

## **MEMORANDUM**

Date: April 14, 2015

To: The Honorable Chair and Members

Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry

County Administ

Re: Tucson, Ajo and Green Valley Consolidated Justice Courts April 7, 2015 Budget

Presentation

The Courts have always been cooperative in developing the County's budget and continue to be so. To their credit, they do not rely heavily on vacancy savings, and they have provided a more transparent budget.

The Justice Courts have also agreed to reduce positions through the efficiency allowed by their consolidation in one facility and accepted the two-percent General Fund reduction by leaving additional positions vacant. They are now migrating automation costs that are increasingly difficult to fund to their Special Revenue Funds rather than relying on the General Fund. They have also adopted a Justice Court fee to assist the County in repaying the significant costs incurred in providing them with new facilities.

I support the Justice Courts budget submission and the actions being taken to reduce General Fund expenses in their operation and to significantly increase revenues from the Court. I believe they have a significant opportunity and the leadership to increase, at very little additional cost, overall collection of fees and fines, including those due the General Fund.

## CHH/anc

c: The Honorable Sally Simmons, Presiding Judge, Superior Court The Honorable Keith Bee, Presiding Justice of the Peace, Consolidated Justice Courts The Honorable Maria Felix, Administrative Judge, Consolidated Justice Courts Doug Kooi, Court Administrator, Consolidated Justice Courts