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CONTACT: Andrew T. LeFevre

602-364-1156

alefevre@azcjc.gov

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Applauds Governor Brewer's Signing of House Bill 2322

Bill Enhances Law Enforcement Officer and Public Safety by Increasing the Submission of Mental Health Rulings to National Instant Criminal Background Check System

Phoenix, AZ, Friday, May 2, 2014 – Today, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) applauded Governor Brewer's signing of House Bill 2322 which will increase the reporting of mental health rulings by Arizona courts to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

"With Governor Brewer's signature of House Bill 2322, Arizona took an important step towards enhancing law enforcement officer and public safety," said ACJC's Executive Director John Blackburn, Jr. "This was ACJC's top legislative priority and we would like to thank House Public Safety, Military & Regulatory Affairs Chairman Justin Pierce for introducing and championing this important bill through the legislative process."

House Bill 2322 received tremendous support from Arizona's law enforcement community as well as the National Rifle Association and the Arizona State Rifle & Pistol Association.

The original draft of the bill was approved by a vote of the ACJC Commissioners at their meeting on November 14, 2013 after several years of work by law enforcement and criminal justice representatives from around Arizona.

Specifically, HB 2322 will enhance law enforcement officer and public safety by:

- Helping to keep guns out of the hands of those individuals found by the courts to have serious mental health issues
- Creating an automatic transmission of court rulings into and out of the NICS system, improving the reliability and dependability of the system for a variety of uses – including the performance of background checks for firearm purchases for law-abiding gun owners.

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Created in 1982, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission is a statutorily authorized entity mandated to carry out various coordinating, monitoring and reporting functions regarding the administration and management of criminal justice programs in Arizona. The ACJC serves as a resource and service organization for Arizona's criminal justice community on a myriad of issues ranging from drugs, gangs and victim assistance to criminal history, and crime laboratory enhancements.

Executive Director
John A. Blackburn, Jr.

1110 West Washington, Suite 230
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
PHONE: (602) 364-1146
FAX: (602) 364-1175
www.azcjc.gov

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona

