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**IN THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA**

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	Supreme Court No. R-22-0004
	)	
PETITION TO AMEND RULES 4 AND 9	)	Comment of the Arizona Commission on
OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR	)	Access to Justice
EVICITION ACTIONS	)	
	)	

The Arizona Commission on Access to Justice is charged with considering and recommending innovative ways to promote access to justice for individuals who cannot afford legal counsel or who choose to represent themselves in civil cases. Established in 2014, the Commission evaluates best practices, identifies possible changes in court rules or practices to reduce barriers to access, identifies and encourages the adoption of best practices among legal service providers, and considers potential long-term funding options.

At its February 3, 2022 meeting, the Commission heard a presentation from Maxine Backer about Rule Change Petition No. R-22-0004. Ms. Becker is a representative of Wildfire: Igniting Community Action to End Poverty in Arizona, one of the Petitioners who filed this Petition. Other Petitioners include Community Legal Services; Southern Arizona Legal Aid; DNA People's Legal Services; the Southwest Fair Housing Council; and the William E. Morris Institute for Justice.

Petition No. R-22-0004 proposes amendments to Rules 4(d) and Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure for Eviction Actions, regarding procedures to satisfy and vacate eviction judgments. As

noted in the Petition, the proposed amendments will bring the Rules into conformity with Arizona Revised Statutes and harmonize them with the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure and the Arizona Rules of Small Claims Procedure. The proposed amendments also provide tenants, who have paid off their eviction judgments in full, an opportunity to rehabilitate their credit and tenant history so that they have a path to obtain decent, stable housing.

Following Ms. Becker's presentation at the February 3, 2022 Commission meeting, a motion was made and seconded that the Commission support the Petition. After discussion by members of the Commission, that motion passed unanimously. This Comment is a result of that formal Commission action and is intended to reflect the Commission's unanimous support of the changes requested in the Petition.

For these reasons, the Commission supports the adoption of the proposed amendments requested in Petition No. R-22-0004.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 24th day of February, 2022.

_____/s/_____
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