

# 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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Michael K. Jeanes,  
Clerk of the Superior Court

## Thank You!

It is my honor to continue serving as your Clerk of the Superior Court for a fourth term. When I was appointed in 1998, I had a customer service and efficiency vision for the Clerk's Office that included electronic filing and electronic records. The population in Maricopa County and the resulting Superior Court filings exploded in the 12 years since then. The Clerk's Office has been able to carry out its dedication to customer service and managing the court's records and financial transactions over that time by implementing strategic steps in automation and careful planning, executed by a staff of dedicated professionals. I have always taken seriously that I am allowed to serve only with your support and I thank you for the opportunity to continue. After nearly 30 years with Maricopa County, I remain enthusiastic about public service and improving your experience with the court.

*-Michael K. Jeanes*

## Victims Get Restitution

Approximately \$74,000 per month in restitution is collected but cannot be mailed to victims due to invalid addresses. After holding more than \$3 million in restitution funds for victims who could not be located, the Clerk's Office partnered with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office for assistance with locating current addresses for more than 4,000 victims. In the first week of the Victim-Locate program, 76 victims who were owed restitution were located. Since the program began earlier this year, the Clerk's Office has distributed over \$384,000 in restitution money to victims who couldn't be found due to bad addresses on file with the Clerk's Office. In addition to the Victim-Locate program, the Clerk's Office has a feature on its website that allows individuals and businesses to search for court-ordered restitution monies or assets owed to them. Check the Unclaimed Property Search on the Clerk's website at [http://www.clerkofcourt.maricopa.gov/Unclaimed/default\\_new.asp](http://www.clerkofcourt.maricopa.gov/Unclaimed/default_new.asp)

## Holidays are Here

The holidays can be hectic for many reasons. Make your interactions with the Clerk's Office easier by keeping in mind some of these tips and reminders. When approaching filing deadlines, be mindful of office hours and that the file counters are busiest at the end of the day, as runner services are rushing to get the day's filings completed. When possible, only documents that require special handling need to be filed at the filing counters where a clerk can offer assistance or provide a receipt. To save time or for ease of filing, documents that don't require special handling can be stamped and deposited in the internal and external filing boxes located around the Valley. The filing boxes are secure, making this a popular option for filings that require payment of fees at the time of filing. External filing depository boxes are available on nights, weekends and holidays, 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week. eFiling is always a convenient way to file in civil and criminal cases and in the limited family court divisions that accept eFilings. Keep in mind the days the courts will be closed for the holidays, including the last two Fridays of December when the Court and Clerk will be closed for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.