

[Phoenix Police Museum](#)

Lawless became so bad that a mass meeting was held in Phoenix on April 3, 1872 to “Devise the best means of safety from lawless Sonorans and others.” A volunteer company of men were appointed on a safety committee “to inquire into the character of strangers and to notify the evil disposed to leave.” On April 10, 1874 the president issued a patent for the present site of Phoenix. Phoenix also began its own law enforcement after incorporated as a city on February 25, 1881. Henry Garfias, the first city marshal, was elected by 2,500 residents in 1881 in the first elections of the newly incorporated city. For six years, he served as the primary law enforcement office. Marshal Garfias was an influential community member which most likely helped him get elected as the first Phoenix town marshal. Marshal Garfias staff consisted of his jailer H.C. McDonald.



PHOENIX'S FIRST MARSHALL'S OFFICE & JAIL

In 1929, patrolmen worked six days a week and were paid \$100 a month. The police department moved into the west section of the new city-county building at 17 South 2nd Avenue. The building included jail cells on the top two floors. The museum is located in what was the Phoenix Police Department from 1928 until 1974.

For more info go to: [Exhibits - Phoenix Police Museum](#)