

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:)
)
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE) Administrative Order
CAPITAL CASE OVERSIGHT) No. 2007 - 92
COMMITTEE)
)
_____)

The Supreme Court established the Capital Case Task Force on February 12, 2007 by Administrative Order No. 2007-18, to address the unprecedented number of capital cases then awaiting trial in Maricopa County. The Task Force reported its findings and recommendations to the Arizona Judicial Council on October 24, 2007. The number of capital cases that were pending in February has not diminished, despite the superior court's introduction of several promising improvements in capital case management, and despite the fact that Maricopa County government has begun to address some of the resource concerns related to capital case processing. The Task Force has recommended that the Supreme Court appoint an on-going committee to monitor capital caseload reduction efforts in Maricopa County.

In accordance with Arizona Code of Judicial Administration § 1-104, the chief justice may establish advisory committees to the Arizona Judicial Council to assist the Council in carrying out its responsibilities. Therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that the Capital Case Oversight Committee is established as follows:

1. **Purpose.** The Committee, acting as an advisory committee to the Arizona Judicial Council, shall:

- Study and recommend measures to facilitate capital case reduction efforts,
- Make recommendations for adequate notice to the Supreme Court to assist the Court in making the necessary modifications to its staffing levels and judicial assignments to ensure the timely processing of appeals, and
- Develop recommendations for any formal policies deemed necessary.

2. **Membership.** The initial membership is attached as Appendix A. The chief justice may appoint additional members as needed or desired. Terms of the Committee members shall expire on December 31, 2008.

3. **Meetings.** At the discretion of the Committee chair, meetings may be scheduled, canceled, or moved. All meetings shall comply with the public meeting policy of the Arizona Judicial Branch, Arizona Code of Judicial Administration § 1-202.

4. **Reports.** The Presiding Judge in Maricopa County and the Committee shall each submit a progress report to the Arizona Judicial Council in December 2008.

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 6th day of December, 2007.

RUTH V. MCGREGOR
Chief Justice

Attachment: Appendix A

Appendix A

Capital Case Oversight Committee

Membership

Hon. Michael D. Ryan, Chair
Arizona Supreme Court

Dan Levey
Advisor to the Governor for Victims

Hon. Anna Baca
Presiding Criminal Judge
Superior Court in Maricopa County

Marty Lieberman
Director, Arizona State Capital
Post-Conviction Defender's Office

Phil J. MacDonnell
Chief Deputy
Maricopa County Attorney

James Logan
Director, Maricopa County
Office of Public Defender Services

Kent Cattani
Chief Counsel, Capital Litigation
Arizona Attorney General

Paul Prato
Attorney Manager
Maricopa Public Defender

Donna Hallam
Staff Attorney
Arizona Supreme Court

Ronald Reinstein
Retired Judge
Superior Court in Maricopa County