A. **General Purpose.** The council provides a vehicle for direct and personal communication between judges of the state and federal courts in Arizona concerning matters of mutual interest and concern. These matters include but are not limited to elimination of actual or potential conflicts between the two judicial systems; development of methods to improve the operation of the two systems; improvement of the quality of representation and ethics of attorneys practicing in the two systems; exploration and development of methods to utilize scarce judicial assets to benefit the two systems and the citizens of the state; sharing of materials and information that may apply to or impact on the two systems; and fostering of closer cooperation on resolution of joint problems.

B. **Membership.** Members of the council shall include at least eight representatives from the state judiciary, who are appointed by the chief justice. At a minimum, the state court representatives shall include the chief justice or designee, the chief judges of the court of appeals (divisions I and II), the presiding superior court judges of the superior court in Maricopa and Pima counties, a presiding judge of a metropolitan municipal court, and two superior court judges. The chief justice determines the number of members of the state court delegation and the terms of membership. Members of the council shall include at least five representatives from the federal judiciary. The chief judge of the District of Arizona shall determine the number of members of the delegation and shall appoint and establish the terms of members. The number of members in the two delegations need not be equal.

C. **Meetings.** The chief justice or designee shall chair the council and may appoint additional officers as needed. The council shall meet at least once a year at the time of the annual state judicial conference. The council may, from time to time, also schedule such other meetings as determined advantageous or necessary to conduct the business of the council.

D. **Staff.** The administrative office of the courts shall provide staff for the council and shall support the work of the council (to the extent staff and budgetary resources permit doing so).

*Adopted by Administrative Order 2001-88 effective August 9, 2001.*