

# ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

## JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY

Minutes of the Meeting  
December 19, 2017  
1:00 p.m., Senate Hearing Room 1

### Members Present:

Senator Nancy Barto, Co-Chair  
Senator David Bradley  
Senator Kate Brophy McGee

Representative Heather Carter, Co-Chair  
Representative John M. Allen  
Representative Rebecca Rios

### Staff:

Cherie Stone, Senate Research Staff  
Rick Hazelton, House Research Staff

Co-Chair Barto called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and attendance was noted.

### INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Senator Barto welcomed and asked the Committee members to introduce themselves.

Senator Barto outlined the purpose of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on the Department of Child Safety.

### UPDATES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY

#### Update on Report Consolidation – Mark Ewy, Department of Child Safety

**Mark Ewy, Project Manager, Department of Child Safety**, gave an update of the report consolidation and gave a brief history of these reports and the metrics used for reporting. Mr. Ewy explained the recommendations to consolidate the child safety report, financial report and the case load report and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Senator Barto made comments regarding the actions and efforts of consolidating and publicly applauded the agency.

The Committee shared their comments for the topic mentioned above.

## **Update on Court Ordered Removals – Kathryn Blades, Department of Child Safety**

**Kathryn Blades, Deputy General Counsel, Department of Child Safety**, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Department of Child Safety: Court Ordered Removals, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017” (Attachment A) and answered questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee shared their comments for the topic mentioned above.

## **Legislative Update – Kathryn Blades, Department of Child Safety**

Ms. Blades distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Department of Child Safety: Legislative Update, SFY 2018 Strategic Plan” (Attachment B).

**Greg McKay, Director, Department of Child Safety**, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Representative Carter offered comments and publicly applauded the agency for their accomplishments.

Ms. Blades continued with the PowerPoint presentation (Attachment B).

Director McKay gave an update of the Arizona’s foster care system and explained the volume of reports regarding the impact to the child abuse hotline. Director McKay further explained the overall reduction of the foster care system in Arizona and answered questions posed by the Committee.

**Mike Faust, Deputy Director, Support Services Center, Department of Child Safety**, answered questions posed by the Committee.

Director McKay and Ms. Blades continued with the PowerPoint presentation (Attachment B).

Director McKay answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

The Committee shared their comments for the topic mentioned above.

## **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

Senator Barto asked the Committee for any further discussion.

Senator Bradley offered comments.

Director McKay answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Senator Barto asked the audience for public testimony, however, no one came forward.

Attached is a form noting the individual who submitted a Speaker Slip on the agenda items (Attachment C).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Imee L. Andrew  
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)