The Judicial Branch of Arizona
County of Mohave

Strategic Plan 2026-2031

A Letter from Presiding Judge **Steven C. Moss**

Steven C. Moss
Presiding Judge

It is my privilege to introduce the Mohave County Courts' Five-Year Strategic Plan, a roadmap that reflects our shared commitment to justice, innovation, and service. This plan is the result of thoughtful collaboration among judges, court staff, and stakeholders, all dedicated to ensuring that our courts remain accessible, efficient, and responsive to the needs of the public, community, and justice partners.

The judiciary plays a vital role in upholding the rule of law and fostering trust in our legal system. As we look to the future, this strategic plan outlines five clear priorities that will guide our efforts:

1. **Enhancing and Promoting Access to Justice** – Removing barriers to access to justice and upholding an impartial application of the law to those who appear before the court.
2. **Maintaining Public Trust and Confidence** – Building transparency and accountability to strengthen confidence in our courts.
3. **Protecting Children, Families, and Communities** – Safeguarding the most vulnerable and promoting safety and well-being.
4. **Leveraging Resources and Innovation** – Using technology and best practices to improve efficiency and service delivery.
5. **Empowering and Investing in Our Workforce** – Supporting professional growth and fostering a culture of excellence among our team.

Our vision is clear: ***delivering justice to the communities we serve***. Achieving this requires not only careful planning but also the continued support and engagement of our community. Together, we will build a court system that meets today's challenges and anticipates tomorrow's opportunities.

Your partnership and dedication are essential to making this vision a reality. As you review the plan, you will see we are committed to ***serving our community by delivering timely justice in an impartial, innovative, and respectful manner***.

Mission:
Serving our community by delivering timely justice in an impartial, innovative, and respectful manner.

Vision:
Delivering justice to the communities we serve.

Core Values:
Accessible, Impartial, Respectful, Integrity, Transparency, Excellence

Strategic Planning Committee

Steven C. Moss
Presiding Judge

Megan A. McCoy
Associate Presiding Judge

Christina Spurlock
Clerk of Superior Court

Kip Anderson
Court Administrator

Kim Chappelear
Deputy Court Administrator

Laurie Allen
Limited Jurisdiction Court Administrator

Emily Dyson
Law Librarian

Tina Sweeney Braniger
Court Supervisor of Lake Havasu City Justice Court

Bob Lawless
Court Security Manager

Natalie Eggers
Deputy Director of Juvenile Court

Jen Swapp
Dependency Program Specialist

Ronnie Walker
Adult Chief Probation Officer

Melissa Thomas
Program Specialist

Julia Dollarhide
Senior Budget Analyst

Heather Yarbrough-Puett
Court IT Director

Josh Frisby
Director of Juvenile Court Services

Megan Vigil
Clerk Deputy Director

Nicole Aragon
Human Resource Manager

Melanie Dawson
Judicial Assistant

Strategic Priorities

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Enhancing & Promoting Access to Justice

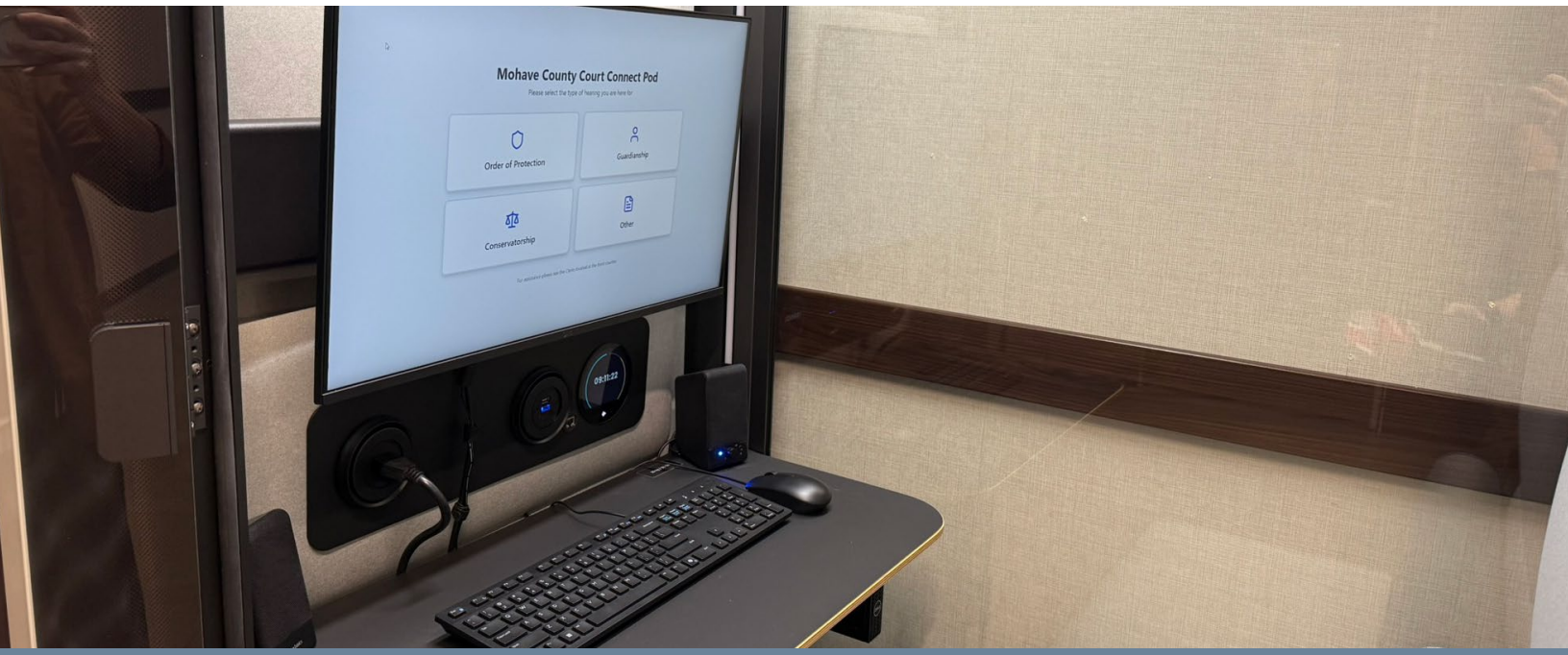
1

The Court will remove barriers to access to justice and ensure an impartial application of the law to all who appear before the court.

Goal 1: Provide sufficient tools and resources for self-represented litigants so they are prepared to navigate the court system and address their legal issues.

Goal 2: Expand court facilities to increase capacity, improve operational efficiency, and support future growth

Goal 3: Collaborate with justice partners to strengthen advocacy and expand lower-cost and pro bono legal options for court users.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

Maintaining Public Trust and Confidence

2

The Court is committed to building public trust and confidence through transparency, communication, education, and community outreach.

Goal 1: Leverage outreach opportunities to increase public and media awareness of the courts and probation.

Goal 2: Communicate the work of the courts and probation through educational programs and learning opportunities.

Goal 3: Gather feedback from court users to improve court operations and services.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Protecting Children, Families, and Communities 3

Advance collaborative court programs and partnerships that enhance safety, well-being and trust for children, families, and the broader community.

Goal 1: Applying best practices to promote recovery, resilience, and improved outcomes for children, families, and communities.

Goal 2: Strengthen family court services by expanding resources, programs, and support systems that respond to the needs of families and prioritize access to justice for all.

Goal 3: Expand cross-system collaboration and strengthen coordination among partners to build trust, enhance efficiency, and improve outcomes for individuals and families interacting with the courts.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

Leveraging Resources and Innovation

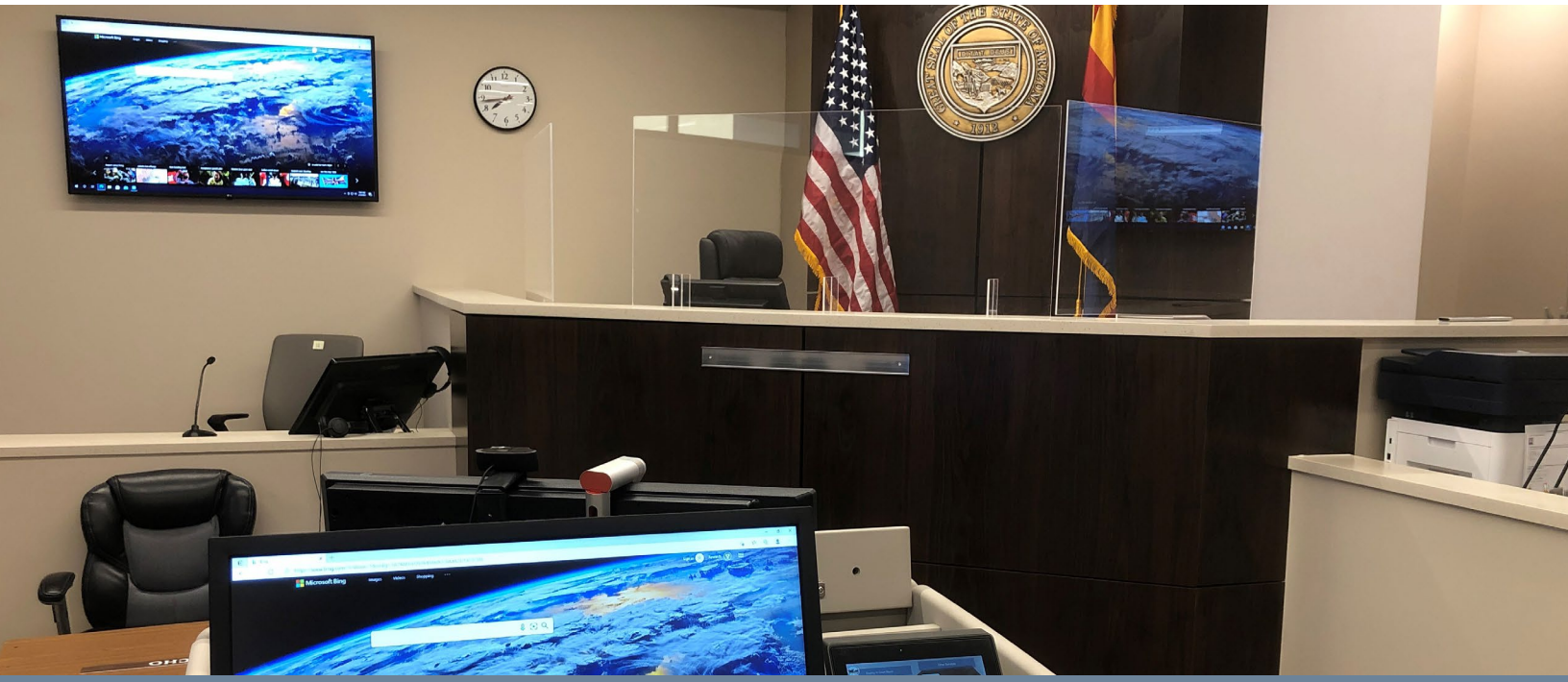
4

Utilizing data, technology, and innovation to enhance court operations, strengthen security, and optimize court performance.

Goal 1: Enhance cybersecurity and physical security operations and training to identify, assess, and mitigate threats against staff, court users, facilities, and infrastructure.

Goal 2: Promote transparency and accountability through data-driven decision-making and enhance communication with the public, court partners, and employees.

Goal 3: Embrace technological innovation and modernization to enhance court operations and access to justice.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5

Empowering and Investing in Our Workforce

5

The Court values our workforce by fostering a culture that supports employee growth, development, and success enabling us to serve court users and the community with excellence.

Goal 1: Establish, maintain, and expand outreach efforts and procedures to make diverse audiences aware of employment opportunities in the Court.

Goal 2: Retain talented employees by fostering a positive work environment and culture that promotes engagement, satisfaction, and well-being of court staff recognizing the crucial role of motivated and fulfilled employees in delivering quality court services.

Goal 3: Establish mentorship programs and leadership development as well as initiatives to ensure the workforce has access to the skills, knowledge, and tools required to succeed and adjust to changing job demands and meet organizational needs.