

DEBRA J. STANTFORD  
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA SUPREME COURT  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PINAL

DEPUTY **DP**

IN THE MATTER OF FILING )  
SIGNATURES WITH THE PINAL )  
COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT )  
CLERK'S OFFICE )

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

2017 00040

**WHEREAS** Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 36, Article 5, Section §§ 36-501 – 550.08 governs mental health services. Sections §§ 36-540- 544 allows the Superior Court to issue an order consisting of combined inpatient and outpatient mental health treatment; and

**WHEREAS** A.R.S. §36-540.01 allows the Medical Director of a mental health treatment agency ordered by the court to provide the outpatient portion of mental health treatment for the patient to motion the court to amend or revoke the outpatient portion of the patient's treatment plan and return the patient to inpatient treatment. Any motion and corresponding exhibit(s) must be filed with the court and an order signed by a Judge; and

**WHEREAS** there are multiple mental health treatment agencies ordered by the Court under Title 36 who are responsible for the outpatient portion of treatment and who have Medical Directors at varied locations; and

**WHEREAS** an electronic, faxed, or stamped signature is the "original mark" for the purposes of a pleading, report, or petition in the aforementioned statutes and shall be considered an original signature regardless of what method of affixing the signature to paper is utilized.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that any signature which can be supported or defended in its authenticity and authority for pleadings filed under the aforementioned statutes and rules is acceptable, including but not limited to electronic, stamped or faxed signatures.

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2017.



Honorable Stephen F. McCarville,  
Presiding Judge

**DP**

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Judges, Pinal County

Amanda Stanford, Clerk of the Court

Kent Volkmer, County Attorney

James Mannato, Public Defender

Todd D. Zweig, Court Administration