

District Overview-2014 Fourth Judicial District

The Fourth Judicial District encompasses all of El Paso and Teller Counties and includes both urban as well as rural populations spread over a sizeable geographic area. The 2010 Census lists El Paso County as the most populous county in the state (2010 Census Bureau). The largest city in the District is Colorado Springs. In addition to the Fountain and Widefield areas, the district also serves Monument, Manitou Springs, Woodland Park and Cripple Creek, where the Historic Teller County Courthouse is located.

The Fourth Judicial District serves a population of approximately 668,000 people. Unique to this demographic is an estimated 80,739 veterans living in the District, roughly 20% of the statewide veteran population. The District is home to five military installations (Ft. Carson Army Post, Peterson Air Force Base, Schriever Air Force Base, US Air Force Academy and Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station) (US Census Bureau).

In the last Fiscal Year, **over 92,000 cases were filed**: 29,167 cases filed in District Court and 63,670 cases filed in County Court. In this past fiscal year, the court and probation combined to **collect almost \$3.4 million dollars in restitution** for victims of crime. The district has a total budget of \$23 million dollars. The Colorado Springs Courthouse hosts more than 900,000 visitors per year and is on of the busiest (if not the busiest) courthouse in the state.

The caseload is the responsibility of **22 District Court Judges** (one of which sits in Teller County), **11 County Court Judges** (one of which sits in Teller County) and 12 Magistrates. The District also has 192.63 Authorized FTE in the Trial Court and 102.85 allocated FTE in Probation. Additionally, the District manages 10 grant funded positions and over 40 volunteers.

Some of our specialized programs include:

- **First Appearance Center** in El Paso County
- **Domestic Fast Track** docket in El Paso and Teller County.
- **Court Care**, which is an on-site child care center located in the El Paso County Courthouse has served over 30,000 children since opening it's doors in May of 2003.
- Office of Dispute Resolution—Under the direction of Director Michelle McKenna, our program continues to be one of the most innovative and successful mediation programs in the state.
- **Justice Colorado Corp** program is in its 6th year. This program uses UCCS and CC students who are under the AmeriCorps Program to assist the

public with resources. We presently have 5 students working in the court on a regular basis.

- **Self-Help/Access to Justice**—In the past year, the District has utilized the allocation of two FTE to better assist self-represented parties to further enhance services within the courthouse and to expand cooperative relationships with community partners for self-represented parties. The staff has been building relationships with community organizations such as the local bar association and Access to Justice Commission to provide services and resources to litigants who need assistance in navigating the court and directing them to resources to help them to manage their cases.

Addressing behavior and addiction issues is a collaborative team effort and Problem Solving Courts utilize the unique skills and authority of Judicial Officer, Probation Officer, District Attorney, Public Defender, Human Services, law enforcement and community treatment providers all working together. The 4th Judicial District operates **10 Problem Solving Courts**:

- DUI Court in both El Paso County and Teller County
- Veteran's Trauma Court
- Adult Drug Court
- Intensive Supervision (ISP) Drug Court
- Mental Health Court
- Domestic Violence Court
- Family treatment drug court
- Truancy Court
- Child Support Contempt Court

One highlight that occurred this year was a stop at the City Auditorium for the National Association of Drug Court professionals All Rise event. The 4th Problem Solving Courts coordinated the event locally as a "Collaboration Celebration" and showcased information from each of the Problem Solving Courts including personal success stories from court graduates.

The Honorable Gilbert Martinez is the Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial District and the Honorable David Prince is the Deputy Chief Judge. They are assisted in administrative duties by a team of dedicated judges who preside over Domestic, Civil, Probate, Juvenile, Criminal Court, and County Court areas.

Please address any questions related to the Trial Courts to Mary Perry, District Administrator, at 719-452-5270 or mary.perry@judicial.state.co.us. Questions regarding Probation in the Fourth Judicial District may be directed to Ellen Walker, Chief Probation Officer, at 719-452-5702 or ellen.walker@judicial.state.co.us.

Fourth Judicial District Nominating Commission

(Teller and El Paso Counties)
Updated: January, 2014

Name	Party	Atty. or Non-Atty	Term of Office		County of Residence
			Beginning	Ending	
Mary Lou Makepeace	R	Non-Atty	01/01/10	12/31/15	El Paso
Trudy Strewler	D	Non-Atty	01/01/10	12/31/15	El Paso
Jack Donley	R	Attorney	11/20/12	12/31/17	El paso
Beth Lieberman	R	Non-Atty	11/20/12	12/31/17	El Paso
Lynn Olney	R	Attorney	01/01/10/	12/31/15	El Paso
Mary Barrowman	U	Non-Atty	01/01/10	12/31/15	Teller
Larry Gaddis	D	Attorney	01/01/14	12/31/19	El Paso

Rules of Procedure for Fourth Judicial District Nominating Commission

1. A quorum shall consist of no less than five members of the Commission. A majority of the members present, if there be a quorum, may take any action except the nomination of candidates or the amendment or adoption of rules. The nomination of candidates or the adoption or amendment of rules shall require an affirmative vote of no less than four members of the Commission.
2. Letters of reference shall be sent directly to the Ex-Officio Chair of the Commission, and those writing such letters shall be instructed not to provide a copy of such letters to the respective applicants.

Amended: 7/30/98