

FILED  
REBECCA PADILLA  
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

2021 FEB -9 PM 5:02

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PINAL

BY   
DEPUTY

IN THE MATTER OF SETTING THE CURRENT )  
STANDARD CAPACITY LEVEL FOR JURY )  
TRIALS IN THE SUPERIOR COURT THROUGH )  
APRIL 30, 2021 )

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

No. 2021 - 000 17

**WHEREAS**, the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Arizona in and for Pinal County is the chief judicial officer of the county and has administrative authority over all courts in Pinal County, pursuant to Article VI of the Arizona Constitution and Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 2017-79;

**WHEREAS**, the Covid-19 Pandemic has previously resulted in the suspension of jury trials and speedy trial rights; and the continuing impact of social distancing and other necessary safety precautions reduce the availability of prospective jurors and reduce the physical capacity of the Superior Court Courthouse to accommodate simultaneous jury trials; and the Presiding Judge having previously adopted *Standard Capacity Levels* and procedures by *Administrative Order 2020-00066*, issued on December 10, 2020, thereby establishing a system to periodically set the jury trial capacity of the Superior Courthouse;

**WHEREAS**, the Presiding Judge has considered the most recently available public health information, availability of prospective jurors, and the current need for jury trial resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED** adopting a *Standard Capacity Level* for the Superior Court Courthouse at *LIMITED SUSPENSION*, as defined in *AO2020-00066*, effective March 15, 2021. Subject to review, the currently targeted expiration date for this *Standard Capacity Level* is Friday, April 30, 2021, which will be reviewed approximately thirty days prior to that date.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that, when the Criminal Presiding Judge presides over any combined hearing, identifying any trial setting that may proceed to trial, the Criminal Presiding Judge shall give preference to in-custody defendants, who require an eight person jury, and that can be completed within four trial days. This preference is required to end the current full suspension of trials and manage the restricted pool of available jurors at this stage of the Pandemic.

ORIGINAL



**Dated** this 9th day of February 2021, pursuant to the direction by and delegated authority from the Presiding Judge,



Honorable Robert Carter Olson,  
Criminal Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Judges, Pinal County

Kent Volkmer, Pinal County Attorney

Rebecca Padilla, Clerk of the Court

Leo Lew, Interim County Manager

Catherine Whelan, Indigent Defense Services

Kate Milewski, Public Defender

Todd Zweig, Court Administration

Rod McKone, Adult Probation Department

David Rodriguez, Chief Criminal Deputy County Attorney

Victims' Assistance Program

Odette Apodaca, Chief Deputy

Jackie McMurry, Office of Indigent Defense Services (to distribute to Attorneys on the Indigent Appointment lists)