

# MOHAVE COUNTY FELONY CASE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of the Mohave County Felony Case Management Plan is to improve the efficiency and timely disposition of felony cases pending in the Mohave County Superior Court and to ensure a criminal defendant, and victims, the right to a speedy and final resolution of criminal charges.

From the commencement of a case to its resolution, whether by trial or other disposition, any elapsed time other than reasonably required for pleadings, discovery, and court events is unacceptable and will be eliminated. To enable just and timely resolution of cases, the court will control the pace of litigation. The Mohave County Judiciary's commitment is essential to reducing delay and once achieved, maintaining a current docket.

## CASE TYPE TRACKS

All felony cases follow distinct tracks to resolution, defined by complexity and aligned with expected case processing steps and events that comply with state statutes and uniform rules and that are needed to reach a just resolution. Court events are closely tied to the severity of the crime(s) charged and the expected complexity of the case. The following tracks are grouped by expected events and expected duration for most (80% or more) of the cases to reach a resolution. These expectations are guidelines, not time standards. Cases may take more or less time, due to complexity or other factors, often leading to a trial.

**Table 1 –Superior Court Criminal Case Time Expectations**

Track	Description	Proposed Duration From Filing to Disposition
<b>Track 1</b>	<b>Lower-Level Felonies</b> Class 4 Felonies Class 5 Felonies Class 6 Felonies	150 days (98% of cases)
<b>Track 2</b>	<b>Serious Felonies</b> *Non-Complex Felonies are felonies <b>NOT</b> charged as dangerous offenses or dangerous crimes against children  Class 3 Felonies Class 2 Non-Complex Felonies	180 days (98% of cases)
<b>Track 3</b>	<b>Complex Felonies</b> *Complex Felonies are felonies charged as dangerous offenses or dangerous crimes against children	
3a	Class 1 and 2 Complex Felonies	270 days (98% of cases)
3b	Capital Cases	730 days (100% of cases)

## LOWER-LEVEL FELONIES

(Class 4, Class 5, and Class 6 felony)

**Charging Event** (indictment by Grand Jury or filing of Felony Information).

**Arraignment**—shall be held within 10 days for in custody defendants; shall be held within 30 days for out of custody defendants.

**Pre-Trial Conference**—shall be held 21 days after Arraignment. Prior to this conference, the assigned prosecutor will be expected to thoroughly review the case and arrive at a considered and educated plea agreement offer. Said plea offer shall be conveyed to the defense prior to this conference.

**Status Conference**—shall be held 21 days after Pre-Trial Conference at which time the case will be set for either a Change of Plea (COP) Hearing or set for Trial.

# SERIOUS FELONIES

(Non-Complex Class 2 and Class 3 felony)

\*Non-Complex Felonies are felonies NOT charged as dangerous offenses or dangerous crimes against children

**Charging Event** (indictment by Grand Jury or filing of Felony Information).

**Arraignment**—shall be held within 10 days for in custody defendants; shall be held within 30 days for out of custody defendants.

**Pre-Trial Conference**—shall be held 21 days after Arraignment. Prior to this conference, the assigned prosecutor will be expected to thoroughly review the case and arrive at a considered and educated plea agreement offer. Said plea offer shall be conveyed to the defense prior to this conference.

**Status Conference**—shall be held 60 days after Pre-Trial Conference at which time the case will be set for either a Change of Plea (COP) Hearing or set for Trial.

# COMPLEX FELONIES

(Complex Class 2 and Class 1 felony)

\*Complex Felonies are felonies charged as dangerous offenses or dangerous crimes against children

**Charging Event** (indictment by Grand Jury or filing of Felony Information).

**Arraignment**—shall be held within 10 days for in custody defendants; shall be held within 30 days for out of custody defendants.

**Pre-Trial Conference**—shall be held 60 days after Arraignment. Prior to this conference, the assigned prosecutor will be expected to thoroughly review the case and arrive at a considered and educated plea agreement offer. Said plea offer shall be conveyed to the defense prior to this conference.

**Status Conference**—shall be held 60 days after Pre-Trial Conference at which time the case will be set for either a Change of Plea (COP) Hearing or set for Trial.

# EARLY DISPOSITION COURT (EDC)

## (Responsibilities)

**State** shall designate cases into the EDC Case Track.

**Arraignment**—suggested cutoff for entering a Change of Plea if parties wish to remain in EDC Case Track.

**Pre-Trial Conference**—final cutoff for entering a Change of Plea if parties wish to remain in EDC Case Track.

**Non-Compliance**—shall result in normal case processing.