



ACMI

Association for The
Chronically Mentally Ill
(ACMI)

SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

The discussion will start momentarily

ACMI Educational Webinar:

- Please mute all lines
- Submit questions in chat window- questions should be generic in nature not specific to an individual

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The background of the slide is the official seal of the Arizona Superior Court. It is a circular emblem with a grey outer ring containing the text 'THE JUDICIAL BRANCH' on the left and 'ARIZONA' on the right. Inside the ring is a shield with a red and gold sunburst pattern. Overlaid on the shield is a dark blue silhouette of a classical building with columns and a pediment. Two blue banners are draped across the shield: one on the left with the word 'FAIRNESS' and one on the right with the words 'PUBLIC SAFETY'.

Title 36 Mental Health Court

ASSOCIATION OF CHRONIC MENTAL ILLNESS

COMMISSIONER SARAH E. SELZER

SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

SUPERIOR COURT

ADULT PROBATION



Overview

- What we do & don't do
- Patient's due process rights
- Recent statistics
- Looking forward
- Q&A



We don't address...

...ONLY substance abuse, intellectual disability, or personality disorders

A.R.S. § 36-501(25)

→ Can be co-occurring

...ONLY Criminal

- Rule 11: competency, restoration
- Guilty Except Insane
- Diversion / SMI Probation

→ Can have overlap

...Best Interest of Patient



What we must find:

(1) Mental disorder causing someone to be:

- Danger to Self [1 year only]
- Danger to Others [1 year only]
- Gravely Disabled [renewable]
- Persistently or Acutely Disabled [renewable]

(2) Unwilling or unable to accept treatment

(3) No less restrictive alternative

- No specific diagnosis
- SMI designation unnecessary
- Functional impairment not cultural beliefs
- In community vs. after in-patient stabilization
- Specific to circumstances



Patient's due process rights

Patients are entitled to:

- Legal representation at every stage of the process
 - In Maricopa County, representation is through Office of Public Advocate
 - We presume Patients are indigent
- A COE hearing as soon as practicable
 - In Maricopa County, usually the next day
- Independent evaluation by psychiatrist
- A COT hearing within six business days
 - Maricopa County is over 99% compliant with our statutory time frames; Patients can request continuances (often because of independent evaluation)

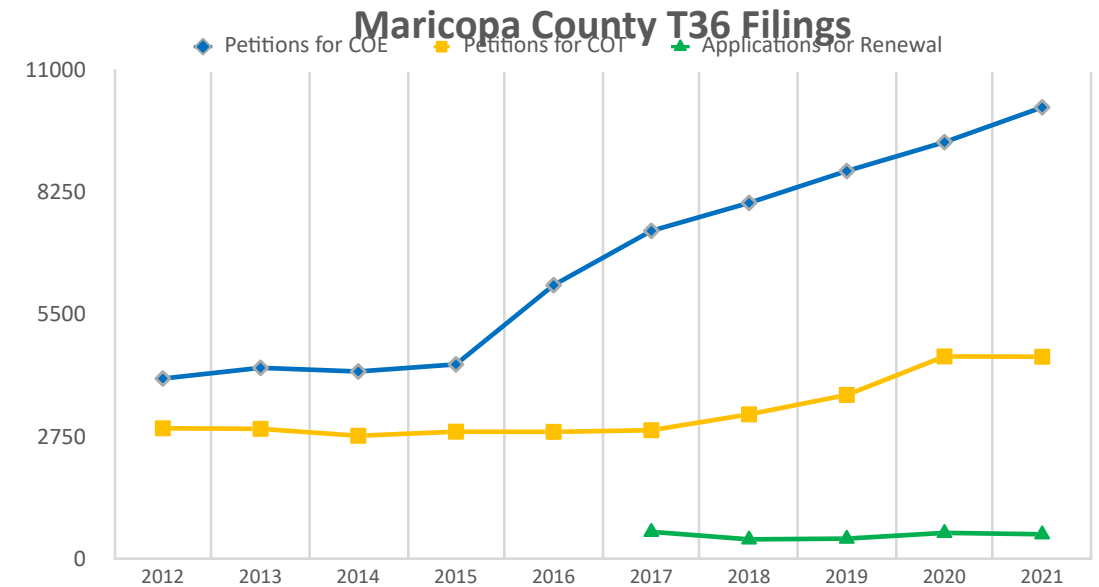


Stats for Maricopa County

Too many gaps for solid data on race, ethnicity

Four Superior Court Divisions:

- Three County Hospitals with courtrooms:
Mesa, Phoenix, Maryvale
- Arizona State Hospital





Looking Forward

- Return to inperson proceedings
- Second courtroom in Maryvale hospital
- Maricopa County Superior Court Behavioral Health unit
- Maricopa County Mental Health Task Force
- City/Town court mental health & diversion programs
- New Arizona legislation
- Broader national conversation



Q&A

Thank you