PURPOSE

To delegate authority to the County Administrator, so that he or she may approve representation by the Attorney General in lieu of the County Attorney's Office in cases involving centrally-assessed property.

BACKGROUND

The Arizona Department of Revenue, rather than the County Assessor, assesses the valuation of certain properties within the County that are owned by utility companies that have properties throughout the state (centrally-assessed property). When the owner of such centrally assessed property within Pima County brings an action challenging the valuation, Pima County is always named as one of the defendants. Because the valuation was done by the ADOR, however, it is more appropriate for the Office of the Arizona Attorney General to defend the lawsuit than to have the Pima County Attorney's Office do so. The Board of Supervisors therefore routinely authorizes the Arizona Attorney General to represent the County in such actions, upon the recommendation of the Pima County Attorney's Office.

POLICY

The County Administrator shall have the authority to approve representation by the Arizona Attorney General's Office in all actions involving centrally-assessed property. Such representation need not be presented to, and approved by, the Board of Supervisors.

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: County Administrator

Effective Date: April 18, 2006