

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

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In the Matter of: )  
 )  
EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF THE ) Administrative Order  
CAPITAL CASE OVERSIGHT ) No. 2022 - 05  
COMMITTEE ) (Amending Administrative  
 ) Order No. 2019-29)  
 )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

On December 6, 2007, this Court entered Administrative Order No. 2007-92, which established the Capital Case Oversight Committee (“CCOC”). The purposes of this Committee included monitoring and facilitating efforts to reduce the number of capital cases in the Maricopa County Superior Court, which had reached a crisis level in 2007.

By a series of subsequent administrative orders, this Court extended the Oversight Committee’s term. These orders also expanded the Committee’s scope to include capital case issues of statewide concern. Most recently, Administrative Order No. 2019-29 extended the term of the Capital Case Oversight Committee to December 31, 2021.

The December 2021 Report of the Oversight Committee noted that the number of pending capital cases in the Maricopa County Superior Court is now less than a third of what it was when the Committee was established. The number of pending capital cases statewide has similarly declined. However, the 2021 report cited reasons to continue the Oversight Committee and recommended that the Court again extend its term. After due consideration of the Oversight Committee’s recommendation,

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

IT IS ORDERED that that the term of the Capital Case Oversight Committee is extended to December 31, 2025, as follows:

1. **Purpose.** The Oversight Committee shall continue to identify issues affecting the administration of capital cases and propose recommendations to improve the judicial administration of these cases.
2. **Membership.** The Chair and individuals listed in Appendix A are appointed as members of the Oversight Committee beginning upon entry of this Order and ending on December 31, 2025. The Chief Justice may appoint additional members to the Oversight Committee, or replace a representative, as may be necessary or appropriate. The Chair may establish, and designate members for, advisory subcommittees and workgroups to help the Oversight Committee fulfill its responsibilities.

3. **Meetings.** The Oversight Committee shall meet as often as the Chair deems appropriate. All meetings shall comply with the public meeting policy of the Arizona Judicial Branch, Arizona Code of Judicial Administration § 1-202.
4. **Reports.** The Committee shall submit an annual report at the December 2025 meeting of the Arizona Judicial Council and sooner if the Chair deems it appropriate.
5. **Administrative Support.** The Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide administrative support and staff for the Committee, who may, as feasible, conduct or coordinate research as requested by the Committee.

Dated this 12th day of January, 2022.

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ROBERT BRUTINEL  
Chief Justice

## **Appendix A: Members of the Capital Case Oversight Committee**

Hon. Ronald Reinstein (ret.), Chair  
Arizona Supreme Court Special Projects

Hon. Kent Cattani  
Arizona Court of Appeals

Hon. Patricia Starr  
Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County

Hon. Kellie Johnson  
Superior Court of Arizona in Pima County

Hon. Lacey Gard  
Superior Court of Arizona in Pinal County

Ms. Donna Hallam  
Arizona Supreme Court Staff Attorneys' Office

Mr. Jeffrey Sparks  
Office of the Arizona Attorney General

Mr. Dan Levey  
Arizona Crime Victims Law Group

Mr. John Canby  
Office of the Maricopa County Public Defender

Mr. Rick Miller  
Maricopa County Office of the Legal Defender

Rosemarie Peña-Lynch  
Maricopa County Office of Public Defense Services

Ms. Kirstin Valenzuela  
Maricopa County Attorney's Office

Mr. David Rodriguez  
Pinal County Attorney's Office

Mr. Natman Schaye  
Arizona Capital Representation Project

Mr. Rick Unklesbay  
Public Member