

**Arizona Supreme Court**  
**Criminal Petition for Review - Special Action**

**CR-23-0292-PR**

**STATE OF ARIZONA v HON. GREEN/JOHNSON**

**Appellate Case Information**

Case Filed: 21-Nov-2023  
Case Closed:

**Dept/Composition**

**Side 1. STATE OF ARIZONA, Petitioner**

(Litigant Group) STATE OF ARIZONA

- State of Arizona

**Attorneys for: Petitioner**

Laura P Chiasson, Esq. (AZ Bar No. 19025)  
Kristin K. Mayes, Esq. (AZ Bar No. 022584)  
Andrew Dysart, Esq. (AZ Bar No. 33934)

**Side 2. HON. JENNIFER GREEN, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA, in and for the County of Maricopa, Respondent Judge**

(Litigant Group) HON. JENNFIER GREEN, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA, in and for the County of Maricopa

- Hon Jennifer E Green, Maricopa County Superior Court

**Side 3. JAMES CLAYTON JOHNSON, Real Party in Interest**

(Litigant Group) JAMES CLAYTON JOHNSON

- James Clayton Johnson

**Attorneys for: Real Party in Interest**

Tamara D Brooks-Primera, Esq. (AZ Bar No. 11811)  
Treasure L VanDreumel, Esq. (AZ Bar No. 12392)

**Side 4. MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, Amicus Curiae**

(Litigant Group) MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

- Maricopa County Attorney's Office

**Attorneys for: Amicus Curiae**

Julie A Done, Esq. (AZ Bar No. 24370)  
Ryan Green, Esq. (AZ Bar No. 21102)

**CASE STATUS**

Nov 21, 2023....Pending

PREDECESSOR CASE(S)	Cause/Charge/Class	Judgment/Sentence	Judge, Role <Comments>	Trial	Dispo
1 CA	1 CA-SA 23-0196				
↗ MAR	CR2006-129786-001		Jennifer E Green, Authoring Judge of Order Comments: (none)		
↗ MAR	CR2010-048824-001		Jennifer E Green, Authoring Judge of Order Comments: (none)		
↗ MAR	CR2011-140108-001		Jennifer E Green, Authoring Judge of Order Comments: (none)		

**15 PROCEEDING ENTRIES**

- 21-Nov-2023 FILED: [STRICKEN Per ASC Order Filed 12/4/2023] RPI's Joint Petition for Review of a Special Action Decision of the Court of Appeals; Certificate of Service; (Copy of) Appointment of Counsel; Certificate of Compliance (Real Parties in Interest Johnson et al.)
- 21-Nov-2023 FILED: Motion to Exceed Word Limit Re: RPI's Joint Petition for Review of a Special Action Decision of the Court of Appeals; Certificate of Service (Real Parties in Interest Johnson et al.)
- 22-Nov-2023 FILED: Record from CofA: Electronic Record
- 22-Nov-2023 FILED: Notice of Conflict and Requested Recusal: Justices Beene, Lopez IV and Montgomery; Certificate of Service (Real Parties in Interest Johnson et al.)
- 22-Nov-2023 FILED: Minute Entry MCSC 10/16/2019 (Real Parties in Interest Johnson et al.)

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6. 27-Nov-2023 Real Parties in Interest filed a "Motion to Exceed Word Limit" on November 21, 2023. Pursuant to Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure, 31.6(e), a motion for a procedural order must include a statement by the moving party of whether the other parties consent to, or object to, the entry of the order that is sought; or why the moving party was unable to contact the other parties before filing the motion and the caption of a motion for procedural order must include the words, "Motion for Procedural Order." Therefore,  
  
IT IS ORDERED the motion is denied without prejudice to Real Parties in Interest's ability to file a motion in compliance with Arizona Rules of Crim. Proc. Rule 31.6(e). (Tracie K. Lindeman Clerk)
7. 28-Nov-2023 FILED: Motion for Procedural Order Re: RPI's Joint Petition for Review of a Special Action Decision of the Court of Appeals; Certificate of Service (Real Party in Interest Johnson et al.)
8. 28-Nov-2023 FILED: RRPI Parker's and RPI Acuna-Valenzuela's Joinder in Notice of Conflict and Request Recusal: Justices Beene, Lopez IV and Montgomery; Certificate of Service (Real Party in Interest Johnson et al.)
9. 28-Nov-2023 FILED: (Copy of) Appointment of Counsel (Real Party in Interest Johnson et al.)
10. 28-Nov-2023 A "Motion for Procedural Order Re: RPI's Joint Petition for Review of a Special Action Decision of the Court of Appeals" (Real Party in Interest Johnson, et al.) having been filed with a 3,803-word count petition for review, and the Clerk of the Court having been authorized by the Supreme Court to enter orders granting or denying requests for extended word count,  
  
IT IS ORDERED granting Real Parties in Interest's motion to exceed the word count limit on the petition for review by 303 words for a total of 3,803 words. The petition for review shall be filed this date. (Tracie K. Lindeman Clerk)

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11. 4-Dec-2023 On November 21, 2023, Real Parties in Interest James Clayton Johnson ("Johnson"), Steven John Parker ("Parker"), and Jose Acuna-Valenzuela ("Acuna-Valenzuela") (collectively "Real Parties in Interest") filed RPI's Joint Petition for Review of a Special Action Decision of the Court of Appeals.
- On November 22, 2023, Johnson filed a Notice of Conflict and Requested Recusal: Justices Beene, Lopez IV, and Montgomery.
- On November 28, 2023, Parker and Acuna-Valenzuela filed RPI Parker and RPI Acuna-Valenzuela's Joinder in Notice of Conflict and Requested Recusal: Justices Beene, Lopez IV, and Montgomery.
- Justice Lopez having previously notified the Clerk's Office of his recusal as to each of the Real Parties in Interest in this matter,
- IT IS ORDERED that the Notice of Conflict and Requested Recusal seeking the recusal of Justice Lopez as to the Real Parties in Interest is denied as moot.
- Justice Beene having previously notified the Clerk's Office of his recusal as to Real Party in Interest Parker,
- IT IS ORDERED that the Notice of Conflict and Requested Recusal seeking the recusal of Justice Beene, as to Real Party in Interest Parker, is denied as moot.
- Notwithstanding Justice Beene's recusal as to Real Party in Interest Parker, contrary to the statement that "Justice Beene's tenure in [ ] either MCAO and/or the AGO covers all three capital cases in these proceedings," Justice Beene was with neither the Maricopa County Attorney's Office nor the Arizona Attorney General's Office while those offices represented the State of Arizona during Real Party in Interest Johnson's and Real Party in Interest Acuna-Valenzuela's cases. Therefore,
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Notice of Conflict and Requested Recusal seeking the recusal of Justice Beene as to this matter involving Real Party in Interest Johnson's case and Real Party in Interest Acuna-Valenzuela's case is denied.
- Justice Montgomery having previously notified the Clerk's Office of his recusal as to Real Party in Interest Johnson and Real Party in Interest Acuna-Valenzuela,
- IT IS ORDERED that the Notice of Conflict and Requested Recusal seeking the recusal of Justice Montgomery as to Real Party in Interest Johnson and Real Party in Interest Acuna-Valenzuela is denied as moot.
- Notwithstanding Justice Montgomery's recusal as to Real Party in Interest Johnson and Real Party in Interest Acuna-Valenzuela, Justice Montgomery, although employed by the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, was not involved in Real Party in Interest Parker's trial, which concluded prior to Justice Montgomery becoming the Maricopa County Attorney. Therefore,
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Notice of Conflict and Requested Recusal seeking the recusal of Justice Montgomery as to this matter involving Real Party in Interest Parker's case is denied.
- Sua sponte,
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this consolidated matter is divided into three separate matters, as follows:
- As the initially named real party in interest, Johnson's petition for review shall continue under the instant case number CR-23-0292-PR.
- Real Party in Interest Parker's matter shall proceed as CR-23-0296-PR.
- Real Party in Interest Acuna-Valenzuela's matter shall proceed as CR-23-0297-PR.
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the caption of this matter is hereby amended to reflect this order.
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Johnson shall have ten days from the date of this order to file an amended petition for review in this matter addressing the issue presented in the RPI's Joint Petition strictly related to Maricopa County Superior Court case CR2010-048824-001. The amended petition for review shall strictly adhere to the requirements of Ariz. R.P. Spec. Act. 8 and Ariz. R. Crim. P. 31.21.
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Parker shall have ten days from the date of this order to file an amended petition for review in case number CR-23-0296-PR addressing the issue presented in the RPI's Joint Petition strictly related to Maricopa County Superior Court case CR2006-129786-001. The amended petition for review shall strictly adhere to the requirements of Ariz. R.P. Spec. Act. 8 and Ariz. R. Crim. P. 31.21.
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Acuna-Valenzuela shall have ten days from the date of this order to file an amended petition for review in case number CR-23-0297-PR addressing the issue presented in the RPI's Joint Petition strictly related to Maricopa County Superior Court case CR2011-140108-001. The amended petition for review shall strictly adhere to the requirements of Ariz. R.P. Spec. Act. 8 and Ariz. R. Crim. P. 31.21.
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the State of Arizona may file a response to each amended petition pursuant to Ariz. R. Crim. P. 31.21.
- IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court shall file this order in this matter and contemporaneously in matters CR-23-0296-PR and CR-23-0297-PR.

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The Court will consider each Amended Petition for Review of a Special Action Decision of the Court of Appeals in due course.  
(Hon. Kathryn H. King)

12. 14-Dec-2023 FILED: RPI Johnson's Amended Petition for Review of a Special Action Decision of the Court of Appeals; Certificate of Service; Certificate of Compliance (Real Party in Interest Johnson)
13. 14-Dec-2023 FILED: Appendix Part One to to RPI Johnson's Amended Petition for Review of a Special Action Decision of the Court of Appeals; Certificate of Service; Appendix Part Two to to RPI Johnson's Amended Petition for Review of a Special Action Decision of the Court of Appeals (Real Party in Interest Johnson)
14. 14-Dec-2023 FILED: (Copy of) Appointment of Counsel; Party Contact Information (Real Party in Interest Johnson)
15. 16-Jan-2024 FILED: The State of Arizona's Response to Petition for Review; Certificate of Service; Certificate of Compliance (Petitioner State)