

April 19, 2016

Ms. Darcy Olsen  
President & CEO  
Goldwater Institute  
500 East Coronado Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Dear Ms. Olsen:

As chief executives of groups representing hundreds of business leaders across our state, especially Southern Arizona, we respectfully request the Goldwater Institute to reconsider and immediately withdraw its lawsuit against Pima County. The future of Arizona's economic competitiveness is at stake. We believe that sound public-private partnerships are critical tools in fostering a strong climate for economic growth and new job creation throughout Arizona. A lawsuit stemming from Pima County's project with World View Enterprises, Inc. not only could result in Southern Arizona forfeiting a hard fought economic victory but also unnecessarily would call into question our state's capacity to grow its innovation economy.

Using recognized economic development tools, officials from Pima County worked for months with senior leadership of many economic development organizations and key institutions to craft a winning competitive package that ensured World View would decide to base its global headquarters at the Pima County Aerospace, Defense and Technology Business and Research Park just south of Raytheon Missile Systems.

World View's presence in Arizona complements Governor Doug Ducey's economic development efforts to make our state the top destination for technology and innovation. This opportunity helps open a new industry sector — space technology — in Arizona, providing a competitive beachhead to attract other similar businesses to the state. From our perspective, the project involves quality people with investors behind it. In addition, attorneys and economic development professionals from various jurisdictions — not just Pima County — meticulously vetted arrangements with World View.

The Goldwater Institute's lawsuit already has negatively impacted Tucson and Southern Arizona. If the suit proceeds, it will further hurt the city, region and entire state at a time when our economy is showing signs of improvement. Winning World View's nationally competitive site selection process was a major economic feat. By allowing the lawsuit to continue, World View investors will sustain unwarranted uncertainty and future investment will be dampened, which would be catastrophic for Arizona.

We ask the Goldwater Institute to carefully consider the unintended consequences of this lawsuit. As senior business leaders, we are deeply concerned about the future of Arizona's economy. For that reason alone, we respectfully request that the Institute rethink and dismiss this lawsuit immediately.

For the Future of Arizona's Economy,

Ronald E. Shoopman  
President + CEO



Southern Arizona Leadership Council

Michael Varney  
President & CEO



Growing Businesses. Building Communities.

Steven G. Zylstra  
President + CEO



Gonzalo A. de la Melena Jr.  
President + CEO



Joe Snell  
President + CEO



Michael Keith  
CEO

