

Guardian Law Group

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Phone:

Attorney for Defendant *Owens*

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA
MARICOPA COUNTY**

STATE OF ARIZONA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

LAURA MICHELLE OWENS,

Defendant.

CR2025-007905-001

**MOTION TO CONTINUE;
REQUEST FOR SETTLEMENT
CONFERENCE**

Arraignment: 12/2/2025

Trial Assignment: 7/29/2026

Prior Continuances: 0

(Hon. Jeffrey Rueter)

Defendant Laura Owens, by and through undersigned counsel, and pursuant to Rule 8 of the *Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure*, respectfully requests this Court enter an Order continuing the Final Trial Management Conference and Trial Assignment Date, currently scheduled for 7/22/2026 at 8:45 AM, and 7/29/2026 at 9:00 AM respectively, for 90 days. The State, represented by DCA Edward Leiter, was consulted and has no objection to this Motion.

Discovery is complete and Defendant's discovery review is ongoing. The parties are also in the final stages of plea negotiation. At the previous Complex Case

1 Management Conference on 6/29/2026, the parties discussed several issues, including:
2 setting a realistic trial date in late-October, and scheduling a Settlement Conference in
3 this division in late-August. At that time, the proposed date was 8/28/2026.

4 In addition, Defendant was recently granted indigency status for the purposes of
5 retaining the assistance of an expert in the area of digital forensics. The additional time
6 between now and the proposed Settlement Conference date will be used by Defendant
7 to retain said expert and prepare mitigation.

8 The requested Settlement Conference will very likely represent the plea
9 deadline, and the parties believe that a Trial Date in late-October is realistic. Plea
10 negotiation status aside, the parties require additional time to prepare for trial.

11 Therefore, because the current Trial Assignment Date is unrealistic, and
12 extraordinary circumstances exist, Defendant requests that this Court continue the Final
13 Trial Management Conference and Trial Assignment Date for 90 days, and extend the
14 last day accordingly. The parties also request that the Court schedule a Settlement
15 Conference at its convenience. Defendant waives any applicable time pursuant to Rule
16 8, *Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure*.

17 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 20th day of July, 2026.

18 **Guardian Law Group**

19 **By: /s/ Christian Lueders**

20 Christian Lueders

20 Attorney for Defendant

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1 **ORIGINAL** e-filed this 20th day of July, 2026.

2 **Clerk of the Superior Court - Maricopa County**
3 [REDACTED]

4 **COPIES** delivered electronically this 20th day of July, 2026.

5 **The Honorable Jeffrey Rueter**
6 Judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court
c/o Rachele Stock
7 [REDACTED]

8 **Maricopa County Attorney's Office**
9 Deputy County Attorney Edward Leiter
10 [REDACTED]

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By: /s/ Christian Lueders