

**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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 2025-039

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 or their designee is designated as the "appointing judge" for all petitions filed pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 66.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED Administrative Order No. 2022-037 is hereby rescinded.

Dated this 14th day of March, 2025.

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

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Hon. Dean Fink, Presiding Judge, Probate and Mental Health Dept.
Hon. Danielle Viola, 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
Brian Bledsoe, Probate and Mental Health Department Administrator
Luke Emerson, Civil Department Administrator