

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Pima County Attorney Barbara LaWall has been a leader for a quarter century in addressing crimes against children; and

WHEREAS, Ms. LaWall has been a visionary in dramatically improving the criminal justice system's response to vulnerable child victims of crime, including those who have suffered physical and sexual abuse; and

WHEREAS, Ms. LaWall, working with a team of governmental and community-based agency leaders, determined the best way to help victims of child neglect, abuse, and sexual assault would be to establish a facility dedicated to serving these child victims as well as a protocol for child abuse investigations that was approved by mental health providers and the Pima County Attorney's Office, the Pima County Sheriff's Department, the Tucson Police Department, the Department of Child Safety, and other police departments; and

WHEREAS, facilitated by Ms. LaWall's leadership, the agency now known as the Children's Advocacy Center for Southern Arizona was first established in 1996 as part of the *Pima County Protocols for the Multidisciplinary Investigation of Child Abuse* in a couple of rooms at Kino Hospital and later moved to a tiny space with a few rooms in a location on Broadway Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, by collaborating with the Pima County Administrator and the Pima County Board of Supervisors, Ms. LaWall secured bond funding for Pima County to build the Children's Advocacy Center and was recognized as a founder of the facility when it was dedicated and opened in October 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of the Children's Advocacy Center of Southern Arizona recommended to its Board of Directors that the Center be named for Pima County Attorney Barbara LaWall, in honor of her coming retirement, and the Board of Directors voted to adopt the recommendation; and

WHEREAS, Ms. LaWall has consistently been a collaborator, supporter and advocate of the work of the Children's Advocacy Center of Southern Arizona throughout her tenure as Pima County Attorney.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in recognition of her instrumental role in starting and sustaining the Children's Advocacy Center of Southern Arizona, the building housing the Center, located at 2329 East Ajo Way, Tucson, Arizona, 85713, be named the "**Barbara LaWall Children's Advocacy Center**" after Pima County Attorney Barbara LaWall, and that the County Administrator and staff are authorized and directed to do all acts necessary to implement this Proclamation, including installing appropriate signage on the building.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of October 2020.

The Honorable Ramón Valadez, Chairman
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Julie Castañeda, Clerk
Pima County Board of Supervisors