



Maricopa County

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To: Maricopa County Board of Supervisors

From: Michael McGee, County Auditor

Subject: Justice Courts Minimum Accounting Standards Compliance Review

Date: June 6, 2019

We reviewed eight justice courts and one municipal court for compliance with Minimum Accounting Standards (MAS) set forth by the Supreme Court of Arizona, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). We performed this review to assist the AOC in evaluating compliance from calendar year 2016 through 2018. We issued detailed reports to each of the nine courts reviewed.

Results: The average compliance rate was 93%, a 9% improvement from the previous review three years ago.

Observation: For each of the nine courts listed below, we reviewed 50 of 55 AOC standards (5 were not applicable to current operations). The standards were developed to bring financial operations into compliance with statutes and generally accepted accounting principles.

- Arrowhead
- East Mesa
- Hassayampa
- Ironwood
- Manistee
- North Mesa
- North Valley
- West Mesa
- Gila Bend Municipal

The instances of noncompliance were primarily in the following areas: (1) cash handling, (2) disbursements, (3) reconciliations of financial records, and (4) segregation of duties. These exceptions increase the risk that errors and/or fraud could occur and go undetected.

This report is intended primarily for the information and use of the County Board of Supervisors, County leadership, and other County stakeholders. However, this report is a public record and its distribution is not limited. This review was approved by the Board of Supervisors and was conducted in conformance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing. If you have any questions about this report, please contact Michael McGee, County Auditor, at 506-1588.