

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

IN THE MATTER OF ASSIGNMENT OF
SEVERANCE TRIALS

}
} ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
} No. 2015-113

The number of dependency and severance cases filed in the juvenile court has increased dramatically in recent years. The goal of the Superior Court is to conduct the trials in these cases when the cases are ready for trial, so as to ensure that permanency occurs for the children and their families as soon as possible. To reach this goal, judges on other rotations will be trained to conduct severance trials and will begin presiding over severance trials, as of January 4, 2016, as directed by the Presiding Judge.

This process will require juvenile judges to re-assign cases, for purposes of severance trials only, to another judge. Typically, only the Juvenile Presiding Judge can re-assign a case, and pursuant to Local Rule 2.7, only the Juvenile Presiding Judge or juvenile court administrator can re-assign a case after a change of judge is granted. Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED authorizing judges assigned to a juvenile rotation to assign cases that are ready for a severance trial to judges on other judicial rotations, for purposes of the severance trial only, pursuant to the schedule and parameters provided by the Presiding Judge, Civil Presiding Judge, and the Juvenile Presiding Judge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED authorizing judges assigned to a juvenile rotation to re-assign cases, for purposes of a severance trial only, to a different judge on a non-juvenile rotation after granting a change of judge pursuant to Rule 2(B) of the Rules of Procedure for the Juvenile Court.

Dated this 13th day of October, 2015

/s/ Janet E. Barton

Honorable Janet E. Barton
Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Hon. Randall H. Warner, Civil Presiding Judge
Hon. Colleen McNally, Juvenile Court Presiding Judge
All Juvenile Judges
All Civil Judges
Raymond L. Billotte, Judicial Branch Administrator
Richard Woods, Deputy Court Administrator
Sheila Tickle, Juvenile Court Administrator