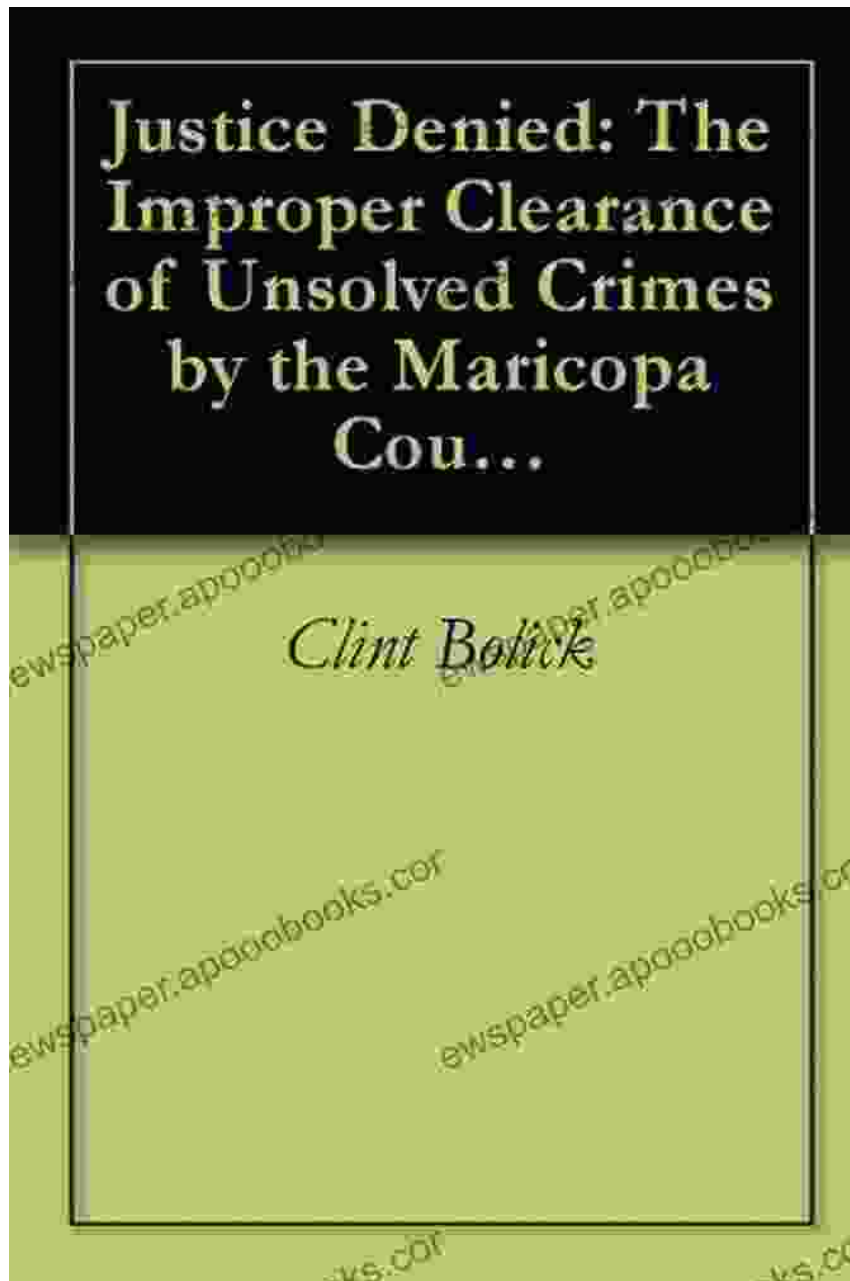


# Unveiling the Mishandlings: An Exposé on the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office and Unresolved Crimes

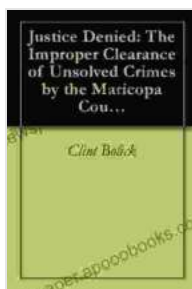


The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), one of the largest law enforcement agencies in the United States, has come under fire for its

controversial practices in clearing unsolved crimes. This article will provide an in-depth exploration of the MCSO's improper clearance rates, highlighting the systemic failures that have allowed thousands of cases to go unresolved.

## A History of Mishandlings

The MCSO has a long history of questionable clearance practices. In 2019, an independent audit revealed that the agency had cleared nearly 30,000 cases as solved without conducting thorough investigations. This practice, known as "ghost investigations," allowed the MCSO to artificially inflate its clearance rates, giving the impression that it was effectively combating crime.



### Justice Denied: The Improper Clearance of Unsolved Crimes by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

by Glenn J. Dorn

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English

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Screen Reader : Supported

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The audit also found that the MCSO had manipulated data to create the illusion of progress. Cases were often cleared based on technicalities, such

as statute of limitations expiring, or by classifying them as "exceptional clearances," which did not require any investigative work.

## **The Human Toll**

The improper clearance of unsolved crimes has had a devastating impact on victims and their families. Cases that should have been thoroughly investigated have been closed prematurely, leaving families without justice or closure.

One such case is that of Angela Brosso, who was murdered in 2009. Her case was initially classified as a suicide, but independent investigators later determined that she was the victim of a homicide. The MCSO's mishandling of the case allowed her killer to remain free.

## **Systemic Failures**

The MCSO's improper clearance practices are a result of systemic failures within the agency. Low staffing levels, inadequate training, and pressure from superiors to close cases quickly have contributed to a culture of shortcuts and cover-ups.

Compounding these issues is a lack of accountability. Internal oversight mechanisms have failed to prevent the MCSO from engaging in these questionable practices, and external oversight has been limited.

## **Consequences and Calls for Reform**

The MCSO's mishandlings have undermined public trust and eroded the integrity of the justice system. Calls for reform have come from victims' families, civil rights groups, and law enforcement professionals.

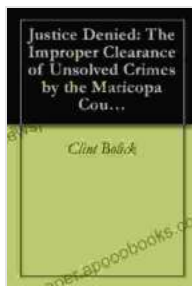
Proposed reforms include:

\* Increased staffing and training \* Independent oversight of investigations \* Improved data tracking and transparency \* Holding MCSO leadership accountable for improper clearances

## Path to Redemption

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office has an opportunity to redeem itself by addressing the systemic failures that have led to the improper clearance of unsolved crimes. By embracing transparency, accountability, and a commitment to justice, the MCSO can rebuild its reputation and serve as a model for law enforcement agencies across the country.

The improper clearance of unsolved crimes by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office is a serious issue that has had a profound impact on victims and the community at large. Systemic failures and a lack of accountability have allowed the agency to evade responsibility for its mishandlings. It is imperative that the MCSO takes immediate steps to address these issues and restore public trust. With the right leadership and commitment, the agency can emerge from this scandal stronger and more effective than ever before.



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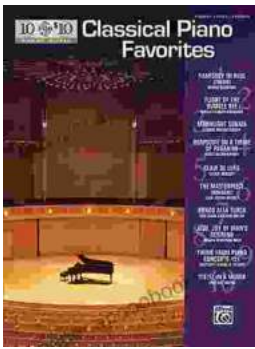
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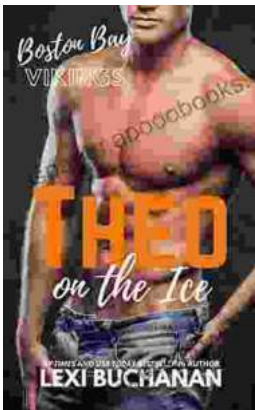
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