

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
MARICOPA COUNTY

July 31, 2025

CLERK OF THE COURT

SPECIAL WATER MASTER
SHERRI ZENDRI

S. Ortega
Deputy

In Re: Augustine E. & Mary B. Avechuco
Contested Case No. W1-11-2329

FILED: August 4, 2025

In Re: The General Adjudication
of All Rights to Use Water in the
Gila River System and Source

W-1, W-2, W-3, W-4 (Consolidated)

In Re: Status Conference

MINUTE ENTRY

Courtroom: CCB 301-VC-CV

10:36 a.m. This is the time set for a Status Conference before Special Water Master Sherri Zendri.

The following attorneys and parties appear virtually and/or telephonically:

- Augustine E. Avechuco, Current Landowner, assisted by Jose Garcia Fonseca of Court Interpretation and Translation Services to act as interpreter of the Spanish language
- Enrique Avechuco, representative son for Current Landowners Augustine and Mary Avechuco
- Garrett Perkins observing for St. David Irrigation District
- Michael Carter for Gila River Indian Community
- Susan Montgomery for Yavapai Apache Nation and observing for the Pasqua Yaqui Tribe
- Joe Sparks and Jana Sutton for San Carlos Apache Tribe
- Rosemary Avila observing for Tonto Apache Tribe
- Candace French for Navajo Nation
- Katrina Wilkinson for SRP

A record of the proceedings is made digitally in lieu of a court reporter.

Discussion is held regarding the appropriate protocol for the interpreter to translate Spanish into English as it relates to this hearing.

Based on the discussion held and for purposes of this hearing,

Jose Garcia Fonseca, the court-appointed Spanish interpreter, shall continue interpreting for Augustine E. Avechuco for this hearing.

Case status is discussed.

Augustine Avechuco confirms that he is interested in moving forward with potential water rights.

Further discussion is held regarding issues with interpretation. Mr. Sparks requests that the parties be allowed to hear the statement from the Court in English, the recitation of the interpreter of the Court's statement to the witness, the witness' answer in Spanish, and the interpreter's interpretation of the witness' response.

For the reasons stated on the record, the Court will keep Mr. Sparks' request in mind for future hearings.

Discussion is held between the Court and Enrique Avechuco. The Court explains the steps in obtaining a water right. The Court will provide specific instructions as a "Later" to this minute entry regarding basis of right, contact information for the Arizona Department of Water Resources, and the setting of a status conference in January 2026.

11:11 a.m. Matter concludes

A copy of this order is mailed to all persons listed on the Court-approved mailing list.

LATER:

IT IS ORDERED scheduling a status conference for **Thursday, January 29, 2026 at 10:00 am** for Mr. Avechuco to update the Court on his progress. The status conference will be held using the Court Connect program. Instructions for Court Connect are attached as Attachment A. If you receive this Order by email, click on the red box "Join Court Connect Hearing" on the attached instructions to make an appearance. If you do not receive this Order by email, log into the Court Connect program on the internet by typing <https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster>. If you do not have access to the internet, you may attend telephonically using the telephone number and access code included in the instructions for Court Connect.

The Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") database confirms that Mr. Avechuco has amended the Statement of Claimant #39-3139 and claimed a priority date of March 30, 1979 for domestic well #55-633009. Mr. Avechuco must now complete part 2 of this process and provide a basis of legal right for his claim. For this well, with a 1979 claimed

priority date, Mr. Avechuco must apply through ADWR's Surface Water Permitting Division for a permit to appropriate water.

Mr. Avechuco is encouraged to reach out the ADWR for assistance regarding the permitting process. Forms for the permit application may be found on the ADWR website at <https://www.azwater.gov/surface-water/surface-water-forms-and-documents>.

To contact ADWR:

- Statements of claimant application and processing - 1-866-246-1414
 - Email: smitchell@azwater.gov
 - website: <https://www.azwater.gov/adjudications>
- Groundwater Well Registration – (602) 771-8527
 - Email: wells@azwater.gov
 - website: <https://www.azwater.gov/permitting-wells>
- Surface Water Permitting (Basis of Rights) – (602) 771-8621
 - Email: surfacewater@azwater.gov
 - website: <https://www.azwater.gov/surface-water/surface-water-overview>

To contact the Office of the Special Water Master please call (602) 372-4115.

Attachment A



Court Connect Hearing Notice for In re Augustine E. & Mary B. Avechuco

This hearing will be conducted through the new Court Connect program offered by the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County. This new and innovative program allows Court participants to appear online, rather than in a physical courtroom. Hearings are preferably conducted by video conference but can also be conducted by phone. Lawyers (and self-representing litigants) are responsible for distributing this notice to anyone who will be appearing on their behalf.

All participants must use the JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING button or the dial in information below to participate.

Participants: Please follow the steps below to participate in the remote proceeding.

1. Click the JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING button below.
2. Enter your full name and role in name field.
3. Wait for the facilitator to admit you to the proceeding.

Remember to keep this email handy so you can use it to participate in the following proceeding.

Case Name: In re Augustine E. & Mary B. Avechuco

Contested Case No. CV6417-33-5704

Start Date/Time: Thursday, January 29, 2026 at 10:00 am

JOIN COURT CONNECT HEARING

Dial-in Information: +1 917-781-4590

Private Dial-in Information: for privacy purposes, you can block your phone number by dialing *67 +1 917-781-4590

Dial-in Access Code: 688 970 203#

Tiny URL: <https://tinyurl.com/specialwatermaster>

To ensure an optimal experience, please review the brief Court Connect training prior to the hearing: [Here](#)