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**IN THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA**

PETITION TO AMEND THE ARIZONA
RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE RULE
8(h)(1) AND RULE 84

Supreme Court No. R _____

**Petition to Amend the Arizona
Rules of Civil Procedure
Rule 8(h)(1) and Rule 84**

Pursuant to Rule 28 of the Rules of the Arizona Supreme Court, the Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts “AOC” hereby petitions this Court to amend the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure by amending 8(h) (attached as Exhibit A) and by amending Rule 84 to add a new form (attached as Exhibit B). Proposed Rule 8(h) would require that a civil cover sheet as approved by the Supreme Court be filed by the plaintiff with the initial civil complaint.

Description and Rationale for the Rule

The AOC is requesting the revision of Rule 8(h) along with the creation of a new civil cover sheet to facilitate entry of information into the new General Jurisdiction court automation system. The utilization of a civil cover sheet will provide standardization of civil case filings across all superior courts in the state. This will also streamline the filing process and place the courts in a better position for the eventual advent of electronic filing. The information provide by the plaintiff on the Civil Cover Sheet Form will be entered into the court’s automation system and will provide contact information for the plaintiff, plaintiff’s attorney, if any, and a list of all

defendants named in the suit and their addresses, if known. More importantly, the civil cover sheet will require that the plaintiff identify the nature of the action or proceeding being filed and eliminate the need for the clerk of the court to make an educated guess. The case types listed in the civil cover sheet were established in accordance with those developed by the National Center for State Courts with consideration given to the needs of Arizona courts. Information provided on the civil cover sheet would be entered in the court's automation system. The accuracy of this information is important to the parties, the public and the judicial system as a whole. The information entered in the court's automation system is also important for creating accurate, meaningful reports and is imperative for determining local and statewide trends in an ever-growing population.

Conclusion

The Administrative Office of the Courts respectfully requests that the Court amend Rule 8(h) and Rule 84 of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure as requested in this Petition.

DATED this _____ day of January, 2008

David K. Byers

Electronic copy filed with the
Clerk of the Supreme Court of Arizona
This ____ day of January, 2008
by: _____