



STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN

FY 2011/2012

COUNTY VISION

Pinal County Government provides progressive and proactive leadership in the areas of economic development, state-of-the-art technologies, growth management, and public services to promote healthy and safe communities.

COUNTY MISSION

Pinal County Government protects and enhances its citizens' quality of life by providing public services in an ethical, efficient, and responsible manner delivered by a motivated, skilled, and courteous workforce.

DEPARTMENT MISSION

The mission of the Pinal County Public Defender's Office is to protect and defend the rights of our indigent clients by providing vigorous and effective representation, thereby safeguarding the fundamental legal rights of all members of our community.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR SERVICES PROVIDED:

The Office of the Pinal County Public Defender is responsible for representation of persons determined by the courts to be indigent and who are either charged with a crime, are juveniles charged with an act of delinquency or are persons being petitioned for court ordered mental health treatment. This broad range of representation includes practice with Rules of Juvenile Court, Criminal Procedure, Civil Procedure and the Arizona Rules of Evidence.

ISSUE STATEMENTS

The increased workload from representation of more clients may result in;

- Decreased quality of representation
- Decreased ability to accept capital (death penalty) cases
- Decreased ability to develop programs that improve the judicial system
- Decreased client visitation, motion practice and attention to detail

2-5 YEAR STRATEGIC GOALS:

1. Reduce the time needed to resolve cases.
2. Increase the quality of representation.

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

Reduction of presentence incarceration costs.

Cross Cutting With: Judiciary, County Attorney, Clerk of the Superior Court, Pinal County Sheriff Detention, Adult Probation

The Office of the Pinal County Public Defender needs from the Judiciary more releases of non-violent offenders pending trial, more timely rulings on motions to withdraw and more timely change of pleas; for county Attorney to provide more timely disclosure of unscheduled arraignment cases, more timely plea offers, and more timely filings of post initial appearance out of custody cases; more timely minute entries from the Clerk of the Superior Court; for the Clerk of the Superior Court and Pinal County Sheriff Department Detention to coordinate an increase in in-custody clients attending their scheduled court appearance; and for the Adult Probation Department to reduce the time needed for a change of plea to sentencing for in-custody clients.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

The percentage of case file reviews which reflect appropriate client contact, legal analysis and documentation.