

IN THE APACHE JUNCTION MUNICIPAL COURT  
COUNTY OF PINAL, ARIZONA

Apache Junction Municipal

IN THE MATTER OF DISPENSING	)	Administrative Order
JUSTICE DURING A PUBLIC	)	No. 2020-01
HEALTH EMERGENCY TO PREVENT	)	
THE SPREAD OF COVID-19	)	
_____	)	

WHEREAS, the Presiding Judge of the Apache Junction Municipal Court is the Chief Judicial Executive Officer of the Court and has administrative supervision.

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Arizona issued Administrative Order 2020-48 to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the general population and the Superior Court of Pinal County issued Administrative Order 2020-005.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Court will remain open to ensure due process for all unless mandated to cease operations. The Court will manage the calendar to limit in-person court proceedings. If an in-person court proceeding is required, the Court will not schedule hearings necessitating the presence of more than 10 individuals to allow for social distancing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED limiting any required in-person proceedings to attorneys, parties, victims and witnesses.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the State may appear by telephone at all proceedings

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that **arraignments** may be done by telephone to limit the exposure of the public and court staff. If an in-person arraignment is held and the Defendant wishes to enter a guilty plea on a charge that does not involve a victim, the State will be notified that the Court intends to accept the plea and proceed to sentencing. DUI arraignments will proceed as scheduled.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED directing the parties scheduled for **Pre-Trial Conferences** to confer and exchange discovery to obviate the need for an in-person appearance. The parties shall inform the Court of the status of the case and an in-person appearance will be scheduled if needed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all **bench trials** presently scheduled will proceed unless a party files a motion to continue.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any party requesting a continuance of any hearing and/or trial must file a written Motion to Continue or Stipulation to Continue. The motion should include the opposing party's position for an expedited ruling.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all **in-custody** proceedings will be held and counsel is to appear. The Court's facility can accommodate a meeting with Defendant and counsel where exposure to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is limited.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED the court may consider quashing warrants if the Defendant contacts the court to minimize the need for Defendants to appear on a walk-in basis to have warrants quashed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED rescheduling delinquent payments to resume in July 2020 if the Defendant contacts the Court regarding inability to pay.

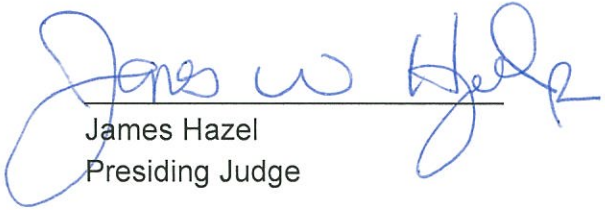
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED setting Order to Show Cause Hearings in July 2020 for those Defendants who are delinquent in their payments and have not contacted the Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Court will continue to issue ex parte protective orders and conduct contested hearings. Contested hearings will be limited to the parties, counsel and witnesses.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED discouraging the issuance of warrants for Defendants who do not contact the Court and fail to appear during this public health emergency.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED this administrative order will be amended to include all additional mandates by the Arizona Supreme Court and the Pinal County Superior Court to address the public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dated this 25th day of March, 2020.



James Hazel  
Presiding Judge

Original: City of Apache Junction Clerk

Copies: Stephen McCarville, Pinal County Superior Court Presiding Judge

Bryant Powell, City Manager

Eric Yuva, City Prosecutor

Joel Stern, City Attorney

Public Defenders