

# 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

## Welcome

Welcome to the first installment of *The Brief*, the Maricopa County Clerk of the Superior Court's monthly electronic update. This publication is written for the legal community with cases before the Superior Court in Maricopa County. In it you will find news about recent happenings in and around the Clerk's Office that influence the legal community.

You may recall that in the past, the Clerk's Office periodically distributed a similar electronic publication entitled, *Talk of the Town*. This electronic means of communication was particularly effective on September 11, 2001, when the Clerk's Office notified thousands of attorneys simultaneously that the courthouse was canceling hearings and closing for the day. *The Brief* will look to build on this service and provide timely and relevant information for you, our largest collective customer.

Over the next several years, the Clerk's Office will transition from filing over 30,000 pieces of paper daily to filing more and more documents electronically. *The Brief* is another valuable tool to inform you about our developing electronic record in Superior Court, as well as a summary format for sending other important updates.

## E-Filing

### E-Filing begins in Judge Swann's Civil Division

On June 20, 2005, the Clerk's Office and Superior Court began a general civil electronic filing pilot project in Judge Peter Swann's division. Over 40 cases and 90 law firms, private practitioners, and agencies have been contacted as participants in the initial pilot. The positive response has been overwhelming to support moving rapidly to an electronic record and utilize technology to improve court proceedings. The electronic filing application currently in use was created internally and designed to be user-friendly. It is unique from e-filing applications used in the federal and bankruptcy courts, and different from the e-filing application created by an outside vendor for the pilot program currently underway in complex civil litigation cases.

If you have a general civil case in Judge Swann's division, you may inquire about having it designated for mandatory electronic filing during the pilot phase. Judge Swann will review requests and decide on a case-by-case analysis which cases to select. To have your case considered for the pilot, contact Judge Swann's division with a formal written request at 125 W. Washington St., Phoenix (Mail code OCH-202). Not all cases will be designated for mandatory e-filing.

The Clerk's Office conducts monthly one-hour demonstrations of the e-filing system for general civil cases. The training room is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Central Court Building, 201 W. Jefferson St., Phoenix. Demonstrations are scheduled for Oct. 12, Nov. 16, and Dec. 21 from 10-11 a.m. and 2-3 p.m. More information is available at <http://eventures.clerkofcourt.maricopa.gov/GenCVE-File.pdf>, or by contacting Aaron Nash at [nasha@cosc.maricopa.gov](mailto:nasha@cosc.maricopa.gov)

## Manage The Brief

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