

Laura Conover
Pima County Attorney



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Administration Division

April 6, 2021

Mark Brnovich
Arizona Attorney General
2005 N. Central Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85004-2926

Attorney General Brnovich,

I regret that I have not been able to come up to Phoenix to properly introduce myself as the new County Attorney for your second largest county. COVID-19 has prevented me from so many of the proper courtesies my mother taught us kids. Also, I must confess I feel as though I have been drinking from a firehose. I imagine you can sympathize coming into a large prosecutorial agency from outside the Office (or at least in your case having been gone 12 years,) trying to learn it, and trying to make improvements.

To the point, one of the many truly complex obstacles in front of me is and must be a review of a particular set of cases, including those on death row, from my jurisdiction. No doubt you are aware of the unfortunate part of this Office's history that led to several disbarments and the undesirable result of appellate litigation that was born out of prosecutorial misconduct. Now that my name is attached to all the work of the Office, I need to undertake a review to be certain we haven't overlooked anything.

By no means do I want to cause undue delay, but I think we will all be well served by a temporary hold on any death warrants from Pima cases while we put to rest the history here out of the old homicide and capital units. We have reinforcements ready, so that we may proceed expeditiously despite the fact that I have not yet reached that meaningless but pervasive "100 Day" mark. Once completed, perhaps I can visit personally and connect to discuss any results.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Conover". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Laura Conover

Pima County Attorney