

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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Access to Minute Entries

Minute entries, or the summaries of what occurred in a Superior Court hearing, have changed and become more available over time. Originally sent on pink paper through regular mail, minute entries have become an electronic success story – available online and distributed via email. The Clerk's Office created over 500,000 minute entries in fiscal year 2009 and most minute entries in the adult case types are created and distributed electronically. Most minute entries in adult case types are created the same day as the hearing and over 99% are created within three days of a hearing. If you are one of the over-11,000 attorneys enrolled in electronic distribution, minute entries are sent directly to the email address you provided upon enrollment. They are also viewable from your Electronic Court Record Online account (ECR Online) and most are viewable on the Clerk's minute entry website at <http://courtminutes.maricopa.gov>. For more information on minute entries, the ECR Online or to register for electronic distribution, see the Clerk's website at <http://www.clerkofcourt.maricopa.gov>.

43 Elections Cases

Election season brings election challenges through the Clerk's Office. This year, 43 election challenges were filed with the office. Clerk and judicial staff work under strict timeframes to file-in, calendar, hear and resolve elections cases. The expedited nature of these cases allows elections officials to update ballots based on final decisions reached at the Superior Court level or to allow the cases to move to an appellate court.

eAppeals Expands to Civil

Since August of 2009, the Clerk's Appeals work unit has electronically filed the record on appeal with the Arizona Court of Appeals, Division One, for all Probate and Family Court case types. During this time, approximately 250 cases have been transmitted electronically. In working with the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Clerk's Office recently added the civil case type to those that are electronically filed and transmitted with Division One of the Court of Appeals and initial efforts have been very successful. The addition of civil cases will increase the average of electronically transmitted appeals to approximately 53 cases per month, increasing the Clerk's total appeal processing volume from 17% to as much as 45%.

Five Brief Years

October marks five years of publishing *The Brief*. Started as a regular monthly update in October 2005, *The Brief* remains a single-page, monthly overview of procedures, updates, news and happenings in and around the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court for Maricopa County. Back issues of *The Brief* are available online at http://www.clerkofcourt.maricopa.gov/news.asp#att_news. If you know someone who would like to receive *The Brief* or if you would like to submit content suggestions for future editions or to offer feedback, email the editor at nasha@cosc.maricopa.gov.