

Arizona Attorney General's Office Office of Victim Services (OVS) Investigation-based Victim Advocate Project (IVAP) Investigation Flowchart

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE RECEIVES CASE

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

ASSIGNMENT

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

INVESTIGATION

An investigation may take several months to years until completion and includes the collection and review of evidence and conducting interviews

INVESTIGATION CLOSED

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

PROSECUTORIAL REVIEW

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

DECLINATION

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

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

RETURN TO INVESTIGATION

Prosecutor returns the case to the special agent for further investigation

Outcome #1: Declination

Or

Outcome #2: Charges

CHARGES

Possible outcome #2: Case is presented to a Grand Jury or a Judge for formal charges against the suspect(s)

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

*There is no defined timeline for the phases of an investigation.