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3 (FIRM STATE BAR NO. 0003200)

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9 (STATE BAR NUMBER 003813)

10 **IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA**

11 **IN THE MATTER OF:**

12 **PETITION TO AMEND RULE 32.7,**
13 **OF THE ARIZONA RULES OF**
14 **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.**

R-08-0042

MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY'S
COMMENTS TO PETITION TO
AMEND RULE 32.7 OF THE
ARIZONA RULES OF CRIMINAL
PROCEDURE

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17 The Maricopa County Attorney hereby comments to, and supports, the Petition to
18 Amend Rule 32.7 of the Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure.

19 A key area of delay in capital cases is in post-conviction relief proceedings (PCRs).
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21 In 2007, the Arizona Supreme Court's Capital Case Task Force proposed a change to Rule
22 32 to allow for a mandatory status conference in capital PCR proceedings. The change
23 proposed in this petition, requiring the parties in a capital PCR proceeding to attend one
24 mandatory conference within 90 days after appointment of counsel, is a good first step
25 toward reducing delay in capital cases. The Maricopa County Attorney's Office requests
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1 that this Court adopt the Petition to Amend Rule 32.7 of the Arizona Rules of Criminal
2 Procedure.
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4 Respectfully submitted this 19th day of May, 2009.
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7 ANDREW P. THOMAS
MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY
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9 BY: *Philip J. MacDonnell*

10 PHILIP J. MACDONNELL
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