

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

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In the Matter of: )  
 )  
ADOPTION OF THE PHASE 3 ) Administrative Order  
CASE PROCESSING STANDARDS ) No. 2015 - 60  
 ) (Affecting Administrative  
 ) Order No. 2014-108)  
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On October 17, 2012, the Steering Committee on Arizona Case Processing Standards (the Committee) was established by Administrative Order No. 2012-80. As required by the Administrative Order, the Committee reviewed the national model time standards, statutory requirements, court rules, and business processes of Arizona courts and recommended provisional case processing standards for all case types in the municipal, justice, and superior courts. Through Administrative Order No. 2013-95, the Supreme Court adopted the provisional standards. The Court also charged the Committee with addressing implementation issues, including the development of case processing time standard reports.

Administrative Order No. 2014-81 adopted final case processing standards for Phase 1 which included civil, felony, juvenile delinquency and status offenses, juvenile neglect and abuse, and juvenile termination of parental rights in the superior court. Additionally, standards were adopted for misdemeanor driving under the influence cases in the justice and municipal courts.

Administrative Order No. 2014-108 adopted final case processing standards for Phase 2 which included family law dissolution and allocation of parental responsibility, and juvenile adjudication hearings cases in the superior court and civil traffic cases in the justice and municipal courts.

For Phase 3, the Committee recommended final case processing standards for probate administration of estate cases, probate guardianship/conservatorship cases, and probate mental health cases in the superior court. Additionally, standards were recommended for justice court civil and misdemeanor cases in the justice and municipal courts. The Arizona Judicial Council recommended approval of these standards on June 15, 2015.

These case processing time standards apply to aggregate categories of cases for a court and are separate and distinct from statutory time limits that are required by statute, rule, or case law for processing a specific case.

Therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that the case processing time standards for Phase 3 listed in Appendix A for probate administration of estate, probate guardianship/conservatorship, and probate mental health cases in the superior court and justice court civil and misdemeanor cases in the justice and municipal courts are adopted as final effective January 1, 2016.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

1. The Presiding Judge and the Clerk of Court of each county shall review the case processing time standard reports and institute measures to enhance the quality and timeliness of data entered into the case management systems.
2. The Administrative Director shall be responsible for maintaining the Arizona Case Processing Time Summary Chart detailing the specifications for calculation of time to disposition and excluded time for each case type.
3. The Committee shall continue to submit periodic reports, address implementation issues as described in the Committee's Interim Report, and recommend final case processing standards for additional case types to the Arizona Supreme Court for its approval and adoption.
4. The final case processing time standard reports, but not drafts, shall be open to the public.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015.

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SCOTT BALES  
Chief Justice

**APPENDIX A  
CASE PROCESSING STANDARDS**

	<u>CASE TYPE</u>	<u>ARIZONA STANDARD</u>
Phase 1	Superior Court Civil	60% within 180 days 90% within 365 days 96% within 540 days
	Criminal Felony	65% within 90 days 85% within 180 days 96% within 365 days
	Criminal DUI Misdemeanor	85% within 120 days 93% within 180 days
	Juvenile Delinquency and Status Offense	<u>Youth in detention:</u> 75% within 30 days 90% within 45 days 98% within 75 days <u>Youth not in detention:</u> 75% within 60 days 90% within 90 days 98% within 135 days
	Juvenile Neglect and Abuse	<u>Permanency Hearing:</u> 98% of children under 3 years of age within 180 days of removal 98% of all other cases within 365 days of removal
	Juvenile Termination of Parental Rights	90% within 120 days 98% within 180 days
Phase 2	Civil Traffic	65% within 30 days 80% within 60 days 95% within 90 days
	Family Law Dissolution and Allocation of Parental Responsibility	75% within 180 days 90% within 270 days 98% within 365 days
	Juvenile Neglect and Abuse	<u>Adjudication Hearing:</u> 98% within 100 days of filing

	<u>CASE TYPE</u>	<u>ARIZONA STANDARD</u>
Phase 3	Probate Administration of Estates	50% within 360 days 75% within 540 days 98% within 720 days
	Probate Guardianship/Conservatorship	80% within 90 days 98% within 365 days
	Probate Mental Health	98% within 15 days
	Justice Court Civil	75% within 180 days 90% within 270 days 98% within 365 days
	Misdemeanor	98% within 180 days

*See Arizona Case Processing Time Summary Chart for further specifications.*