

Alicia M. Skupin
Chair, Committee on Limited Jurisdiction Courts
Presiding Magistrate, Chandler Municipal Court
Chandler Municipal Court
200 East Chicago Street
Chandler, AZ 85225
Telephone: (480) 782-4747

**IN THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA**

In the Matter of:	)	Supreme Court No. R-24-0005
	)	
PETITION TO AMEND RULES 1.5,	)	COMMENTS OF THE
17.1, 17.2 AND 17.3 OF THE RULES	)	COMMITTEE ON LIMITED
OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE	)	JURISDICTION COURTS IN
	)	SUPPORT OF THE PETITION
_____	)	

This Comment serves as the Report and Recommendation of the Committee on Limited Jurisdiction Courts on Rule Petition to Amend Rules 1.5, 17.1, 17.2, and 17.3 of the Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Judge Umayok Novell presented proposed amendments to Criminal Rule 17.12(f)(1) to clarify procedures for change of plea proceedings held remotely in limited jurisdiction courts to the Committee on Limited Jurisdiction Courts (LJC) at its September 25, 2024, meeting. The proposed amendments included provisions for fingerprinting offenses listed in A.R.S. § 13-607, electronically submitting documents to the court, providing judgment and sentence documents to the parties, and a technical amendment to Criminal Rule 1.5 to replace "videoconference" with "interactive audiovisual system" for consistency.

At this meeting, LJC remarked on the wording of telephonic pleas and recommended substituting the term ‘telephonic’ with either ‘remote pleas’ or ‘interactive audiovisual system’. Additionally, LJC considered how the capture of fingerprints would affect limited jurisdiction court operations. The LJC voted to support the proposed amendments. Judge Novell reported that she would work with the AOC Legal Department to refine the language in the proposed rule change.

On November 20, 2024, Judge Novell returned to the LJC to present revised verbiage based on the feedback received at the September 25 LJC meeting, with assistance from the AOC legal department. During this presentation, members discussed how the use of software applications for remote fingerprinting of defendants not present in the courtroom would affect efficiency in court operations and improve judicial administration. The LJC fully supported the proposed amendments, highlighting their potential to improve court efficiency and judicial administration.

The LJC met on February 26, 2025. The committee unanimously voted to support the petition with additional comment that the petition’s language conform with the recent Arizona Court of Appeals opinion, *White v. State*, CA-SA 24-0258 (App. Feb. 20, 2025).

After careful consideration, the Committee on Limited Jurisdiction Courts fully supports the adoption of the proposed amendments requested in Petition No. R-24-0005.

DATED this 6th day of March 2025.

/s/
Alicia M. Skupin
Chair, Committee on Limited Jurisdiction Courts
Presiding Magistrate, Chandler Municipal Court
200 East Chicago Street
Chandler, AZ 85225