

THE

BRIEF

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An electronic update for the legal community providing a brief look at news in the Clerk of the Superior Court's Office



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Clerk of the Superior Court

Subpoenas Online

The Supreme Court has authorized the State Bar to issue subpoenas to attorneys online in addition to the existing process of having subpoenas issued through the Clerk's Office. The online program began on December 31, 2008.

Attorneys licensed to practice in Arizona, who are in good standing, can now access the secured website 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week. Subpoenas will be issued from the State Bar's member's website at www.myazbar.org/subpoenas. A convenience fee, designed to help recover the administrative and development costs incurred by the State Bar of Arizona, will be assessed, in addition to the current subpoena issuance fee. The online subpoena program is an optional process – the Clerks of the Superior Court will continue to issue subpoenas as before. The user will need to print and serve the subpoena, as traditional and electronic subpoenas are not served on behalf of attorneys.

The State Bar anticipates making the online subpoena program available statewide. To learn more about the savings and benefits of the online subpoena program, contact the State Bar's Resource Center at 602-340-7239.

Permissive eFiling Reminder

Supreme Court Administrative Order 2008-89, which allows attorneys and self-represented parties to electronically file certain documents in civil court cases in the Superior Court in Maricopa County, began December 1, 2008. Permissive eFiling applies to civil court cases only in this phase of the pilot program and does not include family, probate, mental health, tax, juvenile matters, special actions, transfers of jurisdiction or lower court appeals cases.

Mandatory eFiling continues in limited civil case type divisions where general and complex civil cases are designated for eFiling by individual minute entries. There are also four family court divisions accepting eFilings on a permissive basis under a previously-established pilot program. To verify a judicial division's participation in eFiling, contact the division directly.

Clerk's Office Helps in Africa

The American Bar Association's Rule of Law Initiative (ROLI) is in Algeria, Africa providing leaders there technical legal assistance in the areas of access to justice, judicial reform, legal education reform, civic education, legal profession reform and women's rights. Program Coordinator Dianne Post contacted the Clerk's Office in Maricopa County for customer service training materials that could be adapted for training Algerian court clerks. The Clerk's training department provided the project with materials for five customer service classes taught in the Clerk's Office, including a class on telephone skills. The materials included PowerPoint slides, handouts, and instructor notes. The Clerk's Office regularly hosts tours for representatives of other cities and countries and shares information with other court systems, but this was the Clerk's first known collaboration in Africa.