## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

## IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MOHAVE

2019 FEB 13 PM 4: 54

OFER OR COURT CLERK

IN THE MATTER OF:

EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS IN PROBLEM-SOLVING COURTS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2019-14

WHEREAS, the Mohave County Superior Court and various Limited Jurisdiction Courts have developed a number of problem solving courts, and are contemplating further formation of problem solving courts to address the needs of various court users; and,

WHEREAS, in the course of performing the duties of a problem solving Court, the assigned Judge, Justice of the Peace or City Magistrate may find the need to engage in *ex-parte* communication with service providers, probation, and/or other court stakeholders: with respect to the client's performance within the specialty court; compliance with treatment or Orders; other such matters that fall within the purview of the specialty court involved.

Therefore, in accord with Rule 2.9(A)(6), of the Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct,

**IT IS ORDERED** that a Judge, Justice of the Peace or City Magistrate assigned to and/or presiding over a problem-solving Court may participate in *ex-parte* communications with respect to a client or case pending therein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED any such *ex-parte* communications shall be limited between the judge and member(s) of the multi-disciplinary team assigned to the problem-solving court; and, shall further be limited to involving issues relevant to the services provided to the program participant, or the consequences for failure to complete court ordered requirements.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each participant, and the participant's parent or guardian in a juvenile matter, as a condition of participation in a problem-solving Court shall sign a consent form as established by the Program Director in cooperation with the Court.

**DATED** this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

Honorable Charles W. Gurtler, Jr. Presiding Judge Mohave County Superior Court