

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

IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING FIVE
NEW FAMILY JUDICIAL DIVISIONS AND
REBALANCING FAMILY JUDICIAL
DIVISION CASELOADS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 2025-067

Rule 10 of the Superior Court Local Rules for Maricopa County establishes the Downtown, Northeast, Northwest, and Southeast Regional Judicial Districts and Rule 10.2 of the Superior Court Local Rules for Maricopa County establishes the procedures by which Family matters will be assigned to those Regional Judicial Districts. Administrative Order 2025-065 establishes the administrative boundaries in Family cases for each Regional Judicial District.

In order to ensure balanced judicial workloads, thereby improving case flow and reduced time to resolution for family law cases, the Court has determined that the existing Family Department workload warrants the creation of five new Family judicial divisions. On an interim basis, Superior Court Commissioners will preside over the five new Family judicial divisions.

Furthermore, the Court has determined that it is appropriate to locate the new Family judicial divisions at the Northeast, Northwest, and Southeast Judicial Districts to allow for the consolidation of Probate Department operations in the Downtown Judicial District.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED establishing five new Family Department divisions: DRJ32, DRJ33, DRJ34, DRJ35, and DRJ36. Appendix A identifies the Commissioner assigned to each new Family judicial division, the division's location, and the date that the division will begin operating.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Family Department Administration will identify active pre- and post-decree cases to reassign to the five new Family judicial divisions. In addition, Family Department Administration will balance caseloads across all 33 Family judicial divisions. If necessary to rebalance caseloads, Family Department Administration may reassign active cases to a different Regional Judicial District.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a minute entry will be issued for each pre- and post-decree case that is being reassigned because of caseload rebalancing. Due to processing limitations, the minute entries will issue on a rolling basis, following the schedule in Appendix A.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that cases reassigned to a different Family judicial division and/or Regional Judicial District pursuant to the above process will only be further reassigned if a change of judge is granted under Rule 6 or Rule 6.1 of the Arizona Rules of Family Law Procedure or a Motion to Transfer Regional Judicial Districts is granted under Maricopa County Local Rule 10.3.

DATED this 1st day of May, 2025.

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

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Hon. Ronda Fisk, Family Department Presiding Judge
All Family Court Judges and Commissioners
Hon. Joseph Malka, Clerk of the Superior Court
Raymond L. Billotte, Judicial Branch Administrator
Cheri Clark, Deputy Court Administrator
Adis Bosnic, Family Department Administrator
Michael Nimitz, Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court

APPENDIX A

Family Division	Judicial Officer	Judicial District	Minute Entries Issue Reassigning Cases	Division Begins Operating
DRJ36	Commissioner Hope Fruchtman	Northeast	05/12/2025	06/02/2025
DRJ32	Commissioner Joanna Reihing	Southeast	05/19/2025	06/09/2025
DRJ33	Commissioner Justin McGuire	Northwest	05/27/2025	06/16/2025
DRJ35	Commissioner Laura Giaquinto	Northeast	06/02/2025	06/23/2025
DRJ34	Commissioner Monica Garfinkel	Southeast	06/09/2025	06/30/2025