



Maricopa County Justice Courts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 20, 2020

Justice Courts Encourage Call-Ins Amid COVID-19 Fears

Health, Safety, Constitutional Rights Will Not Be Sacrificed

PHOENIX – Maricopa County’s 26 Justice Courts ask that anyone with court needs please call first before going to any of our courthouses.

Courthouse doors are still open at this time to comply with the law and to handle emergency needs such as orders of protection, but with the spread of COVID-19 it is prudent to scale back operations. Many matters will be handled over the telephone.

Effective immediately, the Maricopa County Justice Courts will limit in-person courtroom contact in compliance with Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Order 2020-48. The courts will expand available technologies to make accommodations for parties with business before the courts, such as phone/e-mail/fax/video/etc. to hold hearings and render judicial decisions.

Protective Orders may still be requested and issued without delay. Those seeking such an order should enter the online portal at <https://azpoint.azcourts.gov> to fill out the paperwork. They may then call the court with their user number for their next steps.

Lawsuits may still be filed, and traffic and other citations will still be processed. Litigants should call the specific court to ask for the current guidelines.

The Justice Courts’ [web site](#) and [Facebook page](#) will be updated as further changes are made. All court contacts are listed at <https://justicecourts.maricopa.gov/locations/>.

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ABOUT:

There are 26 Justice Courts throughout Maricopa County. Each is presided over by an elected Justice of the Peace. These limited jurisdiction courts handle civil lawsuits of \$10,000 or less, small claims cases of \$3,500 or less, evictions, misdemeanor offenses such as shoplifting, writing bad checks, etc., and the full range of civil and criminal traffic offenses including DUIs. Like other trial and municipal judges, they also preside over protective orders.

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