

## GOVERNMENT | JUSTICE

## Family proposes new law to regulate bouncers after death of Valley firefighter



Firefighter Luke Jones, shown here with his wife and child, died after an altercation with a bouncer in January. His widow, Heather, and other family members are lobbying for a law to regulate bouncers. (Photo courtesy of the Jones family)

By Lauren Marshall | Cronkite News  
Thursday, July 27, 2017

PHOENIX – After a nightclub bouncer was charged with second-degree murder in the death of a Daisy Mountain firefighter, his widow and other family members are advocating for a law to regulate bouncers.

Named after firefighter Luke Jones, Luke's Law would require bouncers to undergo background checks and training before starting work.

Marc Lamber, one of the family's attorneys, said if the state had training regulations Jones' death could have been prevented.

"Luke's life was taken abruptly for no reason," Lamber said.

The 37-year-old firefighter died after a reported altercation at a Scottsdale nightclub in Phoenix in January, pushed Luke Jones, who was wearing an arm brace, to the ground and repeatedly hit him.

James Goodnow, another attorney representing the family, said they will file a lawsuit over a wrongful death. Centerfolds did not answer phone calls on Thursday.

The club's manager also faces charges of tampering with evidence and hindering prosecution. Lamber said the manager, Timothy Piegari, is accused of [refusing to turn over security footage](#) of the bouncer accused of assaulting Luke Jones.

The family lost love, companionship and guidance, Lamber said.

"What happened to him at Centerfold's should have never happened to anybody, and that's why it's so important that we introduce Luke's Law today to make sure it doesn't happen in the future," Heather Jones, Luke Jones' widow, said.

Goodnow said they are in touch with state legislators in search of the right sponsors for the bill.

The family asks supporters to sign an [online petition](#).

Sign up for daily headlines



## Recent Posts

April 16, 2019,  
Newscast | Cronkite  
News

Apr 16, 2019



A tale of two cities:  
What Baltimore can  
teach Arizona about  
fighting fentanyl  
overdoses

Apr 16, 2019



Behind the scenes at  
the Cronkite News  
sports bureau

Apr 16, 2019



Wednesday's Forecast:  
Rain chances make  
way for sunshine

Apr 16, 2019



Making your wishes  
known: Advance  
directives pushed for  
Healthcare Decisions  
Day

Apr 16, 2019



## Editor's Picks



University of Arizona  
researchers revel as  
photo of black hole  
unveiled

Apr 10, 2019



A long road: Opioid-  
addicted rural  
residents travel  
north to free officers  
for border duty

Apr 2, 2019



The Art Resource  
Center recycles with  
an artistic twist

Apr 2, 2019

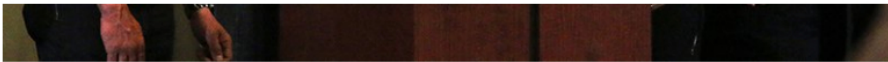


Targeting a killer: UA  
researchers discover  
potential birth  
control for  
mosquitoes

Mar 5, 2019



*Heather Jones hugs a firefighter who signed an online petition asking state lawmakers to pass Luke's Law. (Photo by Lauren Marshall/Cronkite News)*



*Heather Jones hugs a firefighter who signed an online petition asking state lawmakers to pass Luke's Law. (Photo by Lauren Marshall/Cronkite News)*

More than two dozen firefighters who signed the petition showed up at a Thursday news conference to support the family.

California, New York and Louisiana have laws regulating the hiring of bouncers, Goodnow said.

"Arizona needs to do the same," Goodnow said.

Heather Jones said her husband's death was not only a loss to his family but a loss to a community that lost one of its protectors. She said people reached out to her after his death to tell her what he had meant to them.

Jones was a paramedic and volunteer firefighter for the Daisy Mountain crew before the north Valley department hired him.



*Luke Jones volunteered as firefighter and worked as a paramedic before being hired on the Daisy Mountain fire crew. (Photo by Lauren Marshall/Cronkite News)*

"One mother had told me that Luke would sit in the back of the ambulance with her small child and would comfort him as he had to take numerous trips to the hospital," said Jones, adding they had just celebrated their 15th anniversary when he died.

then 15th anniversary when he died.

Heather Jones said when Luke Jones was not working, he enjoyed watching football spending time with his nephews and playing with their daughter, now 2 years old.

“She had his heart from the minute she was born,” Heather Jones said. “I remember them playing and giggling and laughing. It saddens me to think that I’m never going to get to see them (together) again.”

## Leave a Comment

0 Comments

Sort by Oldest ▾



Add a comment...

Facebook Comments Plugin

### WHO WE ARE

Cronkite News is the news division of **Arizona PBS**. The daily news products are produced by the **Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication** at **Arizona State University**.

Find a staff list and description of our beats [here](#).

[Privacy statement](#)

### WHAT WE DO

Learn more about what we do and how to find our content on our broadcast, digital and social media platforms.

Check the latest [weather updates](#).

### USE OUR CONTENT

Find out how your news organization can use [Cronkite News content](#).

### GET IN TOUCH

Sign up for daily headlines



555 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ, 85004  
602.496.5050

[cronkitenews@asu.edu](mailto:cronkitenews@asu.edu)

### READ MORE

[Cronkite Noticias](#)  
[Carnegie-Knight News21](#)  
[Special Reports](#)  
[Cronkite Sports on FOX Sports Arizona](#)  
[Archives](#)  
[Archives 2011-2014](#)  
[RSS](#)

