



# NEWS RELEASE

ARIZONA SUPREME COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **GURTLER NAMED TO NEW TERM AS PRESIDING JUDGE FOR MOHAVE COUNTY**

PHOENIX – The Arizona Supreme Court has appointed the Honorable Charles W. Gurtler to a new three-year term as Presiding Judge for Mohave County. His new term as Presiding Judge will officially begin on February 1, 2017.

Presiding Judge Gurtler was appointed to the Superior Court in Mohave County as a Judge Pro Tempore in 1994. He later won election to his first term as a Superior Court Judge in 2002 and became Presiding Judge in 2012.

Under Judge Gurtler’s leadership, the courts have worked with county officials to improve services while lowering the costs of providing legal services to the indigent. Changes have resulted in a direct savings of 20 percent, or \$300,000, from fiscal year 2013 to present. He has also guided the restructuring of the probation department to better serve the public, engaged his peers on the court on a 5-year strategic plan, and worked to bring the Arizona Court of Appeals and Arizona Supreme Court to Mohave County for public events at local high schools.

“I’m most grateful for the working relationship we have with the county and its Board of Supervisors that allowed us to improve public access at our court facilities in Lake Havasu City and Bullhead City,” Judge Gurtler said. “We are also excited about the plans underway to build a new courthouse in Kingman that will allow us to better serve the citizens of the county for many decades to come.”

Presiding Judges in Arizona take on extra duties and serve as the chief executive officer of the courts in the county, overseeing all aspects of court business, including financial management. The Presiding Judge oversees case assignments, and helps set the court calendar. They also monitor the performance of the courts to ensure that cases are processed in a timely manner.

Judge Gurtler receives no additional compensation for his duties and responsibilities as presiding judge. In addition to leading the courts in Mohave County, Judge Gurtler continues to hear cases and perform the full duties of a Superior Court judge.



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Judge Gurtler is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire with double major in History and Political Science. He earned his Juris Doctor Law degree at California Western School of Law in 1986.

For more information about the Mohave County courts, visit <http://www.mohavecourts.com/index.html>. For information about the court system throughout Arizona, visit [www.azcourts.gov](http://www.azcourts.gov).

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