



MEMORANDUM

Date: December 1, 2016

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

Re: **Evening and Weekend Justice Court Benefits**

As I previously communicated, the County is making an effort to make Justice Court more accessible to the community. One effort involves evening and weekend Court dates designed to assist those who work during the typical weekday hours of the Court, as well as warrant resolution on a walk-in basis on weekday afternoons.

In our early McArthur Grant data and research, it is apparent there are a significant number of arrest warrants that could easily be resolved, and that, if left unresolved, typically result in individuals being arrested and placed in the Pima County Adult Detention Center or jail. Hence, it is in everyone's interest, including the County's, to facilitate judicial warrant resolution. Such has been a recent emphasis by the Justice Court.

The table below shows the results of Saturday and evening Court activity on the dates shown.

Summary of Recent Saturday and Evening Court Activity.

WRC Performance Measures	Saturday June 11	Saturday October 1	Evening October 11	Evening November 8	Measures Totals
Warrants Quashed	158	156	32	46	395
Driver's License Suspensions Lifted	109	156	80	75	420
Courtroom Hearings Held	108	246	104	53	511
Customers Served at a Window	351	420	224	241	1,236
Individuals Who Entered Building	634	962	304	458	2,358

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The results of the activity are impressive, with 395 arrest warrants quashed, 420 driver's license suspensions lifted and 511 hearings held during the four events. These actions include walk-in customers who appear to be responding to the availability of evening and weekend court by word of mouth and automated telephone calls from the Justice Court. Added to these numbers are another 213 warrants quashed and 252 hearings held during the first six weeks of the 1:30 PM weekday walk-in court from October 6 to November 15.

I am very pleased with the efforts being made by the Justices of the Peace and Justice Court staff. The performance measures indicate this activity has been successful. The percentage of arrest warrants that have now been quashed related to actual hearings held for same indicates the success rate is approximately 77.3 percent for Saturday and evening Court. For the walk-in schedule, the success rate is 84.5 percent. The overall success rate indicates 608 arrest warrants quashed based on 763 hearings, for a success rate of 79.7 percent.

For 2017, the Justice Court Administrator is now working with Tucson City Court to plan joint events, as our experience indicates there are a large number of defendants who appear at the wrong court for our evening and weekend court hours. Tucson City Court has been conducting similar weekend and walk-in events and participated in the joint warrant resolution day on June 11. Co-locating the City Magistrates in our facilities to conduct these events would be significantly beneficial; hence, our efforts to encourage the City to hold joint events with the County in our facilities beginning in 2017.

CHH/mjk

c: The Honorable Kyle Bryson, Presiding Judge, Superior Courts
The Honorable Keith Bee, Presiding Justice of the Peace, Consolidated Justice Courts
Doug Kooi, Pima County Consolidated Justice Court Administrator
Ellen Wheeler, Assistant Deputy County Administrator
Terrance Cheung, Grants Program Manager