

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

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In the Matter of: )  
 )  
MARICOPA COUNTY PRESIDING ) Administrative Order  
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE TERM ) No. 2000- 86  
OF OFFICE )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Administrative Rule VI-A, Section 2 adopted most recently by Administrative Order 96-32 provides for election of a presiding justice of the peace in counties with four or more justices of the peace. The presiding justice of the peace has a two-year term commencing on January 1 and expiring on December 31 in even numbered years.

Maricopa County justices of the peace, through the presiding judge of the county, have proposed that the term for the presiding justice of the peace commence on July 1 and terminate on June 30 in odd numbered years to allow newly elected justices of the peace who take office in January to participate in election of the presiding justice of the peace.

It is preferable for all presiding justices of the peace in the state to have the same term and the impact of a change in term on the rest of the counties must be assessed. In order to provide time to make this assessment and, in the interim, accommodate the request of the presiding judge of the county, an extension of the term of the current presiding justice of the peace in Maricopa County is needed.

Now therefore, pursuant to Article 6, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that the term of the presiding justice of the peace currently in office in Maricopa County is extended to June 30, 2001 and that the next presiding justice of the peace shall serve until December 31, 2002 subject to further order.

Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2000.

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THOMAS A. ZLAKET  
Chief Justice