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**IN THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA**

In the matter of:) Supreme Court No. R-25-0054
)
) **COMMENTS OF THE ARIZONA**
PETITION TO AMEND R. PRO. JV.) **COMMISSION ON ACCESS TO**
CT. 214) **JUSTICE SUPPORTING THE**
) **PETITION**
)
)
_____)

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.

Following a presentation at the April 9, 2026, Commission meeting, a motion was made and seconded that the Commission support Rule Change Petition

No. R-25-0054. After discussion by members of the Commission, that motion passed. This Comment is a result of that formal Commission action and is intended to reflect the Commission's support for the changes requested in the Petition.

This Petition sensibly notes that new Ariz. R. Crim. Pro. 39(b)(12)(A)(ii), which puts a 30-day deadline on prosecutors in responding to requests to interview victims, may not work with the juvenile court's timetables for delinquency proceedings. In juvenile court, adjudications in delinquency proceedings must be held no later than 45 days after an advisory hearing if a juvenile is detained. Thus, waiting 30 days just for a response to an interview request could create issues for juvenile delinquency adjudications. In such cases, as the Petition proposes, a 10-day period makes more sense. Though this Petition relates to a criminal process that is not within the Commission's mission, it affects the participation of victims whose cases might otherwise be truncated, less well-developed, or not occur at all.

For these reasons, the Commission supports the adoption of the proposed amendment requested in Petition No. R-25-0054.

DATED this 29th day of April 2026.

_____/s/_____
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