

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

IN THE MATTER OF DESIGNATING AN  
APPOINTING JUDGE FOR  
CONSERVATORSHIPS PURSUANT TO  
SUPREME COURT RULE 66

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
No. 2022-037

Arizona Supreme Court Rule 66 sets forth the process for the appointment of a conservator over client files and records, client trust accounts, and other affairs related to a law practice when an attorney or legal paraprofessional is no longer able to practice law due to suspension, incapacity, disability, death, or other reasons. The process is initiated by a petition for a conservatorship filed by the State Bar of Arizona or any other interested person. Per Rule 66, the petition is made to the presiding judge of a superior court or the presiding judge's designee (the "appointing judge"). In Maricopa County Superior Court, most other conservatorships are handled by the Probate and Mental Health Department.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED**, to efficiently and effectively process petitions for the appointment of a conservator to protect client interests, the Presiding Judge of the Probate and Mental Health Department is designated as the "appointing judge" for all petitions filed pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 66.

Dated this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.

/s/ Joseph C. Welty  
Hon. Joseph C. Welty  
Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Hon. Jay M. Polk, Presiding Judge, Probate and Mental Health Dept.  
Hon. Pamela Gates, Presiding Judge, Civil Department  
Hon. Jeff Fine, Clerk of the Superior Court  
All Probate and Mental Health Department Judges and Commissioners  
All Civil Department Judges and Commissioners  
Raymond L. Billotte, Judicial Branch Administrator  
Shawn Friend, Deputy Court Administrator  
Bob James, Deputy Court Administrator  
Keith Kaplan, Probate and Mental Health Department Administrator  
Luke Emerson, Civil Department Administrator