

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTING
EXPERT WITNESSES FOR INDIGENT
DEFENDANTS IN CRIMINAL CASES

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 2025-037

Rule of Criminal Procedure 6.7(a) allows indigent defendants to seek an appointment of an expert witness at county expense. The Court may appoint such an expert if the Court finds that such assistance is reasonably necessary to adequately present a defense at trial or at sentencing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Criminal Department will utilize the following process when a defendant seeks the appointment of an expert witness in the above circumstances:

- (1) The Court first determines if the defendant is indigent.
- (2) Upon such a finding of indigency, the defendant, or defendant's counsel, must seek funding for an expert from the Maricopa County Office of Public Defense Services ("OPDS").
- (3) If the defendant, or defendant's counsel, does not reach a satisfactory arrangement with OPDS, the defendant shall seek the Court's intervention.
- (4) If the Court issues an order appointing an expert witness, the order shall state that OPDS must pay for the court-appointed expert witness, and the order shall state the hourly rate of the expert and estimated number of hours.

Dated this 5th day of March, 2025.



Hon. Jennifer E. Green
Criminal Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Hon. Joseph Welty, Presiding Judge
All Criminal Department Judges and Commissioners
Raymond L. Billotte, Judicial Branch Administrator
Bob James, Deputy Court Administrator
Nicole Garcia, Criminal Department Administrator
Rosemaire Peña-Lynch, Office of Public Defense Services