

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA**

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT OF  
PRESIDING JUDGE FOR THE CIVIL  
DEPARTMENT

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} ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
No. 2025-100

Maricopa County Superior Court Local Rule 1.2 authorizes the Presiding Judge to select Department Presiding Judges. Additionally, Rule 92 of the Rules of the Supreme Court and Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Order 2017-79 authorizes the Presiding Judge to make judicial assignments.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** appointing the Honorable John Blanchard as the Presiding Judge for the Civil Department effective July 1, 2025, to manage the day-to-day operations and provide administrative oversight over all cases and judges assigned to the Civil Department, direct initial and continuing training for the Civil Department, and conduct regular departmental meetings. In addition, the Civil Department Presiding Judge shall serve as the representative of the Superior Court in Maricopa County on any statutory or non-statutory committees related to the Civil Department as appointed by the Arizona Supreme Court.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** this Administrative Order replaces Administrative Order No. 2022-068.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2025.

/s/ Pamela Sue Gates  
Hon. Pamela Sue Gates  
Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Hon. Ann A. Scott Timmer, Chief Justice, Arizona Supreme Court  
Superior Court Judges and Commissioners  
Hon. Joseph W. Malka, Clerk of the Superior Court  
Raymond L. Billotte, Judicial Branch Administrator  
Bob James, Deputy Court Administrator  
Luke Emerson, Civil Court Administrator