

## Arizona Case Law

♦ *State v. Jones*, 188 Ariz. 388, 937 P.2d 310 (1997): Emergency aid exception justified warrantless entry into defendant's trailer as a welfare check on the other children known to live there, where his girlfriend's daughter died after being beaten; an officer observed the condition of the child's body at the hospital and determined that her death was suspicious; the officer knew that defendant had left the hospital to check on the other children and had not returned; officers went to the trailer, where there was no response to knocks on the door; the door was unlocked, so officers entered to search for the children; and they were in the trailer for only about ninety seconds, just long enough to determine that the children were not present. Information regarding a bloody towel that officers saw in plain view was permissibly used to obtain a search warrant, as the officers' primary motivation in entering the trailer was to protect the children's welfare, and they had reasonable grounds to associate the emergency with the trailer.

♦ *State v. Fisher*, 141 Ariz. 227, 686 P.2d 750 (1984): Warrantless entry of apartment was based on a reasonable belief that there was a person inside in need of immediate assistance, and officers obtained a warrant prior to the search. Emergency aid exception applied, where police went to an apartment complex owned by the murder victim and managed by defendant; answered a telephone call from one of her tenants who was inquiring about the whereabouts of defendant and his wife; entered defendant's apartment in response to the tenant's concern for their safety; and obtained a search warrant based upon their observations. Police had credible information to form a reasonable belief that there may have been victims in defendant's apartment whose lives could be saved.

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