

DESERT RIDGE JUSTICE COURT
MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA

IN THE MATTER OF LIMITING
COURT OPERATIONS DURING A
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The Arizona Supreme Court has issued an Administrative Order directing all Arizona Courts to take appropriate measures to reduce the number of in-person hearings being conducted in the courtroom in an effort to reduce the risk associated with the public health emergency concerning the spread of COVID-19.

Therefore, pursuant to the directive in Administrative Orders 2020-38, Maricopa County Superior Court Order and 2020-48, Arizona Supreme Court the Desert Ridge Justice Court is implementing changes to normal daily operations.

IT IS ORDERED as follows:

Criminal Arraignments- The court will allow telephonic appearances, and will grant continuances for defendants requesting them. The court will limit the number of individuals in the court room at one time to eight. (8)

Pre-Trial Conferences-Defendants contact information has been provided to the County Attorney. If a Defendant wishes to have a continuance, a motion can be emailed or faxed to the court.

Criminal Bench Trials-Will proceed as scheduled unless continuances are requested. The court will only allow eight individuals in the court at one time.

Criminal Jury Trials-Per the above orders are continued until further notice.

Walk-ins for Civil Traffic-At this time we are not accepting walk-ins. Please either email, drop in the red box outside the court or fax your motion with your request. Fines may be reduced based on your request and documentation, as well as MVD license holds released.

Eviction Actions-Hearings will be set in blocks not to exceed ten for specific times on the calendar. Defendants are encouraged to appear telephonically. Eviction Hearings are currently set for April 2nd and each following Tuesday and Thursday as previously done.

Civil Bench Trials-Will proceed as scheduled unless parties seek a continuance. The court will only allow eight individuals in the court at one time.

Garnishment Hearings-Parties may appear telephonically. Defendants are encouraged to contact the Plaintiff to obtain a hardship reduction to 15%.

Default Hearings-Parties may appear telephonically.

Civil Traffic Hearings-Continued at this time to May. Court Staff will provide via email /mail alternative methods to resolve rather than appearing in person.

Small Claims Hearings-All hearing have been continued till May 2020.

Mediations-All mediations have been continued till May 2020

Orders of Protection Hearings-All hearings will be conducted in person. No more than eight individuals will be allowed in the court. Plaintiff's seeking to dismiss or modify orders must appear in person with proper identification.

Weddings-All weddings will be conducted outside the building until further notice.

Dated this 23rd of March, 2020

Cathy Riggs, Justice of the Peace
Desert Ridge Justice Court