And it's my understanding, this is totally anecdotally, that it's become such a, like,

so many hoops to jump through that for the treatment provider, that they're just not asking for them anymore because they're being turned down. They're being humiliated or harassed when they're in court because we're having hearings where there's cases where the treatment team, probation, parents, the kiddo, they're all on board. And then again, no disrespect to defense. They meet with the defense and all of a sudden now the kid doesn't want to do it. So it's, I just, I just, I just think.

Can I just clarify something too? Sorry, it wasn't Maricopa County, it's the administrative office, which is a statewide organization and they issued the rules. Every county has to follow the state.

And I appreciate that clarification.

I mean, I mean, here's, here's, here's what, here's what I really want to say about this, and I want others to be able to...

I agree with 95% of what every one of you has said about the importance of us working at these issues together. I agree with that 100%. I'm just simply saying that I think we have in fact thrown the baby out with the bath water.

by the sweeping move that we've made. And I think that I think that that we're we're losing our ability to make really fine decisions about which cases should go to which silo with respect to kind of the path they make their way through.

Our systems of care, because we've done that.

Polygraphs. Nothing to do with that decision, right? Well, I mean, I have questions about that too, because I'm really unclear about how people end up, you know, being in, and I'm still learning the language because I've been away operationally from the juvenile court system for a little bit, but how somebody ends up in a post-dismissal agreement,

And what was the methodology that was used to make that decision? I mean, I can tell you briefly if you want. So we're not doing a lot of them anymore, right? There's actually, we didn't even talk about boundaries counseling, but there's Tyler Davis has put together what I would consider a pretty good curriculum of boundaries counseling. And

When we have a post-violent dismissal agreement, it's usually for boundaries counseling.

Sometimes we incorporate some like bullying type stuff in community service. And in fact, our treatment providers have given me input that they would like to see more community service because they think that's beneficial to these kids. So that's probably how many are going to be included in all of them. But it's

Those are the kids, usually those are our surreptitious viewing kids or unlawful disclosure, like the revenge \*\*\*\* stuff and that sort of thing. We actually had been taking our itty bitties, the 10, 11, 12, you know, even 12 year olds, even ones with pretty serious histories and saying, I don't want, I don't want this kid to have a criminal history. So we were offering them.

post violent dismissal agreements where they would get a full psychosexual, which we could have a whole discussion about whether you're supposed to do that pre-adjudication or not, and how valid they are. And then they would complete a program, a treatment program. But we were having a lot of issues. The treatment providers were

were having a lot of issues with them because they were not on probation, probably similar to the issues with these DCS kids. And so they were kind of like, well, you don't have any power over me. Like, what are you going to do? You know, and so we really don't do those anymore. So the vast majority of our dismissal agreements are just boundaries counseling.

Rachel, you know, our initial, you know, kind of biggest concern with the PFTAs was, at the beginning, there wasn't a psychosexual. So it's kind of like a internal meeting staffing, you're deciding, hey, it's only a one time or it's this, it doesn't seem as severe as that. And then we were getting them an outpatient and they just disclosed five more victims. So then they were

kind of having to come back and like, how are they getting into the group homes? We had a bunch of them in the group homes that were higher level of concern and care and needing. But we were skipping the psychosexual and I'm glad that they're going to come back like that really. I mean, AOC has talked more than once about how initial assessment is so important to know where a kid should go instead of trying to get and then they're failing and failing and failing moving on to YDI. That's how they get there is we get the psychosexual.

The officials never included a polygraph. Or ABLE for that matter. Or ABLE. But we are, and we're seeing a little bit more of the use of the ABLE, but not, it's certainly not across the board. And honestly, we have a whole bunch of new psychosexual evaluators this year that I, from my perspective, I'm seeing what I would consider crazy reports and crazy recommendations. I don't know how, I just don't, I don't know what their background is, these providers, but we've actually had a couple where they say, I don't think this kid needs any treatment at all, which to me is just shocking when they've now admitted in court that they committed a sexual offense.

I don't have the expectation that us all sitting together in one meeting like this is going to solve everything. What I do hope though is that it opens up some channels for more dialogue about things and to not get

I don't know, defensive, you know, trying to have what are very difficult discussions. I just believe that if we can have some really difficult discussions, most of the people sitting in this room are in it for the same reason that I'm in it. And we can build something that's even more Effective than what we're already doing.

I mean, I don't know what the forum is, but what's clear to me is there's a need, at least I have the need, to have more discussion about some of this stuff so that I can play the role of the chair of this subcommittee on the board to make recommendations.

That matter.

I mean, when I was asked to be part of this board, I said, are we really going to do something or are we going to just, you know, is this just going to be window dressing? Because I'm too bloody old to go through that ritual again. I don't want to go through that ritual, but I do want to walk through fire if we can go, if we can go somewhere and make something better.

For sure.

The reality is, I feel everything that all of you are saying from your perspectives. I do.

I'm gonna rob us of the little time we have, but if there's other questions that other people that's part of this committee have that need to be put out there, I want that to be put out there before we adjourn.

We have one minute left, and then one minute. Well, if you have one minute, you're gonna cut it off for one thing I would just add, and it kind of I some of this stuff. I mean, one of the things I think...

The challenge you have and the task you have is to come up and review what are the evaluative processes, assessments, the monitoring, literally looking at the statute, you know,

and that's that needs to be driven by what the research and the science and best practices, and as Judge McNally.

mentioned when the Caldwell report came out. That was what drove us. And at the time, Justice, Chief Justice Bales was in place and that decision was made. Since then, Healthy Boundaries, I think if you look at ATSA guidelines and other best practice research around this population, aligns very nicely with what they propose as kind of guiding principles how to manage this population. To that point, though, decisions sometimes aren't necessarily alike. I recall a few years ago, we used to have a juvenile drug court. And when Judge Nelly told record bringing me back in time,

Those are very popular. And all due respect to my judicial officers here, we do like our specialty courts at times.

The research and science around juveniles specific to drug court was very blank. It really doesn't exist. There are associations that get stood up to prop up these things for various reasons. It just wasn't there. And I can tell you it was not a popular decision to make, but Judge McNally and I made it to stop drug court.

And I loved it. But it just, the outcomes weren't there, and it really didn't deliver on it. So I say that because sometimes we may not agree with what the research and scientists saying at the time, and it's what we've got. And so the decision are made on that.

We passed it over pretty quickly, but you know, the next evolution of that was when Charlotte was talking about all the individuals on probations. We used to have a real big laundry list of things that every single kid got of this population, no different than our standard population. And part of what the research and science says is sketchy, these are kids. Let's start off, what are the bare minimum things we really need and build from there? So that was another big shift that happened in 2024 with this population. So I share that.

in the context of your charge to follow what the research and the science is saying about the best practices and also look to this group to see what's been going on over the last few years to be reflected.

And you can count on me to do that, for sure. Probably more thorough than some people would want to.

So somebody wants to offer an opportunity to continue to talk. Judge Young, did you have something you wanted to add? Or Blake? I don't know. Blake had to leave and Judge Young is muted.

YA

**Young, Anna**

No, I'm unmuted, actually.

JM

**Jenna Mitchell**

Mhm.

**YA** Young, Anna  
Can you hear me?

**JM** Jenna Mitchell  
Yeah.

**YA** Young, Anna  
Okay, all right. Yeah, no, I was just going to echo what Director Meaux said. You know, I had a drug court up here at one point as well, and I stopped doing drug court in Yavapai County because the evidence just wasn't there, that it was effective. And, you know, as opposed to Healthy Boundaries Court, which we are seeing really good outcomes. And so I really appreciated the presentation today, and it's so nice to see so many familiar faces that I maybe hadn't seen in a couple of years.

So I, I mean, I, before we adjourn and I make a motion to adjourn the meeting, I just simply want to say, if there's an opportunity to get together and to talk more about some of these issues, I'm in. They don't even have to be part of this formal committee to the extent that they can be so that, you know,

the person who's responsible for trying to, you know, browse some of this and put it in written form, that's great too. But I want you to hear me say, because I mean it, I'm with you 95% of the way here. I wanted some of the stuff that I heard coming out of several people's mouths.

for a long time. I just think we can do it better if we have complete discussions about things. And we try not to get bent with each other, because we get bent with each other really fast. So, with that, I make a motion to adjourn the meetings for 4:03. Can I get a motion to adjourn? I second that.

All in favor.

Aye.

We are adjourned.

Thank you all for being here.

● stopped transcription