

Statewide Arizona Methamphetamine Conference – *A Call to Action*

More than 700 participants from all 15 Arizona counties came together February 13-14, 2006 in Phoenix for the largest statewide meeting ever to address a crime problem. Attorney General Terry Goddard and Governor Janet Napolitano hosted the Arizona Methamphetamine Conference: *A Call to Action*. The program tackled all aspects of the meth problem with one overriding objective – stop the meth epidemic that is plaguing Arizona. The multi-disciplinary Conference brought together experts from many fields, policy makers and citizens who shared their experiences in this fight.

Held at the Wyndham Hotel in Downtown Phoenix, the event featured national experts and participants, including law enforcement experts, human services professionals, medical specialists, community-based groups, tribal organizations, faith community representatives and neighborhood activists. Attorney General Goddard welcomed Attorneys General Drew Edmondson of Oklahoma, Mike McGrath of Montana and Wayne Stenehjem of North Dakota who have been leaders in their states in the fight against meth.



(left to right) AG Goddard, AG Edmondson, AG McGrath, AG Stenehjem

Poster Contest

The Conference Reception, sponsored by Target, was held the evening of the first day of the Conference. At the reception, Attorney General Terry Goddard announced the winners of the *Stop Meth* Poster Contest and unveiled the official poster. The three winners of the Contest were chosen from over 300 entries from 42 schools across Arizona. The poster was distributed to Conference participants and will be used in a statewide public awareness campaign to fight meth.

The winning students received individual savings accounts donated by Wells Fargo and a copy of the poster featuring their artwork signed by Attorney General Terry Goddard and Governor Janet Napolitano. Joining Attorney General Goddard in presenting the awards was Dave Howell from the Wells Fargo Foundation.

- First place was awarded to Encarnación “Shawn” Ramos of Andalucía Middle School in Phoenix. He received a \$300 savings account from Wells Fargo.

- Second place was awarded to Zainé Kenealy of Desert Shadows Middle School in Apache Junction. She received a \$200 savings account.
- Third place was awarded to Sarah Bruemmer of Explorer Middle School in Phoenix. She was awarded a \$100 savings account.

An additional 26 students were awarded the distinction of Honorable Mention. All winning submissions are posted on the [Attorney General's Web site](#), along with important information on methamphetamine.



(left to right) Contest winners Sarah Bruemmer, Zainé Kenealy and Shawn Ramos with Dave Howell (Wells Fargo Foundation) and AG Goddard

Public Policy Forum



Attorney General Goddard introduced the Public Policy Forum, one of the highlights of the Conference program. The Forum was moderated by James Belanger, a partner at the law firm of Lewis & Roca. Included on the Panel was an impressive group of state policy makers, including: Anthony Coulson, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, US Drug Enforcement Administration-Phoenix; Kathy Waters, Director, Adult Probation Division, Arizona Supreme Court; Char James, Division of Health, Behavioral Health Services, Navajo Nation; David Berns, Director, Arizona Department of Economic Security; Susan Gerard, Director, Arizona Department of Health Services; Steve Ickes, Division Director, Program Services, Arizona Department of Corrections; Roger Vanderpool, Director, Arizona Department of Public Safety; Rob Evans, Director, Arizona Governor's Division for Substance Abuse Policy; Michael Branham, Director, Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections; Don Stapley, Chairman, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors; and Representative Tom O'Halleran, Arizona House of Representatives.

The panelists spoke about their policy experiences related to Arizona's methamphetamine problem. The majority of the session was devoted to participant presentations about the issues from various perspectives and communities.

Speaker and Panel presentations are posted on the [Attorney General's Web site](#).