

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

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In the Matter of: )  
 )  
WAIVER OF COURT SECURITY ) Administrative Order  
OFFICER FIREARMS TRAINING ) No. 2023 - 160  
SEQUENCE FOR THE SUPERIOR )  
COURT IN YAVAPAI COUNTY )  
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The Arizona Code of Judicial Administration (ACJA) § 5-306 governs the administration and authority of a court security officer to use a firearm while on duty. Such authorization requires, among other things, that the court security officer complete the Court Security Officer (CSO) Training Academy and the CSO Firearms Training Academy (“Academies”). Specifically, ACJA § 5-306(F)(1) provides that “[u]pon completion of the CSO Training Academy, . . . an officer must complete the CSO Firearms Training Academy to become authorized to carry a firearm . . .”

Due to the timing that each academy is scheduled to take place, the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court in Yavapai County has requested a waiver of the academy completion sequence for certain court security officers. The waiver will permit the following court security officers in the Superior Court in Yavapai County to expedite completion of the mandatory CSO training: Steven Wheat, James Henderson, Eric Paul Rathbone, and Jason Stachura. Therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that a waiver of the sequence in which the Academies must be completed as required by ACJA § 5-306(F)(1) is granted, and Court Security Officers Steven Wheat, James Henderson, Eric Paul Rathbone, and Jason Stachura are permitted to attend the CSO Firearms Training Academy before, instead of after, the CSO Training Academy.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all other firearms authorization requirements of ACJA § 5-306 remain unchanged for these CSO’s, including the requirement to complete both the CSO Training Academy and the CSO Firearms Training Academy before being granted authorization to carry a firearm while on duty, except during firearms training.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this waiver is effective on and after the date of signature.

Dated this 4th day of October, 2023.

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ROBERT BRUTINEL  
Chief Justice