

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

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In the Matter of: )  
 )  
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ) Administrative Order  
STEERING COMMITTEE ON ) No. 2015 - 90  
ARIZONA APPELLATE CASE )  
PROCESSING STANDARDS )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

The Judiciary’s Strategic Agenda, *Advancing Justice Together*, includes “Improving Court Processes to Better Serve the Public” as one of its five goals. Adopting case processing time standards is among several initiatives identified to advance this important goal.

The Steering Committee on Case Processing Standards was established by this Court in 2012 to recommend time standards for Arizona’s trial courts. While this Committee’s work continues, substantial progress has been made towards recommending time standards for all cases filed in superior and limited jurisdiction courts. It is now time to adopt standards for our appellate courts.

In 2014, the National Center for State Courts published the “Model Time Standards for State Appellate Courts.” These standards, for the disposition of cases in the state courts, were developed and supported by the Conference of State Court Administrators, the Conference of Chief Justices, the Conference of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal, the American Bar Association, and the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks.

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

IT IS ORDERED as follows:

1. The Steering Committee on Arizona Appellate Case Processing Standards is established.
2. PURPOSE: The Committee shall review the national time standards for processing cases in the appellate courts and develop and recommend case processing standards for Arizona. The Committee will take into account statutory requirements, court rules, court jurisdiction, time reference points already established and measured, data availability, and any other relevant factors in recommending statewide appellate case processing standards. The Committee may also make recommendations for implementing case processing standards.
3. MEMBERSHIP: The membership of the Committee is attached as Appendix A. The Chief Justice may appoint additional members as may be necessary.

4. MEETINGS: All meetings shall comply with the Arizona Code of Judicial Administration § 1-202: Public Meetings. Committee meetings shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Committee Chair.
5. REPORTS: The Committee shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Arizona Judicial Council for approval no later than March 1, 2016.
6. STAFF: Under the general direction of its Administrative Director, the Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide staff to assist the Committee and, as feasible, to conduct or coordinate research and consult with external experts as requested by the Committee.

Dated this 4th day of November, 2015.

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SCOTT BALES  
Chief Justice

Appendix A

**Steering Committee on Arizona Appellate Case Processing Standards**

***Chair***

Justice Ann Timmer  
Arizona Supreme Court

***Members***

Hon. Michael Brown  
Chief Judge  
Court of Appeals, Division 1

Hon. Peter Eckerstrom  
Chief Judge  
Court of Appeals, Division 2

Janet Johnson  
Clerk of Court  
Arizona Supreme Court

Ruth Willingham  
Clerk of Court  
Court of Appeals Division 1

Jeff Handler  
Clerk of Court  
Court of Appeals Division 2

Kimberly A. Demarchi  
Attorney  
Appellate Bar Representative

Dr. William Mangold, Jr.  
Public Member