

MARICOPA POLICE BADGE

The wearing of badges by Police Officers is a time honored tradition that dates back to medieval times where knights were sworn in and asked to protect. Knights were known to be brave, trustworthy and of good moral character. The shields carried by the knights often had a coat of arms which displayed the symbol of authority granted by the oath they took. Much like the knights of old, officers wear badges as their symbol of authority to be protectors of peace and the public, granted from the law enforcement oath each officer pledges to uphold. Officers wear them over the heart to ever remind them of their pledge.

Our Maricopa Police Department badge is an oval shield much like the knights of old. It is represented by three different metals, all mined in Arizona. The shield is made up of 80% **Copper** yet presented in highly polished **Silver**, signifying excellence in the primary mission of protection. The banners are presented in **Gold**, signifying the value of the jurisdiction and position from which the employee receives their authority. Lady Justice symbolizes the concept of moral rightness and equal administration of the law without corruption, avarice, prejudice or favor. She is often blindfolded representing impartiality. The scales of justice held in her right hand represent balancing truth and fairness. She holds a double edged sword that is pointed down in her left hand representing reason and justice. The silver rays behind Lady Justice represent our hope for the future. The black background on the shield signifies the beginning of law enforcement in America as a “night watch” in 1635. This group becomes the first modern police department in 1838. The color of blue in the lettering represents the officers who came before us and those who will come after us. The state of Arizona seal symbolizes where our authority comes from.

Our badge is very symbolic of Law Enforcement in America and its role in our legal system.

MARICOPA POLICE SHOULDER PATCH

Our police badge represents the traditions of the police profession. The shoulder patch worn on the sleeves of officers in Maricopa is more significant to the history of the area and values of the community whom the department members serve. The background is a dark blue with grey lettering with Police on top and AZ on the bottom. The outer ring of the patch says City of Maricopa and has a 5 point star on each side. The points of the left star represent the department values of human life, servant service, community partnership, diversity, and professionalism. The star on the right points signifies the skills individual officers possess: integrity, compassion, accountability, excellence and teamwork. In the center of the patch, we have the colors of the Arizona State Flag representing the rays of sunshine and the mountains surrounding the community. The stage coach and horses signify the historical past of the Butterfield and Overland stagecoach line that went through the area in the 1800’s. The green agriculture area represents farming as a way of life in the area.