



# PUBLIC DEFENDER



**Michael Breeze,  
Public Defender**

To protect the fundamental rights of all individuals by providing effective legal representation for indigent defendants facing criminal charges, juvenile adjudications, and mental health commitments, when appointed by Superior Court in Yuma County and Yuma County Justice Courts.

## MAJOR FUNCTIONS

### Support Services:

Executes support functions for all divisions. Assignment of staff is made on an as-needed basis.

### Trial Division:

Represents defendants who are charged with crimes and who cannot afford a lawyer. Clients are also represented for matters involving their possible mental commitment.

### Juvenile Division:

Provides legal representation to eligible minors in criminal matters.

### Appeals Division:

Provides legal representation to indigent defendants (1) who have been convicted of criminal offenses at trial, and (2) believe a valid basis exists to challenge the legality of the conviction or sentence.

## 2013-2018 OBJECTIVES

**CR-** Handle 30% of Post Conviction Relief (PCR) cases in house by FY2018.

✓ 33% of PCR cases are kept in house.

**CR-** Handle 50% of appeal cases in house by FY2018.

✓ 83% of appeal cases are kept in house.

**CR-** Handle 75% of juvenile adjudications in house by FY2018.

✓ 85% of juvenile adjudications are handled in house.

**CR-** Close 75% of cases within 3 days of final disposition by FY2018.

✓ 57% of cases closed within 3 days of final disposition.

**CR-** Open 70% of new cases assigned in house within 24 hours of receiving them by FY2018.

✓ 79% of new cases that are assigned in house are opened within 24 hours of receiving it.

**CR-** Complete 75% of cases through adjudication in 180 days or less by FY2018.

✓ 78% of cases through adjudication are completed in 180 days or less.

**CR-** Handle 65% of serious felony cases (Class 1-3) in house by FY2018.

✓ 60% of serious felony cases assigned in house are handled.

**CR-** Retain 70% of non-conflict capital defense cases in house by FY2018.

✓ One Capital case filed.

Strategic Plan: [www.yumacountyaz.gov/strategicplan](http://www.yumacountyaz.gov/strategicplan)



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## PERFORMANCE REPORTING

### Significant Accomplishment:

- ✓ Continue to participate in the defense of capital cases and complex cases.
- ✓ In FY15/16 the Yuma County Public Defender's Office retained approximately 60.59% of all felony cases and 71.38% of serious and complex felonies appointed.

### Performance Measure Actuals & Benchmark -Public Defender

The following measures are departmental priorities identified in the County-wide Strategic Plan:

Department Goal:	Target/Benchmark				
Measure:	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018
To continuously search out ways to improve efficiency and reduce taxpayer costs.					
% of PCR cases kept in house.	33%	26%	33%	28%	30%
% of appeal cases kept in house.	83%	35%	83%	45%	50%
% of juvenile adjudication cases kept in house.	85%	55%	85%	65%	75%
% of cases closed within 3 days of final disposition.	57%	60%	57%	70%	75%
% of opened new cases that are assigned in house within 24 hours of receiving it.	79%	72%	79%	78%	80%
% of cases adjudicated within 180 days.	78%	68%	78%	72%	75%
% of serious felony cases assigned in house.	60%	71%	60%	73%	75%
% of non-conflict capital defense cases kept in house.	One capital case	55%	One capital case	65%	75%

## AUTHORIZED FULL TIME EQUIVALENT

Authorized Positions by Major Function				
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Public Defender:				
Defender	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Staff Attorneys	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Capital Defense Attorneys	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Appellate Attorneys	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
<b>Support</b>	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>24.00</b>	<b>24.00</b>	<b>24.00</b>	<b>24.00</b>

The department has no staffing changes for fiscal year 2016-17.



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## 2017 ANNUAL BUDGET

**Revenue:** General Fund support is at the level needed for General Fund expenditures. There are no changes in Special Revenue.

**Personnel:** The net increase is primarily the result of an increase in the Compensation Adjustment line item.

**Supplies and Services:** There are no substantial changes this fiscal year.

**Capital Outlay:** There is no Capital Outlay budgeted this fiscal year.

**Transfers:** The Transfers are for the Fill The Gap fund.

Public Defender	Actual 2013-14	Actual 2014-15	Budget 2015-16	Estimate 2015-16	Budget 2016-17	% Change
<b>Sources</b>						
General Revenue	\$ 2,180,730	\$ 2,186,827	\$ 2,398,176	\$ 2,283,937	\$ 2,421,332	0.97%
Special Revenue	62,020	64,875	49,221	49,221	49,221	0.00%
Balance Forward	(57,180)	(23,370)	6,275	(17,374)	11,319	80.38%
<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>\$ 2,185,570</b>	<b>\$ 2,228,332</b>	<b>\$ 2,453,672</b>	<b>\$ 2,315,784</b>	<b>\$ 2,481,872</b>	<b>1.15%</b>
<b>Uses</b>						
Personnel	1,949,464	1,971,846	2,028,617	1,919,878	2,055,752	1.34%
Supplies & Services	293,024	369,882	378,458	365,087	383,063	1.22%
Capital Outlay	5,014	10,370	19,518	19,500	-	-100.00%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves & Contingencies	-	-	27,079	-	43,057	59.01%
<b>Total Uses</b>	<b>\$ 2,247,502</b>	<b>\$ 2,352,098</b>	<b>\$ 2,453,672</b>	<b>\$ 2,304,465</b>	<b>\$ 2,481,872</b>	<b>1.15%</b>
<b>Other Sources &amp; Uses</b>						
Transfers In	142,903	106,392	140,167	155,327	157,578	12.42%
Transfers Out	(104,341)	-	(140,167)	(155,327)	(157,578)	12.42%
<b>Total Other Sources &amp; Uses</b>	<b>\$ 38,562</b>	<b>\$ 106,392</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>-</b>
Other Restricted	\$ (23,370)	\$ (17,374)	\$ -	\$ 11,319	\$ -	-



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