



ATTENTION:

Pursuant to Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Order 2020-48 and Pinal County Superior Court Administrative Order 2020-00025;

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:

- It is requested that absent a stipulated motion to continue being filed, counsel appear telephonically for pre-trial conferences, review hearings, status review and other non-mandatory settings. The Court must initiate telephone calls from the bench so counsel are required to notify the divisional JA no later than 24 hours prior to the hearing to provide a telephone number.
- EDC/PRC and Arraignment hearings will continue to be appearance settings unless otherwise requested/ordered. The Court will take appropriate steps to limit the number of people in courtrooms and maintain compliance with CDC guidelines to the extent possible.
- County Attorneys and Public Defenders are encouraged to consider providing notes to one attorney and allow that attorney to remain on the line throughout the calendar to expedite the process.
- Sentencing hearings and change of plea hearings may be held as appearance hearings ***provided all parties are prepared to proceed***. Counsel must notify the Court if their client's appearance is necessary.
- It is also requested that Defense counsel discourage Defendants' family members or friends from attending court with the Defendant. The Court is limiting the number of people in each courtroom and non-essential personnel will not be allowed in the courtroom.

- Victims retain their right to appear and be heard but may do so from the victim rooms in courtrooms equipped with such. Victims may also appear telephonically to provide the Court with a statement.
- Settlement Conferences will be vacated until further notice. Counsel may notify the Court and request an appearance hearing for a Change of Plea or Sentencing.
- Until the Court receives new directives/guidelines from State and Federal authorities, motions to continue will be liberally granted.

We thank you for your patience and cooperation during this difficult and uncertain time. Updates to this policy will be disseminated as soon as implemented in order that our stakeholders are aware of any major changes in process. If you have questions please contact any of the judicial divisions or Court Administration for further guidance.

<https://www.pinalcountyaz.gov/Judicial/Judges/Pages/home.aspx>