

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING ARIZONA SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the **Arizona Sex Offender Management Board** (the “Board”) and to the general public that the Board will hold a meeting, open to the public, on **May 18, 2026**.

The **May 18, 2026**, Board meeting will be a hybrid-access meeting. This means that the public has the opportunity to participate in person or virtually. Information on how the public may attend is outlined below.

Please note the location of the **May 18, 2026**, Board meeting:

Arizona State Capitol
1700 West Washington Street (Second Floor Conference Room)
Phoenix, Arizona

Virtual Meeting Access: Microsoft Teams Meeting:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/214523037657236?p=12gk3DQd8fOW9rbuxV>

Meeting ID: 214 523 037 657 236

Passcode: ek7J5F3P

Dial in by phone: [+1 480-536-7328,,269485028#](tel:+14805367328269485028)

Phone conference ID: 269 485 028#

The boardroom will be open to members of the public at 1:15 p.m.

A copy of the meeting agenda is attached. The Board reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda. One or more members of the Board may participate virtually.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(H), the Board may discuss and take action concerning any matter listed on the agenda.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(2), the Board may vote to convene in executive session, which will not be open to the public, for discussion or consideration of records exempt by law from public inspection.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3), the Board may vote to convene in executive session, which will not be open to the public, for legal consultation and advice concerning any item on the agenda.

Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Ms. Ashlesha Naik at 602-223-2611 or via email at AZSOMB@AZDPS.GOV. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation(s).

The **May 18, 2026**, Board meeting will be a hybrid-access meeting. Please see below on how to access the meeting and provide public comment on agenda items, regardless of the chosen access method.

To access the Board meeting virtually:

To watch the Board meeting via computer or a smartphone with a data plan:

- Click: [Join](#) OR
- Click on the following link:
<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/214523037657236?p=12gk3DQd8fOW9rbuxV>
OR
- Open a web browser on your device (Google Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer, Firefox). Then, type or copy the above link into the address or search bar on your browser and press “Enter”.

Procedures for Submitting a Request to Speak Form (Please read through each option carefully):

Public comments for the meeting will be accepted in written form or verbally during the meeting.

- **Written Public Comments:**
 - Written comments for the meeting will be accepted by:
 - Submitting a written public comment form available at:
<https://www.azdps.gov/form/somb-call-to-the-public-written->
 - USPS to Arizona Department of Public Safety/AZSOMB P.O. Box 6488 Mail Drop 3230, Phoenix, AZ 85005. Please note that USPS mail takes time to be delivered. Please plan accordingly to ensure that the Board receives the written public comment by the deadline for the Board to receive a written comment set forth below.
 - **The deadline for the Board to receive a written comment is Friday, May 15, at 5 p.m.** Written comments received after the deadline, including those that are mailed but not received by staff, will not be posted and will not be provided to members.
 - Written comments will not be read into the record; however, staff will post all written comments received by the deadline on the Board’s agenda by the deadline for the Board to receive a written comment set forth above.
- **Virtual Verbal Public Comments.** A virtual public comment is a public comment provided during the meeting via Microsoft Teams and wherein the person giving the public comment is not physically in person during the regular Board meeting:
 - Individuals planning to submit a virtual public comment **must submit a** request to speak form available at <https://www.azdps.gov/form/somb-call-to-the-public-inperson> to provide a virtual verbal public comment at the meeting during the Call to the Public agenda item.
 - **The deadline to submit a request to speak form to provide a virtual verbal comment is Monday, May 18 at 10 a.m.**
 - During the Call to the Public agenda item, those who submitted a request to speak form will be called on to speak virtually. The name in which you submit the form

MUST match the name on the account when signing into the meeting to speak. Prior to the meeting, you may need to download the Microsoft Teams application to your device and create an account to ensure name matching. Individuals who submit the form after the deadline on **Monday, May 18 at 10 a.m.** will not be provided the opportunity to give virtual verbal public comment at the meeting.

- **In-Person Verbal Comments.** Individuals attending the Board meeting in person may provide a verbal public comment during the Call to the Public agenda item.
 - A person who wishes to provide a verbal public comment in-person must complete and submit a request to speak form available at <https://www.azdps.gov/form/somb-call-to-the-public-inperson> to Board staff prior to the start of the meeting. The request to speak form informs Board staff that you will be present in person at the meeting to provide your public comment.
 - The Board asks that request to speak forms be completed and submitted prior to the day of the meeting. The form, however, will also be available to complete and submit to Board staff at the meeting. Individuals who submit a request to speak form after the start of the meeting will not be provided the opportunity to speak.
 - Staff will not switch your registration to virtual if you fail to attend the meeting in person.

All Public Comments

- All Board policies in regard to public comment at in-person meetings are transferable to virtual verbal public comment for meetings.
- Both virtual and in-person verbal public comment will be limited to three minutes by the Board Chair, unless the time limit is adjusted by the Board Chair, at the start of the meeting.
- If submitting a request to speak form, Board staff will call on you to speak during the Call to the Public agenda item. Board staff will only call speakers one time. If a speaker is not ready and available to comment at that time, staff will move on to the next speaker. If you miss your turn, Board staff will attempt again at the end of the list. The order in which names are called will be in the order in which the registrations are received.
- Before beginning your public comment, please state your name and organization (if applicable) for the record.
- If you need assistance with submitting a request to speak form, submitting a written public comment or registering for an in-person or virtual public comment, please contact the Board's office at (602) 223-2611 and a staff member will assist you.

DATED AND POSTED this 13th Day of May, 2026.

By *Jenna G. Mitchell*

Major Jenna G. Mitchell
AZSOMB Program Manager

ARIZONA SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD
Monday, May 18, 2026
Regular Session

1:30 PM

ALL ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA ARE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, INCLUDING REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS.

THE AGENDA AND BACKGROUND MATERIAL ARE PROVIDED TO BOARD MEMBERS ELECTRONICALLY (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MATERIAL RELATING TO POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS) AND POSTED ON THE ARIZONA PUBLIC MEETING WEBSITE AT <https://publicmeetings.az.gov/>. ADDITIONALLY, A HARD COPY OF THE AGENDA IS AVAILABLE AT 2222 WEST ENCANTO BLVD., PHOENIX, AZ. PLEASE EMAIL AZSOMB@AZDPS.GOV TO INSPECT THE DOCUMENTS.

REMINDER: As required by Open Meeting Law, please refrain from engaging in conversations, texts, emails and other forms of communication with individual board members. All questions, comments, deliberations and decisions should be stated to the public body as a whole in open session.

1. ROLL CALL

2. CALL TO THE PUBLIC — This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism, or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

3. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

a. Old Business

1. Letters of Board's Position on SB1709
2. Update on RTS Account
3. Update and Potential Adoption of By Laws V5 (05.13.2026)
4. Update on Pending Legislation – HB2870, HB2966, SB1829, SB1240, SB1239, and SB1709
5. Update on Working Groups
6. Discussion of Call To The Public When They Are Not Respectful of Their Time Limits.
7. Discussion and Potential Adoption of Guiding Principles

b. Subcommittee Reports

c. Discussion and Potential Adoption of Standardized Pre-sentence Investigation and Sex Offender Specific Evaluation Protocol

d. Discussion of Potential Revisions to A.R.S. § 13-3828

e. Call for Future Agenda Items (Deadline June 08, 2026 @ Noon)

4. **THE BOARD MAY VOTE TO CONVENE AND ENTER INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR ANY REASON AUTHORIZED BY A.R.S. § 38-431.03** including personnel matters, confidential records, legal advice, litigation, contract negotiations, employee salary discussions, and international or tribal negotiations. (To do so, the public body must first vote publicly to enter executive session, specifying the reason, and no legal action or final decisions can be made during the session. All motions and voting must be conducted after return to the public session.)

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

NEXT MEETING:

Arizona Sex Offender Management Board
June 15, 2026 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Arizona State Capitol
Second Floor Conference Room
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007



BACKGROUND MATERIAL

May 18, 2026



BACKGROUND MATERIAL

May 18, 2026

LETTERS TO LEGISLATURE
OF
BOARD'S POSITION ON

SB1709



Arizona Sex Offender Management Board

2222 West Encanto Boulevard | Phoenix, Arizona 85009

Home Page: <https://www.azdps.gov/sex-offender-management-board>

Telephone (602) 223-2611 | Email AZSOMB@AZDPS.GOV

April 22, 2026

The Honorable Katie Hobbs
Governor of Arizona
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Hobbs,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

The recording of the meeting is available at: <https://www.azdps.gov/sites/default/files/2026-04/AZSOMB%20Board%20Meeting%20Recording%20April%2020%202026.mp3> (timestamp discussion begins at 1:32:34 and concludes at 1:55:30).

The AZSOMB remains committed to working collaboratively with the Executive Branch and the Legislature to advance sound policy. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beth Goulden', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Beth Goulden
Chairperson
Arizona Sex Offender Management Board



Arizona Sex Offender Management Board

2222 West Encanto Boulevard | Phoenix, Arizona 85009

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April 22, 2026

The Honorable Steve Montenegro
Speaker of the Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Speaker Montenegro,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

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Beth Goulden
Chairperson
Arizona Sex Offender Management Board



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Telephone (602) 223-2611 | Email AZSOMB@AZDPS.GOV

April 22, 2026

The Honorable Janae Shamp
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Senator Shamp,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

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April 22, 2026

The Honorable Warren Petersen
President of the Arizona State Senate
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear President Petersen,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

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Telephone (602) 223-2611 | Email AZSOMB@AZDPS.GOV

April 22, 2026

The Honorable Wendy Rogers
Arizona State Senate Judiciary Committee
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Senator Rogers,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

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April 22, 2026

The Honorable Oscar De Los Santos
Minority Leader of the Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Representative De Los Santos,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

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Beth Goulden
Chairperson
Arizona Sex Offender Management Board



Arizona Sex Offender Management Board

2222 West Encanto Boulevard | Phoenix, Arizona 85009

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Telephone (602) 223-2611 | Email AZSOMB@AZDPS.GOV

April 22, 2026

The Honorable Alma Hernandez
Arizona House of Representatives Judiciary Committee
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Representative Hernandez,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

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April 22, 2026

The Honorable Analise Ortiz
Arizona State Senate Judiciary Committee
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Senator Ortiz,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

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Chairperson
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April 22, 2026

The Honorable Priya Sundareshan
Minority Leader of the Arizona State Senate
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Senator Sundareshan,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

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April 22, 2026

The Honorable Quang H. Nguyen
Arizona House of Representatives Judiciary Committee
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Representative Nguyen,

On behalf of the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZSOMB), I write to respectfully express the Board's opposition to SB1709.

Following review and discussion, the Board voted on April 20, 2026, to oppose SB1709 by a vote of 20 yes, two no, and four abstaining. The Board opposes the bill as written because it takes away the court's discretion, is offense-based rather than risk-based, and would result in prison solely for a de minimis probation violation (e.g., a criminal traffic violation).

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Beth Goulden
Chairperson
Arizona Sex Offender Management Board



BACKGROUND MATERIAL

May 18, 2026

DRAFT BYLAWS

V5 (05.13.2026)

ARIZONA SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD

BYLAWS



Arizona Department of Public Safety

AZ SOMB | 2222 W. ENCANTO BOULEVARD, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85009

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.AZDPS.GOV/SEX-OFFENDER-MANAGEMENT-BOARD](https://www.azdps.gov/sex-offender-management-board)

(602) 223-2611

DRAFT MAY 2026

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DRAFT

ARTICLE 1
NAME, AUTHORITY, PURPOSE AND DUTIES

1.1 NAME:

The official name of this public body is the Arizona Sex Offender Management Board.

1.2 AUTHORITY:

The Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (hereinafter “Board”) derives its existence and authority from Arizona Revised Statutes (hereinafter “A.R.S.”) § 13-3828, et seq.

1.3 PURPOSE AND DUTIES:

The purpose and duties of the Board are those delegated in A.R.S. § 13-3828, as well as other acts the Board believes are necessary to carry out these legislative duties. Consistent with A.R.S. § 13-3828, the Board serves as a multidisciplinary advisory body that reviews, researches, analyzes, develops, and recommends research-informed, evidence-based policies, procedures, guidelines, and standards for the evaluation, treatment, monitoring, and supervision of juvenile and adult persons who have committed sexual offenses, including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities and serious mental illness. The Board’s recommendations are intended to enhance community safety while prioritizing the physical and psychological safety of victims and potential victims. The Board also advises the legislature, and collaborates with state agencies to create consistent treatment guidelines, release conditions, supervision standards, and educational resources for schools and communities. Through this advisory framework, the Board fulfills its legislative mandate and strengthens the safety and well-being of Arizona communities.

ARTICLE 2 MEMBERSHIP

2.1 MEMBERS:

The Board shall consist of appointed members as specified in A.R.S. § 13-3828(A).

2.2 TERM OF APPOINTMENT:

Initial members of the Board shall assign themselves by lot to terms of two, three, and four years. All subsequent members serve four-year terms of office.

2.3 NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT:

New Board members will be appointed by the Appointing Authority as identified in A.R.S. § 13-3828(A).

2.4 COMPENSATION:

Board members are not eligible to receive compensation, but are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant to A.R.S. Title 38, Chapter 4, Article 2.

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**ARTICLE 3
CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

3.1 APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR:

The members of the Board shall nominate and elect the Chair by a simple majority vote of a quorum of the Board. The Chair shall serve for a term of two years and may be reelected so long as their Board term has not expired. Elections of the Chair shall occur at a regularly scheduled meeting, each October of odd-numbered years. Any vacancy occurring in the Chair's position shall be filled by the Board as specified in this section, and the appointee shall fulfill the term remaining by the previous Chair.

3.2 DUTIES OF THE CHAIR:

The duties of the Chair shall include:

- A. Presiding over Board meetings;
- B. Signing appropriate documents and correspondence;
- C. Calling special meetings as necessary;
- D. Establishing subcommittees and appointing the initial chairs of subcommittees;
- E. Nomination of a Vice Chair; and
- F. Such other duties as designated by these bylaws and A.R.S. § 13-3828.

3.3 APPOINTMENT OF THE VICE CHAIR:

The Board Chair shall nominate, and the Board shall approve a Vice Chair by a simple majority vote of a quorum of the Board, who shall serve for a term of two years and who may be reelected so long as their Board term has not expired. Any vacancy occurring in the Vice Chair's position shall be filled by the Board as specified above in section 3.1, and the appointee shall fulfill the term remaining of the previous Vice Chair.

3.4 DUTIES OF THE VICE CHAIR:

Shall be the same as those of the Chair, when the Chair is absent or has a conflict of interest on any matter taken up by the Board. When the Vice Chair is serving in the role of Chair, this shall be documented in meeting minutes or audio recording.

3.5 CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

If both the Chair and the Vice Chair have a conflict of interest on any matter taken up by the Board, the Chair shall designate another Board member to preside over

the Board in that matter, after a simple majority vote of a quorum of the remaining members of the Board.

3.6 CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR ABSENCE:

If both the Chair and the Vice Chair are absent, the Board shall determine a presiding officer by a simple majority vote of a quorum of the remaining members of the Board.

DRAFT

ARTICLE 4 MEETINGS

4.1 REGULAR MEETINGS:

The Board shall conduct regular meetings at least every other month, and more often as needed. Notice shall be supplied to Board members of the date, time, and location of the meeting at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.

4.2 SPECIAL MEETINGS:

Special meetings may be called by the Chair, or if no Chair is in office, the Vice Chair, on an as-needed basis with a minimum of three (3) working days' notice to Board members. A quorum of the Board must be present for a special meeting to proceed.

4.3 SUBCOMMITTEES:

Subcommittees of the Board shall be governed by Article 8 of these bylaws and the Open Meeting Law (A.R.S. § 38-431, *et. seq.*). Recommendations of subcommittees shall be ratified by a majority of a quorum of the Board members at a regular or special meeting.

4.4 ATTENDANCE:

Board members are expected to attend every regular meeting. In the event a Board member cannot attend, he or she shall notify Board staff in a timely manner, so as to facilitate a determination of whether quorum will be met.

4.5 AGENDA:

The conduct of business will be pursuant to an agenda prepared by the staff liaison with approval of the Chair. The agenda will be made a matter of record.

4.6 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Any Board member may add an agenda item to a regular or special meeting of the Board by notifying the staff liaison at least seven (7) working days in advance of the meeting.

4.7 OPEN MEETINGS:

All Board meetings (regular, special, and subcommittee) are subject to the Open Meeting Law (A.R.S. § 38-431, *et. seq.*). If held remotely, the Board shall ensure public access.

ARTICLE 5 QUORUM

5.1 DEFINITION:

The minimum number of Board or subcommittee members required to be present so that the decisions and proceedings are valid. The calculation of a quorum includes vacant seats on the Board. Arizona statutes generally define a quorum as a majority of the members of a board or commission. A.R.S. § 1-216(B). In applying the Open Meeting Law, this definition applies in the absence of a more specific definition.

5.2 DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

If a quorum is not present at the scheduled time of the meeting, business may not be transacted. If following the declaration of a quorum, one or more appointed Board or subcommittee members leave, no longer establishing a present majority, the quorum is lost.

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ARTICLE 6
VOTING AND DEVELOPMENT OF CONSENSUS

6.1 VOTING:

The Board and subcommittees will work to develop consensus on issues under consideration by the Board. If consensus is reached and no formal vote is taken, the consensus decision will be noted for the record. When consensus is not possible, a simple majority vote of a quorum of the Board or subcommittee members, on a motion, which has been seconded, shall be the official decision of the Board or subcommittees. All votes of the Board and subcommittees will be recorded in meeting minutes or audio recording, identifying how each individual member voted on each decision item, including abstentions. Board members abstaining from a vote does not impact the establishment of a quorum.

6.2 PROXY VOTES:

Board members may not vote by proxy.

6.3 CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

A Board member shall abstain from voting when it has been determined by the Board member or by a vote of the remaining Board members that they have a conflict of interest, or appearance of a conflict of interest, as set forth by Article 7 herein.

6.4 VOTE OF THE CHAIR:

The Chair shall vote on all motions before the Board, unless absent or a conflict of interest exists.

**ARTICLE 7:
ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

7.1 DEFINITION:

A “conflict of interest” exists when a member of the Board, or the member’s relative, has a substantial interest in any matter, decision, recommendation, or action of the Board. For purposes of these bylaws, a substantial interest means an interest that is financial or proprietary in nature, whether direct or indirect, and that is not speculative or remote.

Conflicts of interest are governed by Arizona law, including A.R.S. §§ 38-501 through 38-511. These statutes define “substantial interest,” “remote interest,” and “relative,” and establish when disclosure and non-participation are required. In the event of any ambiguity or inconsistency between these bylaws and Arizona law, the statutory provisions shall control.

7.2 DECLARATION OF A CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

If a Board or appointed subcommittee member is unsure whether a conflict of interest exists, outreach shall be done to the Board or subcommittee Chair after review of the agenda prior to the meeting, or during the meeting. Any conflict identified during a regular, special, or subcommittee meeting of the Board will be recorded in meeting minutes or audio recording. The Board or appointed subcommittee member shall remove themselves from any discussion of a topic if a conflict of interest is declared and shall not vote on any motion involving that topic.

7.3 PROHIBITIONS:

No Board or appointed subcommittee member shall accept any stipend, fee, gratuity, or other compensation of any kind or nature from any person, unit, agency, or organization for the purpose of influencing a vote, decision, or recommendations of a Board or appointed subcommittee member or staff member on a matter before the Board or subcommittee.

7.4 CODE OF CONDUCT:

Board members shall conduct themselves in a professional manner and treat public and fellow Board members with dignity and respect, regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other identifying class.

ARTICLE 8 SUBCOMMITTEES

8.1 APPLICABILITY OF BYLAWS TO SUBCOMMITTEES:

To the extent applicable, and unless specifically noted, the bylaws of the Board extend to the operations of each subcommittee.

8.2 SUBCOMMITTEE DEFINED:

A permanent sub-group of the Board formed pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-3828.

8.3 CHAIR OF SUBCOMMITTEES:

Each subcommittee shall have a designated Chair. The Chair of the Board will appoint the initial Chair of each subcommittee for a term of two years. Following the initial term of the subcommittee Chair, subcommittee members may either re-elect the Chair of the subcommittee for subsequent terms, or elect a new Chair for subsequent terms. The appointed Chair of a subcommittee must be a currently appointed Board member.

8.4 APPOINTED MEMBERS OF SUBCOMMITTEES:

The Chair of the Board shall appoint subcommittee members pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-3828.

8.5 REPORT TO THE BOARD:

Reports to the Board on activities from standing subcommittees shall be made in accordance with A.R.S. § 13-3828.

8.6 ADVISORY NATURE OF SUBCOMMITTEES:

In accordance with A.R.S. § 13-3828, each subcommittee is advisory to the Board.

ARTICLE 9
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY STAFF LIAISON

9.1 PROVISION OF STAFF LIAISON SERVICES:

Within the fiscal resources available, the Arizona Department of Public Safety (AZ DPS) shall provide the staff liaison to the Board, designated by the AZ DPS Director.

9.2 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

In addition to other assigned duties, it shall be the duty of the staff liaison or designee to attend all regular and special meetings of the Board and assigned subcommittee meetings, provide administrative staff functions for the Board, and coordinate with the Chair, other Board members, and members of the public on behalf of the Board.

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ARTICLE 10
CONSULTATION TO THE BOARD

10.1 USE OF CONSULTANTS AND TRAINERS:

In recognition of the complexity of the fields of sex offender treatment and management, the Board or any subcommittee of the Board, with the permission of the Chair, may consult with experts to supplement the expertise of the Board and to assist in making informed decisions, to present to the Board, and testify upon request.

10.2 INPUT FROM NON-BOARD MEMBERS:

The Board may also request or receive expertise and input from non-Board members on matters of general standards development, research, or implementation of its mandates.

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ARTICLE 11
ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

11.1 PARLIAMENTARY MATTERS:

All matters not covered by the bylaws, or policies and procedures that have been approved by the Board, shall be governed by the most recently published version of Robert's Rules of Order.

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ARTICLE 12
AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

12.1 PROCESS TO AMEND BYLAWS:

These bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Board by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the seated Board, after a proposed amendment has received one (1) reading at a regular meeting. Proposed amendments shall be distributed to Board members at least thirty (30) days preceding the meeting at which the vote for modification will take place. Adopted amendments take effect immediately upon passage, unless otherwise specified in the motion for amendment.

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BACKGROUND MATERIAL

May 18, 2026

ARS 13-3828.

SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT BOARD;
DUTIES; REPORT

A. The sex offender management board is established within the department of public safety and consists of members who represent urban and rural areas of this state, who have expertise in adult and juvenile issues that relate to sex offenders and who are appointed as follows:

1. The chief justice of the supreme court shall appoint the following members, who may be active or retired and who have sufficient experience in the field:

(a) One member who represents the judicial department.

(b) One member who is a superior court judge.

(c) One member who is either a juvenile court judge or a juvenile hearing officer.

2. The director of the state department of corrections shall appoint one member who represents the state department of corrections.

3. The director of the department of economic security shall appoint one member who represents the department of economic security and who has recognizable expertise in intellectual and developmental disabilities.

4. The director of the department of child safety shall appoint the following members:

(a) One member who is a provider of out-of-home placement services and who has recognizable expertise in providing services to juveniles who have committed sexual offenses.

(b) One member who represents the department of child safety.

5. The director of the department of public safety shall appoint the following members:

(a) Two members who are licensed mental health professionals and who have recognizable expertise in the treatment of adult sex offenders.

(b) Two members who are licensed mental health professionals and who have recognizable expertise in the treatment of juveniles who have committed sexual offenses.

(c) One member who is a public defender and who has recognizable expertise related to sexual offenses.

(d) One member who represents law enforcement and who has recognizable expertise in addressing sexual offenses and victimization.

(e) Three members who are recognized experts in the field of sexual abuse and who represent sexual abuse victims and victims' rights organizations.

(f) One public member who has expertise related to the evaluation, treatment or supervision of sex offenders.

(g) One member who is a clinical polygraph examiner and who is trained in postconviction sex offender testing.

(h) One member who is a current or former probation representative and who has recognizable expertise related to sexual offenses.

(i) One member who is a county director of human or social services and who is appointed after consultation with a statewide group representing counties.

(j) Two members who are members of a county board of supervisors or who are members of the governing council for a jurisdiction that is a contiguous city and county, one of whom represents an urban or suburban county and one of whom represents a rural county, and who are appointed after consultation with a statewide group representing counties.

(k) One member who represents the highway patrol division in the department of public safety.

6. The director of the Arizona prosecuting attorneys' advisory council shall appoint one member who represents the interests of prosecuting attorneys and who has recognizable expertise in prosecuting sexual offenses.

7. The superintendent of public instruction shall appoint one member who has experience with juveniles who have committed sexual offenses and who is in the public school system.

8. The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint two public members who are from different political parties and who have expertise in adult and juvenile issues that relate to sex offenders.

9. The president of the senate shall appoint two public members who are from different political parties and who have expertise in adult and juvenile issues that relate to sex offenders.

10. The governor may appoint up to two additional members who are from different political parties.

11. The director of the department of health services shall appoint one member who represents the Arizona community protection and treatment center.

B. The board shall elect a chairperson from among its membership to serve a two-year term as chairperson.

C. Members who are appointed pursuant to subsection A of this section serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. The initial members shall assign themselves by lot to terms of two, three and four years. All subsequent members serve four-year terms of office. The chairperson shall notify the governor's office of these terms. Board members are not eligible to receive compensation but are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant to title 38, chapter 4, article 2.

D. The board shall do all of the following and shall present its recommendations, as applicable, to the legislature:

1. Develop, prescribe and revise, as appropriate, standard procedures to evaluate adult sex offenders, including adult sex offenders with developmental disabilities and serious mental illness. The recommended procedures shall:

(a) Provide for evaluating adult sex offenders.

(b) Recommend management, monitoring and treatment based on existing research.

(c) Incorporate the concepts of the risk-need-responsivity or another evidence-based correctional model.

2. Develop a procedure for evaluating, on a case-by-case basis, reliably lower-risk sex offenders whose risk to sexually reoffend may not be further reduced by participation in a treatment program that is implemented pursuant to paragraph 4 of this subsection.

3. Develop and recommend methods of intervention for adult sex offenders. The methods must prioritize the physical and psychological safety of victims and potential victims. The methods must also be appropriate to the assessed needs of the particular adult sex offender.

4. Develop, implement and revise, as appropriate, guidelines and standards to treat adult sex offenders, including adult sex offenders with intellectual and developmental disabilities and serious mental illness. The recommended guidelines and standards must incorporate the concepts of the risk-need-responsivity or another evidence-based correctional model. The guidelines and standards may be used in the treatment of adult sex offenders who are placed on probation, imprisoned in the state department of corrections or placed on community supervision. Programs recommended to be implemented pursuant to the guidelines and standards must:

(a) Be as flexible as possible so that the programs may be accessed by each adult sex offender to prevent the adult sex offender from harming victims and potential victims.

(b) Include a continuing monitoring process and a continuum of treatment options that are available to an adult sex offender as the adult sex offender proceeds through the criminal justice system. Treatment options must be determined by a current risk assessment and evaluation and may include group counseling, individual counseling, family counseling, outpatient treatment, inpatient treatment, shared living arrangements or treatment in a therapeutic community.

(c) To the extent possible, be accessible to all adult sex offenders in the criminal justice system, including those adult sex offenders with behavioral, mental health and co-occurring disorders.

5. Establish a subcommittee to make recommendations to the board on revising the guidelines and standards developed pursuant to paragraph 4 of this subsection. At least eighty percent of the members of the subcommittee must be approved treatment providers, including one polygraph examiner.
6. Develop annual recommendations to allocate monies deposited in the state general fund pursuant to section 13-3821, subsection Q and section 13-3824, subsection B. These recommendations shall include recommendations regarding the coordination of spending monies from the state general fund with any monies spent by the state department of corrections, the department of public safety or the judicial department to evaluate and treat adult sex offenders and juveniles who have committed sexual offenses. These recommendations shall be presented to the legislature before the start of each legislative session.
7. Consult on and propose revisions to the legislature, as necessary, to the sex offender community notification risk assessment prescribed in section 13-3825. The board shall consider research on adult sex offender risk assessment and shall consider as one element the risk posed by an adult sex offender who suffers from a paraphilic disorder, psychopathy or a personality disorder that makes the person more likely to engage in sexually violent predatory offenses.
8. Research, either through direct evaluation or through a review of relevant research articles and sex offender treatment empirical data, and analyze, through a comprehensive review of evidence-based practices, the effectiveness of the evaluation and treatment policies and procedures for adult sex offenders that are developed pursuant to paragraph 4 of this subsection. This research shall specifically include reviewing and researching recidivism and factors that contribute to recidivism for adult sex offenders, the effective use of cognitive behavioral therapy to prevent recidivism, the use of polygraphs in treatment and the containment model for adult sex offender management and treatment and its effective application. The board shall advise the legislature regarding revision of the guidelines and standards for evaluation, identification and treatment, as appropriate, based on the results of the board's research and analysis. The board shall also develop and recommend a system to implement the guidelines and standards that are developed pursuant to paragraph 4 of this subsection.
9. In collaboration with the state department of corrections, the judicial department and the board of executive clemency, develop proposed criteria and make recommendations, as appropriate, for measuring an adult sex offender's progress in treatment. The recommended criteria shall assist the court and the board of executive clemency in determining whether an adult sex offender may appropriately be released from incarceration, whether the adult sex offender's level of supervision may be reduced or whether the adult sex offender may appropriately be discharged from probation or parole. At a minimum, the recommended criteria must be designed to assist the court and the board of executive clemency in determining whether the adult sex offender could be appropriately supervised in the community if the offender were released from incarceration, released to a reduced level of supervision or discharged from probation or parole.
10. In collaboration with the state department of corrections, the judicial department, the Arizona community protection and treatment center and the board of executive clemency, make recommendations for the establishment of standards for community entities that provide supervision and treatment specifically designed for adult sex offenders who have developmental disabilities or who are deemed sexually violent persons. At a minimum, the recommended standards must determine whether an entity would provide adequate support and supervision to minimize any threat that the adult sex offender may pose to the community.
11. Review the current delivery of services and the establishment of release conditions at the Arizona community protection and treatment center. The Arizona community protection and treatment center shall implement any guidelines and standards for sex offender treatment and supervision that are established by the board.
12. Research, analyze and make recommendations that reflect best practices for living arrangements for and the location of adult sex offenders within the community, including shared living arrangements. At a minimum, the board shall consider the safety issues raised by the location of adult sex offender residences, especially in proximity to public or private schools and child care facilities, and public notification of the location of adult sex offender residences. The board shall make recommendations for the adoption and revision, as appropriate, of the guidelines as it deems appropriate regarding the living arrangements for and location of adult sex offenders and adult sex offender housing.
13. Develop and make recommendations for revision, as appropriate, of recommended standard procedures to evaluate juveniles who have committed sexual offenses, including juveniles with developmental disabilities. The recommended procedures shall:

- (a) Provide for evaluating juvenile offenders.

(b) Recommend behavior management, monitoring, treatment and compliance.

(c) Incorporate the concepts of the risk-need-responsivity or another evidence-based correctional model based on the knowledge that all unlawful sexual behavior poses a risk to the community and that certain juveniles may have the capacity to change their behavior with appropriate intervention and treatment. The board shall develop and make recommendations for the implementation of methods of intervention for juveniles who have committed sexual offenses. The methods must have as a priority the physical and psychological safety of victims and potential victims and, if the methods do not reduce the safety of victims and potential victims, the methods must also be appropriate to the needs of the particular juvenile offender.

14. Develop, implement and revise, as appropriate, guidelines and standards to treat juveniles who have committed sexual offenses, including juveniles with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The guidelines and standards must incorporate the concepts of the risk-need-responsivity or another evidence-based correctional model. The guidelines and standards may be used for juvenile offenders who are placed on probation or placed under the jurisdiction of the department of juvenile corrections or the state department of corrections. Programs recommended to be implemented pursuant to the guidelines and standards must:

(a) Be as flexible as possible so that the programs may be accessed by each juvenile offender to prevent the juvenile from harming victims and potential victims.

(b) Include a continuing monitoring process and a continuum of treatment options that are available to a juvenile offender as the juvenile proceeds through the justice system. Treatment options may include group counseling, individual counseling, family counseling, outpatient treatment, inpatient treatment, shared living arrangements and treatment in a therapeutic community.

(c) To the extent possible, be accessible to all juveniles who have committed sexual offenses and who are in the justice system, including juveniles with behavioral, mental health or co-occurring disorders.

15. Establish a subcommittee to make recommendations to the board on revising the guidelines and standards developed pursuant to paragraph 13 of this subsection. At least eighty percent of the members of the subcommittee must be approved treatment providers, including one polygraph examiner.

16. Research and analyze the effectiveness of the evaluation, identification and treatment procedures developed pursuant to paragraph 13 of this subsection for juveniles who have committed sexual offenses. The board shall make recommendations for the revision of the guidelines and standards for evaluation, identification and treatment, as appropriate, based on the results of the board's research and analysis. The board shall also develop and prescribe a system to implement the guidelines and standards that are developed pursuant to paragraph 13 of this subsection.

17. In collaboration with law enforcement agencies in this state, victim advocacy organizations, the department of education and the department of public safety, develop and revise, as appropriate, for use by schools educational materials regarding general information about adult sex offenders and juveniles who have committed sexual offenses, safety concerns related to the offenders and other relevant materials. The board shall provide the materials to the department of education, and the department of education shall make the materials available to schools in this state.

E. If sufficient monies are appropriated to the department of public safety, the board may request that individuals or entities that provide evaluation, treatment or polygraph services specifically to sex offenders that conform with the standards developed by the board pursuant to subsection D, paragraph 4 of this section submit to the board data and information as determined by the board. The board may use this data and information to evaluate the effectiveness of the guidelines and standards developed pursuant to this section for all of the following:

1. To evaluate the effectiveness of individuals or entities that provide evaluation, treatment or polygraph services specifically to sex offenders.

2. For any other purpose consistent with this section.

F. This section does not grant the board any rulemaking or spending authority.

G. The attorney general, each county attorney and every agency and political subdivision of this state shall supply the chairperson of the board, on request, with such assistance and information as is reasonably necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section.

H. The board shall adopt recommendations by majority vote, but the recommendations to be voted on are subject to the discretion of the chairperson, who must approve a recommendation that is to be voted on.



BACKGROUND MATERIAL

May 18, 2026

DRAFT GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Arizona Sex Offender Management Board

Guiding Principles

The purpose of the Guiding Principles is to establish the core foundation from which the *Standards and Guidelines* are created and to provide guidance in the absence of a specific standard or guideline.

1. The highest priority of these Standards and Guidelines is to maximize community safety through the effective delivery of quality evaluation, treatment, and management of sex offenders.
2. Sexual offenses are traumatic and can have a devastating impact on the victim and the victim's family.

Sexual offenses violate victims and can lead to common and serious consequences across all areas of victims' lives, including chronic and severe mental and physical health symptoms, as well as social, family, economic, and spiritual harm. Research and clinical experience indicate that victims of sexual abuse often face long-term impact and continue to struggle for recovery over the course of their lifetime. The impact of sexual offenses on victims varies based on numerous factors. By defining the offending behavior and holding offenders accountable, victims may potentially experience protection, support, and recovery. Professionals working with sexual offenders should be alert to how offenders' behaviors may inflict further harm on people they have previously victimized.

3. Community safety and the rights and interests of victims and their families, as well as potential victims, require paramount attention when developing and implementing assessment, treatment, and management of sex offenders, including juveniles who have committed sexual offenses.
4. Offenders are capable of change.

Responsibility for change ultimately rests with the offender. Individuals are responsible for their attitudes and behaviors and are capable of eliminating abusive behavior through personal ownership of a change process. While responsibility for change is the offender's, the therapeutic alliance between the offender and the therapist is a predictive and important facet of responsibility leading to behavioral change. A warm, direct, and empathic therapeutic approach contributes to an offender's motivation to change, as does the supervising professional's positive working alliance with the offender.

The treatment and management of sex offenders requires a coordinated response by the supervision and treatment team and will be most effective when providers and the entirety of the criminal justice and social services systems apply the same principles and work together.

Arizona Sex Offender Management Board

Guiding Principles

Community safety is enhanced when treatment providers and community supervision professionals practice in their area of specialization and work together. This collaboration should include frequent and substantive communication about information that will assist in reducing a sex offender's risk to the community. When the supervision and treatment team members respect the individual roles and mutually agree upon their goals, the sex offender can be treated and managed more effectively.

5. Community supervision is an opportunity, the success of which is dependent upon a sex offender's willingness and ability to cooperate with treatment and supervision and be accountable for their behaviors. Accordingly, members of the supervision and treatment team should employ practices designed to maximize offender participation and accountability.

Offense-specific treatment must address all types of abusive behaviors and not just the legally defined delinquent behavior(s) for which a juvenile was adjudicated.

6. Treatment and supervision are most effective when they are individualized and incorporate evidence-based and research-informed practices.
7. Risk for future sexual offending varies and may increase or decrease. The intensity and duration of treatment and supervision should respond to these variations in risk. Individual assessment and evaluation of risk should be an ongoing practice. Treatment approaches and supervision plans should be modified accordingly. Effective management of risk balances the use of external controls with the development of individual protective factors and self-regulation in order to reduce risk, enhancing the offender's ability to live safely in the community.

Risk assessment of juveniles who have committed sexual offenses should be based on an empirically supported protocol.

The risk assessment protocol, including the selection of instruments, should be tailored to the unique characteristics of the juvenile. A juvenile's level of risk should not be based solely on the sexual offense(s) of adjudication/deferred judgment.

8. Victims have the right to safety, to be informed, and to provide input to supervision and treatment providers.

Physical and psychological safety is a necessary condition for victims to begin recovery related to sexual abuse. Victims experience additional trauma when they are blamed or not believed, which may be more damaging than the abuse itself. Victim impact is substantially reduced when victims are believed, protected, and adequately supported.

Arizona Sex Offender Management Board

Guiding Principles

Supervision and the treatment providers can assist the victim in this by providing information and affording the victim representation in the supervision and management of the offender. Victim input and knowledge of the offender are valuable information for the supervision professionals. Victims are empowered to determine their level of participation.

9. When a child is sexually abused within the family, the child's individual need for safety, protection, developmental growth, and psychological well-being outweighs any conflicting parental or family interests.
10. The Arizona Sex Offender Management Board (AZ SOMB) is working to develop Standards and Guidelines based on current and emerging research and best practices.

Treatment, management, and supervision decisions should be guided by empirical findings when research is available. Since there is limited and emerging empirical data specific to sexual offending, decisions should be made cautiously to minimize unintended consequences.

Treatment and supervision should be individualized and responsive based on the juvenile's risks and needs.

Juveniles who commit sexual offenses vary in ways such as age, development, gender, culture, background, strengths, protective factors, patterns of offending, and number of victims.

11. A continuum of treatment and management options for sex offenders should be available in each community in the state. Additionally, efforts should be made to maximize continuity of care whenever a transition from one treatment setting to another to maximize positive treatment progress.

It is in the best interest of public safety for each community to have a continuum of management and treatment options so that treatment is appropriately matched to the client.

12. Successful treatment and management of sex offenders is enhanced when the supervision and treatment models encourage family, friends, employers, and other members of the community in pro-social support of the sex offender.

Families, friends, employers and members of the community who have influence in the lives of sex offenders can meaningfully contribute to their successful functioning in society. Family and friends should be included in the supportive network in a manner that is sensitive to the possible negative impact of the offense on them.

Arizona Sex Offender Management Board

Guiding Principles

13. Information sharing among supervision and treatment members is vital to public safety and offender success.

Sexual offense-specific treatment is not conducted with the same degree of confidentiality as non-mandated treatment. Sex offenders waive confidentiality with regard to therapeutic and/or public safety goals. When sensitive and private information is shared, the dignity and humanity of all involved must be respected.

14. Sex offense-specific assessment, evaluation, treatment, behavioral monitoring, and supervision should be humane, non-discriminatory, and bound by the rules of ethics and law.

15. The individualization of evaluations, assessment, treatment, and supervision requires particular attention to social and cultural factors. Recognition of these factors is essential when interacting with clients from different social, cultural, and religious backgrounds. A basic premise is to recognize the client's culture, your own culture, and how both affect the client-provider relationship.

This premise extends to all professional members of the supervision and treatment team and to positive support people, and is essential for creating an equitable and inclusive environment, regardless of cultural or lifestyle differences.

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