

**SPECIAL SESSION
October 25, 2002**

The Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County, Arizona convened in Special Session at the Forensic Science Center located at 701 West Jefferson Street, Phoenix, Arizona, at 1:00 P.M., October 25, 2002, with the following members present: Don Stapley, Chairman; Fulton Brock, Vice Chairman; Max W. Wilson and Mary Rose Wilcox. Absent: Andy Kunasek. Also present: Fran McCarroll, Clerk of the Board; David Smith, County Administrative Officer; and Paul Golab, Deputy County Attorney.

RIBBON CUTTING AND DEDICATION OF THE MARICOPA COUNTY FORENSIC SCIENCE CENTER AND JEFFERSON STREET PARKING GARAGE

Chairman Stapley welcomed those present to the dedication ceremony and recognized several special guests. He said that this new Forensic Science Center was long overdue since Dr. Keen and his staff has been working in overcrowded conditions for years. He indicated that the spaciousness and state-of-the-art instruments and other accoutrements afforded them now would give them a huge edge in processing evidence in their crime-solving efforts. He indicated the Board's satisfaction with the fact that this project was brought in on time and within budget. (ADM2114)

Supervisor Brock lauded Dr. Keen as being one of the foremost forensic scientists in the country and congratulated him on assembling a team of experts to produce such a highly regarded and necessary work product. He said it well reflected his viewpoint on forensic science and was also an appreciated reflection of proficiency and capability for Maricopa County and its citizens.

Supervisor Wilcox said that with the addition of the new Forensic Science Building and the Homeless Campus, the County could take great pride in improving two vital quality-of-life issues for the residents. She said that Maricopa County is very lucky to have Dr. Keen and his staff in residence as he has brought national recognition to his position and the facility.

Supervisor Wilson remarked that he had heard stories about the "old building" but in his eight months on the Board had not gotten an opportunity to visit it. He said his office overlooks both buildings and he took great interest in watching the construction and was very impressed with the result in his preliminary visit last week. He indicated that Dr. Keen had been instrumental in all phases of the design and congratulated him on the fine results of his endeavors.

David Smith mentioned that Dr. Keen had mentored many medical examiners who are now chief medical examiners all around the country. He said that Dr. Keen is often asked to consult on criminal cases because of his expertise.

Dr. Philip Keen said that his mission for this new center was to offer better services to the public and assured all that he and his staff endeavor to treat family members of the deceased with respect. He assured all County residents that he and his staff took pride in approaching the deceased with the dignity they deserve. He said that in designing the center they had attempted to provide the very best equipment and instruments for the staff as well as pleasant working conditions and surroundings. A welcome innovation for all to enjoy is the no-smoking open courtyard and its water fountain where both staff and family members may retire for some quiet time, as needed.

Jesse McGuire was present, with his coronet, to play the National Anthem at the beginning of the dedication and also rendered a special musical selection at the end of the ceremony. Mr. McGuire also commented on the time that he worked for the medical examiner's office as a forensic technician. Following the dedication ceremony, all interested parties were taken on a tour of the facility.

MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTE BOOK

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MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Don Stapley, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

Fran McCarroll, Clerk of the Board