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6 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA**
7 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTIES OF MARICOPA AND APACHE**
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9 IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION
10 OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN
11 THE GILA RIVER SYSTEM AND
SOURCE

W-1, W-2, W-3, W-4 (Consolidated)
and
CV 6417

12 IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION
13 OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN
14 THE LITTLE COLORADO RIVER
SYSTEM AND SOURCE

**ORDER APPROVING ADWR'S
ONLINE STATEMENT OF
CLAIMANT FORM**

15 **CONTESTED CASE NAME:** None

16 **HSR INVOLVED:** None

17 **DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY:** Order approving the proposed electronic Statement of
18 Claimant form for use on the Arizona Department of Water Resources website.

19 **NUMBER OF PAGES:** 2

20 On April 8, 2025, the Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR")
21 requested approval of an electronic version of the Statement of Claimant form that
22 ADWR intends to provide on the agency's website. A series of attachments to the request
23 demonstrated how previously filed SOC's appear with the data entered into the proposed
24 online form.

25 ADWR's efforts to modernize water adjudication processes where possible is
26 applauded and staff from the Office of the Special Master will certainly participate in any
27 user testing. While the new online form looks different because of changes in
28 typography, all the necessary information is included. Recognizing that even if the form

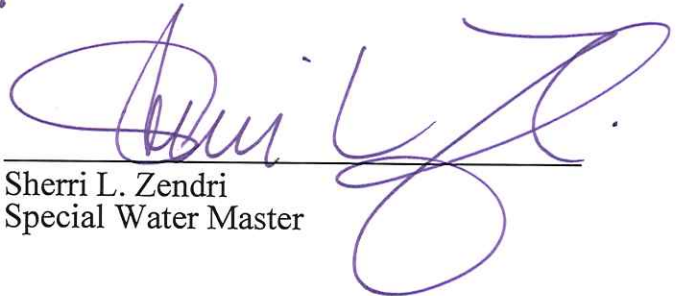
1 is more accessible, the form still may be challenging for some claimants regarding what
2 information is being requested, therefore it is expected that explanations and instructions
3 will be easily available, and as intuitive as possible, to further assist claimants.

4 ADWR also stated in their request, that based upon the agency's reading of the
5 Court's March 6, 2023, Order Regarding Form Verification, "standard notarization would
6 still be required for all SOC forms." At this juncture in ADWR's process improvement
7 journey, "standard notarization" may still be the most efficient way to verify a signature,
8 however it is not the only method, nor the "required" method, and ADWR is encouraged
9 to continue evaluating alternatives as the agency's, and the court's, technical capabilities
10 improve.

11 **IT IS ORDERED** approving ADWR's PDF output form for the online SOC as
12 proposed and allowing for ADWR to make any non-substantive design changes.


13 DATED this 11th day of April 2025.

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Sherri L. Zendri
Special Water Master

On April 11, 2025, the
original of the foregoing was delivered to the
Clerk of the Apache County Superior Court for
filing and distributing a copy to all persons
listed on the Court-approved mailing lists for
Case No. CV 6417 and to the Clerk of the
Maricopa County Superior court for filing and
distributing a copy to all persons listed on the
Court-approved mailing list for Case No. W-1,
W-2, W-3, W-4


Cheryl Kee