

Open Meeting Item Information

Form Type: Public Hearing
Form Name: Public Hearing

Public Hearing Information

Date to Set Public Hearing: 11/14/12
Date to Convene Public Hearing: 01/23/13
Effective Date of Change:
A.R.S § Statute Number: A.R.S. § 11-251.13
Select the category of the agenda item: Financial Management
Purpose of Public Hearing:

Agenda Item

C-Number: C-80-13-007-2-00
Item Title: POST APPOINTMENT INVESTIGATIONS FEE

Action Requested:

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 11-251.13, set a public hearing for January 23, 2013 to solicit comments and consider the adoption of POST APPOINTMENT INVESTIGATIONS FEE. Upon Board approval, this item will become effective January 23, 2013.

Board Required Information:

As part of the Court's mandated duties to oversee guardianships and conservatorships, the Court may order an investigator to locate the ward when a guardian or conservator fails to notify the court of a change of address. When this occurs, the Court attempts to locate the parties using skip-trace technology called Accurint. When database searches fail to locate a ward, or the guardian does not respond to Court notices to appear, the Court may order an investigator to conduct a field investigation. The Court may also order an investigation when it is concerned about the quality of care the ward is receiving, or has information to suggest that the ward may be a victim of financial exploitation. These post appointment investigations typically require more resources than initial investigations because they require more interviews and documentation. Authorizing the Post Appointment Investigations Fee of \$400 will provide the Court needed resources to oversee guardianships and conservatorships and ensure the proper care of vulnerable adults as well as pay for the hours that the investigators spend locating the ward and guardian.

The new Post Appointment Investigation Fee will be assessed to the guardian/conservator and will not be paid from the ward's estate. Parties may request a waiver or deferral of fees using the established process. Revenue generated from this fee will be deposited into the Superior Court Special Revenue Fund 259 and used to offset the costs associated with post appointment investigations. Revenue projections for the fiscal year 2013 (FY13) is projected at \$12,800 and (FY14) \$25,600 annualized. The \$400 fee amount is based on the average hourly rate paid to investigators plus their mileage reimbursement and also the cost of the Accrint database subscription.

The proposed fee is intended to recover (but not exceed) the full cost of the service.

Additional Information-History/Reason for Item:
None

Expenditure Impact by FY: None

Is there a Financial Impact?: YES

<u>FY</u>	<u>Bgt</u>	<u>PAS</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Dept</u>	<u>Org</u>	<u>Obj-SubObj</u>	<u>\$Amount</u>	<u>Rept.Cat.</u>	<u>ProjCode</u>
2013	NO	PBMH	259	809	800	8008	0635-00	\$12,800	PANF	0000
2014	NO	PBMH	259	809	800	8008	0635-00	\$25,600	PANF	0000

Is there related Managing for Results Information? YES

Program: Probate and Mental Health Court
Activity: Probate and Mental Health Activity

Performance/Demand Measure:

Output: Number of Mental Health cases resolved.

Output: Number of probate cases

Demand: Number of Mental Health cases filed.

Efficiency: Cost per Mental Health case resolved

Anticipated Results:

Percent of probate cases in compliance with case-processing standards

Response: None

Comments: None