

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
MARICOPA COUNTY

CR2025-006831-001 DT

08/11/2025

HONORABLE JEFFREY A. RUETER

CLERK OF THE COURT
D. McHardy
Deputy

STATE OF ARIZONA

EDWARD DOUGLAS LEITER

v.

LAURA MICHELLE OWENS (001)

SANDRA SCHUTZ

COURT ADMIN-CRIMINAL-CCC
JUDGE RUETER

COMPLEX CASE ORDER

9:01 a.m.

Courtroom SCT 8A

State's Attorney:	Catherine Fu
Defendant's Attorney:	Sandra Schutz
Defendant:	Present

A record of the proceedings is made digitally in lieu of a court reporter.

This is the time set for Comprehensive Pretrial Conference.

The parties have filed a Comprehensive Pretrial Conference Statement.

COMPLEX CASE:

IT IS ORDERED granting the Defendant's Motion for Complex Case Designation for the following reasons:

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Expert witness(es).

SCHEDULING CONFERENCE & JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

IT IS ORDERED setting a Complex Case Management Conference on 09/25/2025 at 9:10 a.m. before this Division.

IT IS ORDERED vacating the Final Trial Management Conference on 10/16/2025 and resetting same on 01/15/2025 at 9:00 a.m. before this Division.

IT IS ORDERED vacating the Trial Assignment date of 10/23/2025 and resetting same on 01/22/2025 at 9:00 a.m. before the Master Calendar Assignment Judge. The Trial Assignment hearing is in person for all lawyers and defendants. The parties should contact the Trial Assignment division prior to the Trial Assignment date to request to appear virtually. The purpose of the hearing is to set dates for (1) the Trial Procedure Conference and (2) the jury selection date.

All self-represented litigants shall appear in person at the trial assignment date unless otherwise ordered. All in custody defendants shall be transported unless otherwise ordered.

Should the Trial Assignment Judge approve a virtual appearance, the Assignment Judge's division will email parties instructions and a link to join the Court Connect videoconference (for more information, visit <https://superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/court-connect/>). A hearing participant can also join by telephone by dialing 917-781-4590 and entering Access Code 103 815 458#. If a virtual appearance has been approved counsel of record and defendants are ordered to appear via videoconference with their webcams enabled.

No less than two working days before the first Scheduling Conference, the State and Defendant(s) shall file a Joint Case Management Plan expressly addressing the following issues:

1. Proposed trial date;
2. Length of trial and number of witnesses;
3. Final Trial Management Conference date;
4. Brief summary of alleged facts;
5. Discovery production schedule;
6. Witness interview schedule;
7. List of motions needing evidentiary hearing (length of hearing);
8. Schedule for filing motions, responses and replies;
9. Schedule for Motions in Limine;

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10. Expert witness issues (dates for defense to disclose experts and opinions, if different date than called for in Rule 15);
11. Special investigative needs;
12. General status of plea negotiations;
13. Plea cutoff date;
14. Settlement conference date;
15. Interpretation, translation and transcription needs;
16. Schedule of regular Case Management Conferences.

At the Scheduling Conference, the Court will set a Trial Date and Case Management Conference schedule. Case Management Conferences will be presumptively set every 45 to 60 days, or more or less frequently as circumstances dictate.

The lawyers who will try the case and the defendant(s) shall attend each Case Management Conference unless previously excused by the Court. The purpose of the Case Management Conference will be to review pretrial preparation to date, resolve issues, and schedule activities to be accomplished before the next Case Management Conference.

JOINT CASE MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

No less than two working days before each Case Management Conference, the parties shall file a Joint Case Management Report. This report will inform the Court of:

1. The specific progress made since the last Case Management Conference in completing activities previously established by the Court and the parties;
2. Specific case preparation to be completed before the next Case Management Conference;
3. Witnesses who have been interviewed in the preceding month;
4. Witnesses who will be interviewed in the upcoming month;
5. Pending issues to be resolved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED affirming prior release orders.

NEW LAST DAY: 02/23/2026.

Defendant is directed to appear at all scheduled court hearings and advised of the potential consequences should he/she fail to appear.

9:04 a.m. Matter concludes.