

1 **ALLISTER ADEL**  
2 **MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY**  
3 **(FIRM STATE BAR NO. 00032000)**

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10 **(STATE BAR NUMBER 017540)**

11 **ARIZONA SUPREME COURT**

12 **IN RE:**

R-20-0031

13 **PETITION TO AMEND THE**  
14 **ARIZONA RULES OF CRIMINAL**  
15 **PROCEDURE**

MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY'S  
COMMENT IN SUPPORT


16 The Maricopa County Attorney submits this comment in support of Petitioner's  
17 request to integrate victims' rights into the Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure to  
18 help courts and practitioners appropriately adhere to and enforce these rights. As  
19 currently drafted, victims' rights are consolidated into one rule at the end of the  
20 criminal rules. Given this, victims' rights can be easily and inadvertently overlooked  
21 when practitioners or courts refer to individual rules of procedure for  
22 guidance. Petitioner has cited several instances where the placement of the rules likely  
23 contributed to a court's failure to enforce these rights.  
24

25 Victims' rights are so important in Arizona that they are protected in the Arizona  
26 Constitution. Their importance should likewise be reflected within the individual rules  
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28

1 of criminal procedure along with the rights of the parties. Hopefully the integration of  
2 these rights within the rules will achieve that necessary equality. Accordingly, the  
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4 Maricopa County Attorney asks this Court to grant the Petition.

5 Respectfully submitted this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020.

6 ALLISTER ADEL  
7 MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY

8  
9 By /s/   
10 KENNETH N. VICK  
11 CHIEF DEPUTY  
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