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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PRESIDING CIVIL COMMISSIONER	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2026-162

The Civil Department designates a Presiding Civil Commissioner to assist the Presiding Civil Judge in the administration of the Civil Department. This Administrative Order sets forth the duties of the Presiding Civil Commissioner.

Presiding Civil Commissioner

The Presiding Civil Commissioner serves as the senior commissioner in the Civil Department and works with the Presiding Civil Judge and Associate Presiding Civil Judge to effectively run the Civil Department. As such, the Presiding Civil Commissioner is "on call" to answer questions from judicial officers, staff, stakeholders, and maintains communication with those parties as well as the rest of the management team.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, to effectively assist the Presiding Civil Judge and Associate Presiding Civil Judge, the following duties are delegated to the Presiding Civil Commissioner:

- Identifying critical calendar court dockets that must remain in operation daily.
- Assigning judicial officers to cover critical calendars as needed.
- Assigning tasks to available judicial officers as needed.
- Reviewing commissioner vacation requests to determine if they can be accommodated.
- Training of civil commissioners, including Rotation Training, ongoing Departmental training, and training of commissioners new to the Civil assignment.
- Organizing and conducting (along with the Civil Presiding Judge) training of pro tempore judicial officers.
- Attending and contributing to stakeholder meetings, and other meetings as requested by the Presiding Judge and Civil Presiding Judge.
- Serving on Committees as requested by the Civil Presiding Judge.

Dated this 17 day of November, 2026.

Hon. John Blanchard
Civil Department Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Hon. Pamela Gates, Presiding Judge
All Civil Judges and Commissioners
Raymond Billotte, Judicial Branch Administrator
Bryan Farrell, Deputy Court Administrator
Luke Emerson, Civil Department Administrator