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North Valley Justice Court
14264 West Tierra Buena Lane
Surprise, AZ 85274

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:	)	Supreme Court
	)	No. R-24-0005
PETITION TO AMEND	)	
RULES 1.5 and 17.1	)	Comment in Support
of the RULES OF	)	
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE	)	

This comment is filed on behalf of the Justice of the Peace Bench in Maricopa County. We support the proposed rule changes. These proposed changes and comments were presented at a bench meeting on March 13, 2024, and were then endorsed by a unanimous vote of our bench.

These amendments would facilitate the timely administration of justice for cases involving out-of-state defendants. While we agree with the Petitioner's rationale for the proposed amendments, we also note Arizona Department of Public Safety Troopers cite a variety people, who are merely visiting Arizona, into Justice Courts for alleged violations of criminal law. In addition some misdemeanor cases involve complex and time consuming investigations (e.g. domestic violence, contracting without a license). In the interim, the suspect may have moved out-of-state. Requiring out-of-state defendants to return for

in-person misdemeanor proceedings is often impractical and can even result in courts issuing arguably unnecessary arrest warrants.

We respectfully request that the proposed amendments to Rules 1.5 and 17.1 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure be adopted.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, this 14th day of March, 2024.

/s/ Anna Huberman
ANNA HUBERMAN
Presiding Justice of the Peace
Maricopa County
Justice Court Administration
222 North Central Ave., Suite 210
Phoenix, AZ 85004