



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona Supreme Court
Administrative Office of the Courts

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Scottsdale Court to Pilot Online Dispute Resolution

PHOENIX – Arizona’s Administrative Office of the Courts announces the launch of Online Dispute Resolution (ODR), a new pilot program in the Scottsdale City Court, beginning January 14, 2019. ODR is a free service that can be used over the internet without having to go to the courthouse. When a defendant requests to plead guilty by mail or by telephone, ODR will allow the prosecutor and defendant to exchange the documents necessary to enter a plea in certain misdemeanor cases. The service is free, and in most cases, eliminates the need for the defendant to appear in person at the courthouse.

Based on the charges and other factors, the Scottsdale City Court identifies the cases that can take part in ODR and invites the defendant to participate in the program. The prosecutor can send the plea agreement and associated documents through the platform, and the defendant can accept or reject the plea agreement. The program is available 24 hours a day from either a computer or a mobile device and facilitates the preparation of court documents online for filing with the court.

Scottsdale City Court’s program is one of several pilot programs testing this technology for its potential use in courts around the state. For more information about participating in Scottsdale City Court’s program, please contact the Scottsdale City Court Administration at 480-312-2442. For more information about Arizona’s judicial branch, visit www.azcourts.gov.

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