

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPLICATIONS FOR  
DEATH CERTIFICATES FROM THE  
ARIZONA BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
No. 2022-039

Arizona Revised Statutes § 36-324 and Arizona Administrative Code R9-19-314 and R9-19-315 set forth the eligibility criteria for persons to request and receive a copy of a certificate of death registration from the Bureau of Vital Records. Pursuant to the Administrative Code, people otherwise ineligible to receive a death certificate can obtain the certificate pursuant to a court order. There is no statute or procedural rule that sets forth the process for requesting a court order for a death certificate, and there are no guidelines for when an otherwise ineligible person should receive a court order to obtain a death certificate. The Court finds that these requests are best evaluated and decided by the Probate and Mental Health Department.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that all requests to the Superior Court for a court order to obtain a death certificate from the Bureau of Vital Records will be assigned to and handled by the Probate and Mental Health Department.

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