

Arizona Supreme Court Data Standardization Advisory Committee

AGENDA

February 24, 2026, 10:00 am – 12 noon

[Zoom Webinar Link](#)

Passcode: 891514, Webinar ID: 961 4369 1963

Conference Call Line: 888-788-0099 (US Toll Free)

9:50 a.m.	Zoom Webinar Open for Members, Attendees and Presenters	Laura Ritenour, AOC
Meeting Opening		
10:00 a.m.	Welcome to Members and Proxies, and Roll Call of Attendees Review/Vote on January 27, 2026, Meeting Minutes	Mike Malone, Chair
10:05 a.m.	Call to the Public	Mike Malone, Chair
10:08 a.m.	AOC Statistics Team – Updates from Team and Questions from Members	Richard “Rico” Rivera, AOC
Items from Previous Meeting/s		
10:30 a.m.	2027 – 2030 Remaining Required Data Elements Review - Review/Discuss/Vote (Laura Ritenour and Michael Wise)	
New Items		
11:10 a.m.	Code Standardization Webpage Updates (Laura Ritenour)	
11:25 a.m.	Request from all Case Management Systems – Please email Sentence Type/Codes list to DataStandards@courts.az.gov by March 20, 2026 Please email in a list of your case management system’s Sentence Codes/Types (might be called something similar in your CMS) so we can begin to review and standardize this code set. Thank you.	
Ongoing Business		
11:30 a.m.	Updates, Comments, and Questions from Members	
	Reminder - The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar. There is no meeting in March.	Mike Malone, Chair

11:30 a.m.	Closing Comments and Adjournment (motion needed)	Mike Malone, Chair
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All times are approximate. The Chair reserves the right to set the order of the agenda. For any item on the agenda, the Committee may vote to go into executive session as permitted by Arizona Code of Judicial Administration §1-202. Please contact Laura Ritenour at (602) 452-3675 with any questions concerning this agenda. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting Laura Ritenour at (602) 452-3675. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange for the accommodation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: For any item listed on the agenda, the Committee may vote to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussion or consultation with an attorney employed by or representing any judicial entity regarding legal advice, pursuant to the Arizona Code of Judicial Administration, Code Section 1-202(C)(5)(c).

DATA STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 27, 2026

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., via Zoom Webinar

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Odette Apodaca, Gil Bensinger, Laurie Allen, Daniel Bowman, Summer Dalton, Ralph Garcia, Christopher Fong, Adele May, Susann Holland, Randy Kennedy, Niltza Flores, Angel Manquero as proxy for Tania Nieblas, Ginger Rodas, Marcos Romero, Danica Sanchez, Adam Walterson, and Michael Malone

Not Present: Laura Bergan, Ester Reeves, Katrina Solis, Jeanette Wiesenhofer, and Dean Hammel

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and Guests: Janet Barbeau (Maricopa), Gail Pals (AOC), Mary Bellefeuille (Mesa), Lorri Behunin (Chandler), Jennifer Ferguson (Maricopa), Melanie Cluff (AOC), Anirban Mitra (AOC), Allen Wheeler (Pima), Jessica Cooley (Pima), Scott Fitzpatrick (Scottsdale), Michele Gillich (AOC), Patrick McGrath (Chandler), Jennifer Jones (AOC), Laura Ritenour (AOC), Laura Elena Navarro Cobos (Paradise Valley), and Michael Wise (AOC)

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The January 27, 2026, meeting of the Data Standards Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Mike Malone, meeting chair. Mike welcomed members and proxies, took roll call, established a quorum, and noted the meeting was being recorded.

B. December 2, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Mike Malone displayed the December 2, 2025, draft meeting minutes. Mike asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Odette Apodaca made a motion to approve the minutes, and Randy Kennedy seconded the motion. The committee voted and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Call to the Public

Mike Malone made a call to the public for comments. There was no response.

II. ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NEW ITEMS

D. Review/Discuss/Vote – Code Standardization Requests

i. Code Standardization Requests – Hearing Results Code Set

Laura Ritenour presented the Hearing Results Description spreadsheet and reviewed previous work completed. Jennifer Ferguson discussed the findings on the MCSC hearing results. A question was proposed as to whether courts that do not currently use hearing results would be required to adopt them in the future. It was clarified that the field is desired but not mandatory; however, if courts choose to implement hearing results, they must use the standardized list. The committee also discussed potential statistical uses for this data and whether or not hearing result descriptions should follow a past-tense format rather than present-tense. There was no vote on this item.

ii. 2027–2030 Required Data Elements Draft Checklists

Laura Ritenour presented the draft checklists for 2027–2030 and requested member feedback. Members discussed whether implementation should align with actual data requests and the workload involved compared to anticipated usage. The discussion included whether providing data to AOC could reduce the need for monthly reports and the issuing a new Administrative Directive for the upcoming checklist cycles. To allow members additional time for review and feedback with their teams, this item was tabled until the February meeting.

E. Review/Discuss/Vote – New Code Standardization Requests

i. Review/Discuss/Vote – New Code Standardization Requests: Small Claims Subtypes

Laura Ritenour presented the request for small claims subtypes. Janet Barbeua and Gail Pals provided additional context noting its connection to the eFiling project with MCJC.

Summer Dalton made a motion to approve the request, and Laurie Allen seconded. The committee voted and the motion passed unanimously.

ii. Appearance Reason Code Set

Laura Ritenour requested committee members send a list of the Appearance Reasons to the code standards team so they can begin reviewing.

F. FYI – Stats Team Participation in 2026 Meetings

Mike Malone reminded the committee that a member of the AOC Statistics Team will join meetings during February, May, August, and December of 2026.

G. Updates, Comments and Questions from Members

There were no updates, comments, or questions from members.

H. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ginger Rodas at 10:53 a.m.

I. Next Committee Meeting Date

Tuesday, February 24, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Zoom Webinar

Data Standardization Advisory Committee

Discussion - Remaining Required Data Elements (RDE) Review

Background

The National Center for State Courts published the National Open-Court Data Standards (NODS) in 2019. AOC leadership believed the NODS framework could be helpful for data standardization efforts for Arizona courts.

In March 2020, the Steering Committee on Data-Based Court Performance and Data Standards was established by [Administrative Order 2020-53](#). The AO states that the “committee is charged with identifying court data that is needed to make data-based decisions related to case processing, court policy and management decisions, allocation of court resources, and data exchanges with other government entities. The committee will make recommendations regarding what data elements need to be collected in each case type, data governance, and other steps needed to improve data quality. “ [Committee members](#) include judges, Clerks of Court, chief information/technology officers, and court administrators (both in general and limited jurisdiction courts).

At its September 2020 meeting, the committee learned about the NODS data elements and they separated into workgroups to review the NODS and decide which ones were priorities for Arizona courts.

Members were told to select elements from the NODS list based on the following criteria:

- 1) Important case/party attribute or milestone event
- 2) Data sharing among courts and other agencies
- 3) Public safety
- 4) Caseflow management/court performance
- 5) Federal, state, and local mandates

Committee members were told to disregard elements from the NODS list based on the following:

- 1) No consistent data source
- 2) Not important for processing a case
- 3) Data entry may be more appropriate in a system outside the court case management system
- 4) The automation updates, business process changes, and training would be too significant for the value gained

At their March and July 2021 meetings, the members voted on the NODS and those elements were added to Arizona Code of Judicial Administration § 1-508: Required Data Elements (the new name for NODS in Arizona).

Over the past several years, the Data Standardization Advisory Committee has recommended changes to the Data Standards Steering Committee, which has voted on these items. Laura Ritenour is keeping a list of changes for now. This is because all RDE approved by the Data Standards Steering Committee are in ACJA § 1-508. Any modifications must go through the code revision process,

which can take 4-6 months. It is preferred that we only go through this process once, as it is resource-intensive.

Proposed Motions

- 1) Motion to recommend to the Data Standards Steering Committee that the elements below be removed from ACJA § 1-508.

Category	Data Element	Comments

- 2) Motion to recommend to the Data Standards Steering Committee that the elements below be modified in ACJA § 1-508.

Category	Data Element	Comments

- 3) Motion to recommend to the Data Standards Steering Committee that the elements below be added to ACJA § 1-508.

Category	Data Element	Comments