

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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In the Matter of: )  
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WAIVER OF CHIEF PROBATION )  
OFFICER MINIMUM HIRING )  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COCHISE )  
COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Administrative Directive  
No. 2015 - 18

A.R.S. § 12-251(C) provides that “Probation department personnel shall qualify under minimum standards of experience and education established by the supreme court. Such standards may differ for counties of less than three-hundred-thousand persons from counties with three-hundred-thousand persons or more.” ACJA § 6-106(F)(1)(a), Personnel Practices, states that chief probation officers must possess “At minimum, a master’s degree in business, management, the social sciences or a related field from an accredited college or university.” ACJA § 6-106(F)(2) provides that a presiding judge may request that the administrative director waive this requirement for good cause.

The Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in Cochise County has requested a waiver of this requirement pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-251(C). Cochise County is a county of less than three-hundred-thousand persons and has identified a hardship in the ability to recruit a chief probation officer who meets requirements regarding educational experience as stated in ACJA § 6-106(F)(1)(a). The waiver will provide the Cochise County Probation Department the ability to promote an applicant chosen to the position of chief probation officer, contingent on meeting these requirements within a reasonable time.

Therefore, pursuant to ACJA § 6-106(F)(2),

IT IS DIRECTED that a waiver of ACJA § 6-106(F)(1)(a) is granted regarding the educational requirements allowing the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in Cochise County to appoint Patricia Munoz to the position of Cochise County Chief Probation Officer.

Dated this 1st day of July, 2015.

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David K. Byers  
Administrative Director