

2015 Annual Report to the Community

...I should
... We had a m
(emph) We had a m
jus·tice /'dʒʌstɪs/
of being right and
to, in order to be
show that

PARTNERS IN JUSTICE



Many of the accomplishments the court has highlighted over the years in the Annual Report to the Community would not have been possible without the many hours of volunteer support and assistance from partner agencies and community groups. This year, the Annual Report recognizes this valuable work and puts a face on the many volunteers and partners who assist the courts in a number of ways.



HONORABLE
Matthew B. Durrant
*Chief Justice,
Utah Supreme Court*



Daniel J. Becker
*Utah State Court
Administrator*

Sixty volunteers currently assist judges by gathering information on incapacitated adults as part of the Court Visitor Program; 770 CASA volunteers serve 1,420 child victims of alleged abuse, neglect and dependency; 27 volunteer mediators help create a dialogue between the accused and the victim of a crime under the Restorative Justice Program; and 25 volunteer mentors spend time with troubled youth as part of The Village Project. All of these volunteers, and more, give of their time, which collectively translates to literally thousands of hours each year. This important work is done outside the courtroom by community members for community members. The service these volunteers perform makes a substantial difference and is invaluable.

By the same token, the work of Utah Judicial Council and Utah Supreme Court committees is enriched by the different perspectives brought by numerous attorneys, subject matter experts, agencies and community representatives. An example is the Court Facilities Standing Committee, which, in addition to judges and court administrators, also includes a University of Utah architecture professor and a retired builder. These members provide the committee with necessary expertise on matters concerning the construction and renovation of court facilities.

Utah's court system has a reputation for being forward thinking and well managed. That reputation is due in no small measure to the insight, commitment and passion to help brought by those who give of their time and expertise. We in the courts and, indeed, every Utahn owes these volunteers a debt of gratitude.

We would like to express appreciation to Governor Gary Herbert and members of the Legislature for their continued support of Utah's courts.

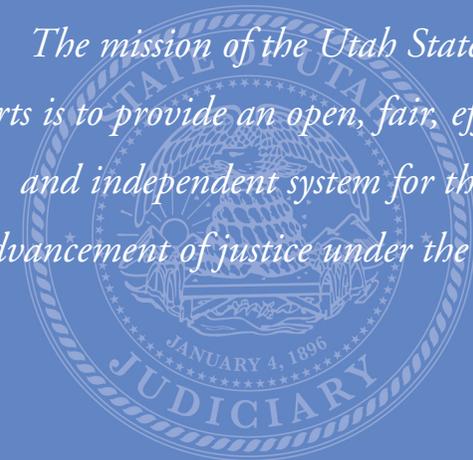
Honorable Matthew B. Durrant
Chief Justice, Utah Supreme Court

Daniel J. Becker
Utah State Court Administrator

<hr/>
3
Court Volunteers
<hr/>
7
Partnerships
<hr/>
12
Navigating the Court System
<hr/>
13
Court Governance and Administration
<hr/>
20
Awards, Honors, Recognition
<hr/>
23
2014 Court Caseloads

UTAH STATE COURT'S MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of the Utah State
Courts is to provide an open, fair, efficient,
and independent system for the
advancement of justice under the law.*



Court Volunteers

COURT VOLUNTEERS WANTED

As the saying goes, many hands make light work and the courts are no exception. There are a number of court committees and programs that rely on the work of volunteers to operate. Whether it's a committee on the Rules of Criminal Procedure, a mentor program for youth, or a guardianship program for incapacitated adults, volunteers are essential to the court's work.

Volunteers Central to Court Visitor Program Success

Adults who lose the capacity to make decisions about their lives may need the special protection of a guardian to look out for their best interests. But that doesn't always happen and sometimes oversight of the guardian is necessary. That's where the Court Visitor program can help. When a judge appoints a court visitor volunteer, that person is responsible for gathering facts for the judge to decide the extent of a person's incapacity, the nature of a guardian's authority and to ensure court orders are being followed.

The Court Visitor program relies on volunteers to be the eyes and ears of the court to observe, gather information and report back about the circumstances of incapacitated adults. There are currently 60 volunteers working for the program. One such volunteer is Kumar Shah who began helping with the Court Visitor program in October 2012. Shah is a retired engineer who feels vulnerable populations require care and attention. His motivation to volunteer is to improve circumstances of the vulnerable. "My guiding principle is that the many resources I have been blessed with should be shared with others," Shah says.

To learn more about volunteering, go to www.utcourts.gov/visitor.

Ensuring the Best for Children

Since 1994, the Office of Guardian ad Litem (GAL) has provided attorneys to represent the best interests of children and teens in cases of alleged abuse, neglect and dependency in the juvenile courts. In the 20 years since the office was established, the GAL has assisted thousands of youth to navigate difficult family situations.

The office operates with more than 40 attorneys state wide who are trained in this specialized area of law. In court cases where a family is in crisis and children are being mistreated or not receiving proper care, there is no one with more at stake than the child. A GAL attorney ensures the child's rights are protected, the child's voice is heard and the child's best interests are advanced.

The GAL attorney works with a dedicated support staff and pool of trained citizen volunteers who serve as Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). CASA is a volunteer organization that empowers everyday citizens to assist GAL attorneys in the representation of abused and neglected children. CASA volunteers receive thorough training and are supported by professional staff in each case.

In fiscal year 2014, CASA volunteers served more than 1,420 children and donated nearly 34,590 volunteer hours.



CASA volunteers assist GAL attorneys by gathering information from community resources, attending court, visiting with children on a regular basis, recommending services and monitoring plans and court orders.

GAL attorneys have large caseloads and are not able to visit their clients as often as they would like. CASA volunteers become the eyes and ears of the GAL attorney and work to make sure the best interests of the child are being met.

CASA volunteers also act as educational advocates and provide valuable information to the GAL attorney about the child's progress and attendance in school. "Kids can go through multiple foster homes and change schools many times," says Lynne Stevenson, a CASA volunteer in Logan. "We talk to the teachers to see how the kids are doing and make sure education records get from one school to the next."

When Lynne Stevenson began volunteering five years ago, she soon realized the positive impact she could have in a child's life. "I'm in the child's corner," she says. "And though I can't fix all of the problems, I can make a difference through CASA."

Healing Through Restorative Justice

Crime is a wound that affects not only victims, but communities as well. To heal these wounds takes the involvement of everyone involved. When the offender takes responsibility for his or her actions and the victim can express the harm caused by the offender, everyone can begin to move forward and heal.

A unique approach to healing can be found through the Utah State Court's Restorative Justice Program, which offers a dialogue between the person charged with a crime and the victim of a crime.

Dialogue is a powerful tool that helps restore the losses suffered by crime victims, while holding offenders accountable for the harm they have caused. Facilitating the dialogue requires the unique skills of a trained mediator to ensure a successful outcome for everyone involved.

The court has enlisted the help of 27 trained volunteers to mediate in the Restorative Justice Program. One such volunteer is Karen Goff, who assists with the victim-offender program in the 5th Judicial District. Goff originally volunteered for the program to put her extensive mediation background to work after moving to St. George from New York. Once her training was complete, Goff began victim-offender mediation where she found the stakes to be higher than other mediation programs. "The victim realizes the offender needs a chance to make restitution and a better life for themselves," Goff says. "At the same time, the juvenile offender comes to realize they've made a mistake."

Goff, who also volunteers for the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program and the Court Visitor Program, is motivated by her desire to help youth. "Kids are my passion," she says. "I'm rewarded in knowing that somebody's life will be better."

The Village Project

The 3rd District Juvenile Court took the proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child," to heart in 1994, when it created The Village Project. The program, which serves court-involved youth in Salt Lake County, pairs a volunteer adult mentor with a youth based on common interests.

Currently, there are about 25 volunteer mentors working with youth and the waiting list for mentors is growing. Volunteer mentors must be at least 21 years old and

agree to meet with a youth for about one hour per week for a six-month period. The mentor spends time with the youth doing a variety of activities, such as hiking, visiting a museum or helping with homework. The program is a simple yet powerful way to impact a child's life.

When Julia Mortimer began volunteering for The Village Project two years ago, she was a University of Utah student with her sights set on graduate school. While at a volunteer fair at the university Mortimer met Alicia Lucero, program coordinator for The Village Project. "I was looking to work with teenagers and pursued the program because I wanted to give troubled youth opportunities and expose them to new things," Mortimer says.

Mortimer spends time with the youth doing things they may have never tried before, which often takes them out of their comfort zone. "We start by making a bucket list of ideas and go from there," Mortimer says. Sometimes she takes the youth ice skating, to the library or visits a college campus. "Not all kids in the judicial system have to be there," Mortimer says. "There are options. I try to help them to learn how to make better decisions and to create a positive future."

In turn, Mortimer says she has gained from volunteering in The Village Project. "This program has helped me to get out of my bubble and realize the world doesn't revolve around me," Julia says. "It has helped me to be more compassionate towards people."

Council Counts on Committee Input

As the governing body of Utah's courts, the Judicial Council directs the operation of the state's judiciary. It's a responsibility that Council members take seriously and decisions are made with considerable input and discussion.

The Judicial Council seeks feedback and recommendations on programs, policies and rules from court committees that are comprised of community members who are leaders in various disciplines and can provide expertise on a variety of issues and topics.

Of the 24 court committees, 10 are Judicial Council Standing Committees that address everything from ethics to language access to technology. In addition, there are 10 Utah Supreme Court Committees that focus on legal discipline as well as on court rules and professionalism. Additional committees provide oversight for programs such as alternative dispute resolution, the Office of Guardian ad Litem and the Utah State Law Library.

When Brian Steckelin, associate dean of continuing education, Weber State University, joined the court's Standing Committee on Education a few years ago, he was surprised to see the level of education activity underway in the courts as well as the dedication the courts have to education. "My involvement in the committee has opened my eyes to how important education is to the courts and how extensive it is," Steckelin said. "In turn, I've learned about how the court system works and functions."

For a complete listing of Utah State Court committees, go to www.utcourts.gov/committees.





Partnerships

PARTNERS ENSURE PROGRAM SUCCESS

When it comes to delivering programs, the Utah State Courts rely on a number of agencies, institutions and organizations to be successful. The court's partners work together towards common goals to provide educational opportunities, reduce recidivism, help clients overcome addiction and ensure a child's success.

Partnering for Safety

The Utah State Court's mission statement calls for "the advancement of justice under the law." While justices, judges, commissioners and court staff strive to advance justice through legal processes and proceedings, it is the court's partnership with local sheriffs' offices that assures a safe and secure environment in which patrons can seek justice or respond to allegations of wrongdoing.

This partnership is most visible when entering the courthouse. Deputies staff the security screening area to ensure that individuals are free of weapons or other items that could cause injury to another. Since courthouses are by their very nature places of conflict, it is vital that officers provide an environment that prevents threats, intimidation or injury and allow conflicts to be resolved safely.

In addition to their role as weapon screeners, the partnership with each sheriff's office also extends into the courtroom where bailiffs are assigned. The bailiffs keep order in the courtroom and also assist the judge efficiently move through the court calendar. They do so by ensuring that all parties to a case are present and prepared to proceed. They also control when defendants, witnesses and individuals in custody are brought into the courtroom.

Finally, a less visible component of the partnership between the courts and each sheriff's office is training. The court provides semi-annual security training to newly-assigned court security officers, while sheriff's deputies provide security, safety and emergency response training to court personnel. The security of each courthouse depends on everyone's participation and understanding of each other's role, which makes this court partnership essential.

Smarter Sentencing Reduces Recidivism

During September 2014, a group of 34 criminal defense attorneys, judges, probation officers, prosecutors and state court administrators gathered in Salt Lake to examine how criminals are sentenced. The two-day workshop is just one effort to determine how smarter sentencing can reduce recidivism.

Nationwide, state trial judges are concerned about the high rates of recidivism. One solution to the problem is evidence-based sentencing, which has proven to reduce recidivism by holding offenders accountable. The Utah workshop was part of a larger effort by the Pew Charitable Trusts' Public Safety Performance Project that is working to protect public safety, hold offenders accountable and control the escalating cost of corrections.

One goal of the Utah workshop was to train participants on how to target offenders—through needs assessment tools—who are most likely to respond to recidivism reduction strategies, such as effective probation supervision and treatment programs. Another goal was to form teams to design and implement action plans that incorporate components of the training.

The benefits to implementing evidence-based sentencing include cost effectiveness, improved public safety, reduced crime and re-focused state spending on other economic and social priorities. But this can't be done alone. The court is one partner working towards the common goal of reducing recidivism in Utah.

Partnerships in Problem-Solving Courts

In 1996, Utah's first drug court began operating in the 3rd Judicial District. Since that time, hundreds of individuals have successfully graduated from this unique problem-solving court and started living drug-free lives. Today, 42 drug courts operate throughout the state along with mental health courts, homeless courts and, more recently, veterans' courts.

The success of problem-solving courts is due in large part to the contribution of a number of organizations that work together to help offenders succeed. This means helping participants overcome their addictions, address their mental

health issues and solve their medical problems all while assisting offenders find jobs and remedy educational shortfalls.

The judge is but one player on a problem-solving court team. The judge plays the role of a coach to bring partners together to address issues unique to each individual involved in a problem solving court. A primary partner is Utah's Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, which has 14 regions that contract with local service providers. These providers offer needed counseling and substance abuse treatment for offenders.

Other partners, such as Adult Probation and Parole and county sheriffs' offices supervise offenders to ensure they are complying with court orders.

The effective operation of problem solving courts relies on coordinated management, monitoring and evaluation systems. Whether it is Bear River Health Department in northern Utah or Four Corners Community Behavioral Health in the southeastern part of the state, community-based partnerships generate local support and enhance the effectiveness of problem-solving courts.

Courts Partner to Offer Continuing Education

Most citizens probably don't think of the judiciary as offering continuing education. But Utah's court system has an Education Department that works to foster a culture of learning among judges and court staff in order to offer a high standard of service and justice to the community.

Each year, judges and court staff attend classes and conferences to fulfill educational requirements. Judges are required to take 30 hours of continuing education, while court employees must finish 20 hours. The court's Education Department schedules hundreds of classes annually on topics such as constitutional law, ethics and customer service to provide judges and staff with a broad range of content to choose from.

The court relies on community partners to teach these classes and collaborates with a variety of agencies, educational institutions and organizations to provide the necessary training for employees not only to do their jobs, but to excel in the workplace.

Through the years, the court has formed valuable partnerships with Utah's public and private universities, as well as the University of Nevada at Reno, Michigan State University and the National Judicial College. In addition, the court works with law enforcement agencies, public service agencies and the Utah State Bar to bring in national experts to speak on important and timely topics of interest to the judiciary.

These partnerships have resulted in the court's first-ever distance learning courses and expert academies to enhance the court's workforce skills. Plus, advanced multi-disciplinary courses in specialized fields such as the arts, law, medicine, sociology and technology have benefited judicial officers as a result of the court's strong educational partnerships.

Bringing Citizens Closer to the Courts

What once required a trip to the courthouse is now available online .
Here are 10 services available via the court's website at www.utcourts.gov.

Services

- 1 Pay fines and fees
- 2 Qualify for jury duty
- 3 Look up court calendars
- 4 Request an interpreter for any language
- 5 Find court forms
- 6 Seek court assistance
- 7 Issue e-citations
- 8 Find a divorce education class
- 9 Stream Appellate Court oral arguments
- 10 Review court performance measures at www.utcourts.gov/courtools



Juvenile Courts: Partners in Education

An educated workforce begins with the state's youth. Kids involved with the court system often have poor school performance. Research by Utah State University in 2011, found that those in state custody lagged behind their peers in academic performance and proficiency, which resulted in lower GPAs, higher drop out rates and a higher placement in special education. In 2013-14, Utah's Board of Juvenile Court Judges formed an Education Workgroup to address this issue and improve educational outcomes for youth under court jurisdiction.

A significant step towards improving educational outcomes of youth in care was to create partnerships with the Utah State Office of Education, the Utah Department

of Human Services and the Utah Juvenile Court. These entities now share education data with the goal of improving the outcomes for youth who are in custody or under the guardianship of the state or the jurisdiction of the Utah Juvenile Court.

As a start, a court report form has been created to provide educational information about youth during court hearings. This report helps judges to better understand how a child is doing in school. In addition, a webpage of education resources has been created to provide judges with information about what schools require of their students.

Through this education partnership, judges anticipate seeing an improvement in the academic achievement of court-involved youth.

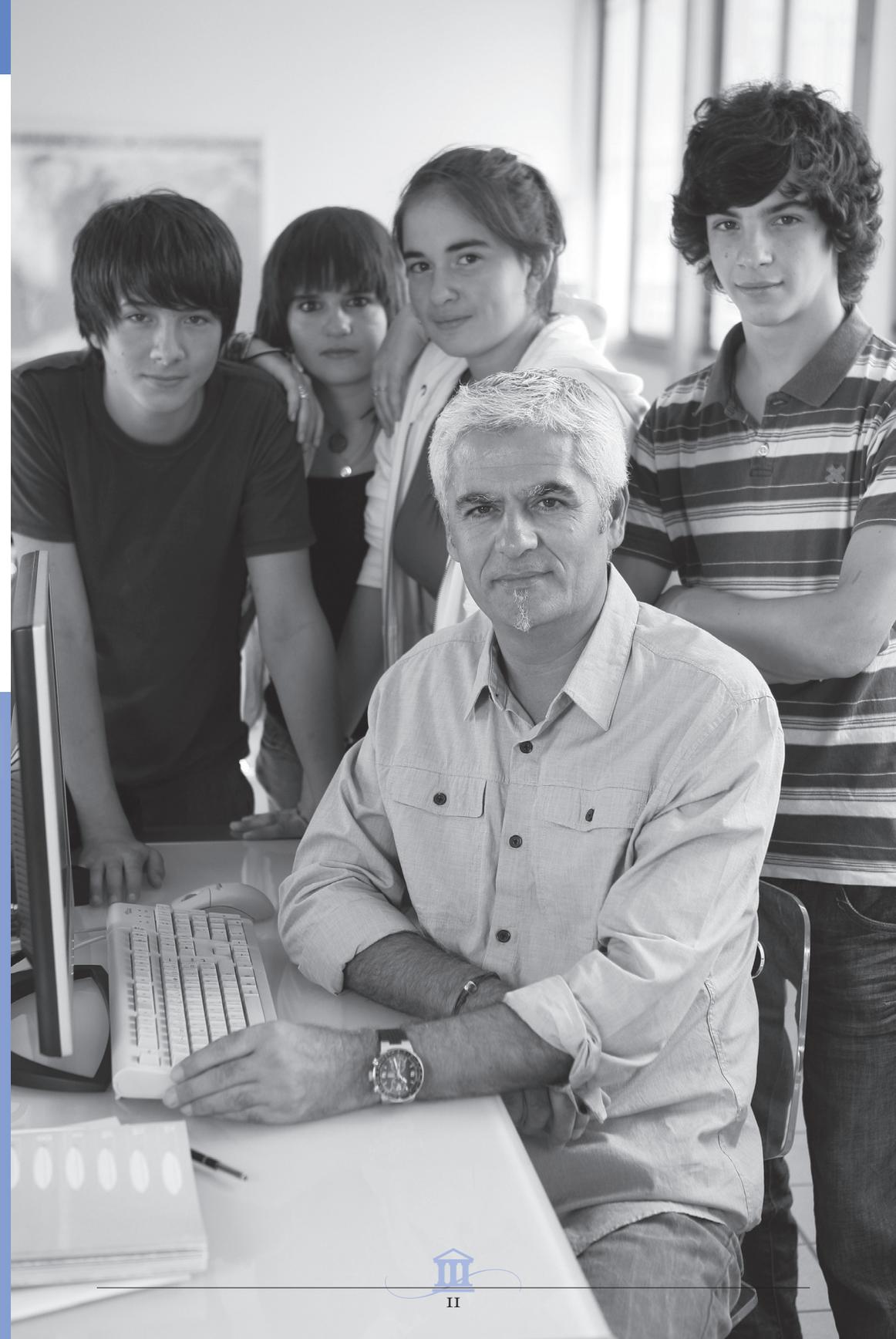
Media Coverage Provides Transparency

National studies have shown that the public learns about the judiciary primarily from watching television. A Public Trust and Confidence Survey conducted by the Utah State Courts in 2012 found that TV news, dramas and movies rank high as sources of information about the courts. The problem is that Hollywood doesn't present a realistic view of what happens in court. It would be unheard of for a court case to be charged and tried within days as many crime shows portray.

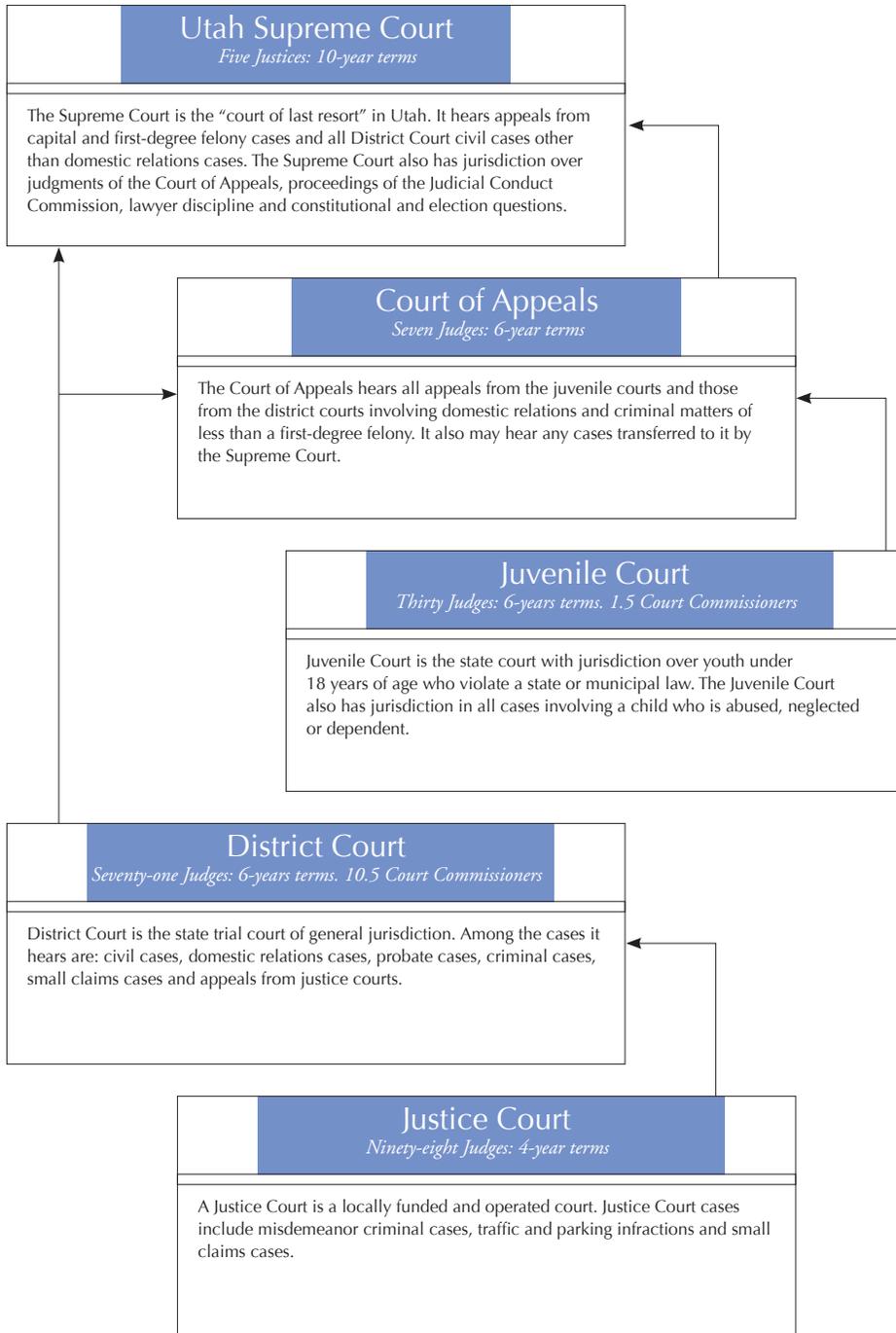
Television stations need visuals to best report on a court story and until recently stations had to rely on still photographs to do so. A new court rule—that went into effect in April 2013—allows media outlets to now video and audio record court proceedings.

Getting to this point took a lot of research and study by the judiciary, but the change has opened the courts and allowed the public to see court proceedings as if they were there. Utah's television media has embraced the new rule and are now a regular fixture in most high-profile cases.

While a major shift like allowing cameras into a courtroom wasn't an easy change to make, the court realizes the benefits of letting the public see the process and better understand what happens in Utah's courtrooms.



Navigating the Court System



Court Governance and Administration



2014-2015 UTAH JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Left to right: Judge Randall N. Skanchy, Judge Kimberly K. Hornak, Judge Reed S. Parkin, Judge David C. Marx, Judge John L. Sandberg, Judge Ann Boyden, Judge James Z. Davis, Chief Justice Matthew B. Durrant, Judge Marvin D. Bagley, Court Administrator Daniel J. Becker, Judge Thomas M. Higbee, Justice Jill N. Parrish, Utah State Bar Representative John Lund, Judge Glen R. Dawson, Judge David N. Mortensen.

A CHANGING BENCH

The judicial office is unique in our society. A judge is a public servant who holds an office of high public trust and who answers to the public. A judge is tasked with resolving disputes impartially and must base decisions solely on the facts of a case and the law.

The road to becoming a judge is an arduous one. In addition to the statutory age, residential and educational requirements, there is an extensive application and interview process. A Judicial Nominating Commission reviews the applications, conducts interviews and selects a minimum of three to five names to certify to the Governor. Next, the Governor interviews the candidates and appoints an individual whose name is then forwarded to the Senate for confirmation.

Since Governor Gary Herbert took office in 2009, he has appointed 50 judges to the bench, primarily due to retirements. This translates to 44 percent of the state’s judicial officers. Utah is fortunate to have in place a merit selection process for judges. So rather than require judges to run in contested elections, Utah voters decide whether or not to retain a judge based on performance. The Utah Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission conducts surveys and uses court observers to provide voters information they can use to help assess such performance.

To learn more about Utah’s judges, go to www.utcourts.gov/judgesbios or www.judges.utah.gov.

UTAH JUDICIAL COUNCIL

The Utah Judicial Council is established by the Utah Constitution and directs the activities of all Utah courts. The Judicial Council is responsible for adopting uniform rules for the administration of all courts in the state, setting standards for judicial performance, and overseeing court facilities, support services and judicial and nonjudicial personnel. The Judicial Council holds monthly meetings typically at the Scott M. Matheson Courthouse in Salt Lake City. These meetings are open to the public. Dates and locations of Judicial Council meetings are available at www.utcourts.gov/admin/judcncl/sched.htm.

Chief Justice Matthew B. Durrant
Chair, Utah Supreme Court

Judge Kimberly K. Hornak
Vice Chair, Third District Juvenile Court

Judge Marvin D. Bagley
Sixth District Court

Judge Ann Boyden
Third District Court

Judge James Z. Davis
Court of Appeals

Judge Glen R. Dawson
Second District Court

Judge Thomas M. Higbee
Fifth District Court

Judge David C. Marx
Logan and Hyde Park Justice Courts

Judge David N. Mortensen
Fourth District Court

Judge Reed S. Parkin
Orem City Justice Court

Justice Jill N. Parrish
Utah Supreme Court

Judge John L. Sandberg
Clearfield City and Clinton City Justice Courts

Judge Randall N. Skanchy
Third District Court

John Lund, Esq.
Utah State Bar

Daniel J. Becker
Secretariat, State Court Administrator

UTAH STATE COURT'S BOARDS OF JUDGES

The Utah State Courts has four boards of judges representing each court level that meet monthly. The boards propose court rules, serve as liaison between local courts and the Judicial Council, and plan budget and legislative priorities.

BOARD OF APPELLATE COURT JUDGES

Chief Justice Matthew B. Durrant
Chair, Utah Supreme Court

Judge Michele M. Christiansen
Utah Court of Appeals

Judge James Z. Davis
Utah Court of Appeals

Justice Christine M. Durham
Utah Supreme Court

Justice Thomas R. Lee
Utah Supreme Court

Justice Ronald E. Nehring
Utah Supreme Court

Judge Gregory K. Orme
Utah Court of Appeals

Justice Jill N. Parrish
Utah Supreme Court

Judge John A. Pearce
Utah Court of Appeals

Judge Stephen L. Roth
Utah Court of Appeals

Judge Kate Toomey
Utah Court of Appeals

Judge J. Frederic Voros, Jr.
Utah Court of Appeals

Tim Shea
Board staff, Appellate Court Administrator

BOARD OF DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

Judge Derek Pullan
Chair, Fourth District Court

Judge Kevin K. Allen
First District Court

Judge Lyle R. Anderson
Seventh District Court

Judge Robert J. Dale
Second District Court

Judge Noel S. Hyde
Second District Court

Judge Mark S. Kouris
Third District Court

Judge Bruce C. Lubeck
Third District Court

Judge Eric Ludlow
Fifth District Court

Judge Andrew H. Stone
Third District Court

Judge James R. Taylor
Fourth District Court

Debra Moore
Board staff, District Court Administrator



BOARD OF JUVENILE COURT JUDGES

Judge Mary T. Noonan
Chair, Fourth District Juvenile Court

Judge Michelle E. Heward
Second District Juvenile Court

Judge Scott N. Johansen
Seventh District Juvenile Court

Judge Elizabeth A. Lindsley
Third District Juvenile Court

Judge Paul D. Lyman
Sixth District Court

Judge Mark W. May
Third District Juvenile Court

Judge Sharon S. Sipes
Second District Juvenile Court

Dawn Marie Rubio
Board staff, Juvenile Court Administrator

BOARD OF JUSTICE COURT JUDGES

Judge Reuben J. Renstrom
*Chair, Harrisville City, Riverdale City,
South Ogden City, South Weber City and
Woods Cross City Justice Courts*

Judge Paul Farr, Herriman
Lehi and Sandy City Justice Courts

Judge Sherlynn Fenstermaker
*Springville City and Mapleton City
Justice Courts*

Judge Jerald Jensen
Davis County Justice Court

Judge Augustus Chin
Holladay Justice Court

Judge David Marx
*Logan and Hyde Park Justice Courts,
Judicial Council Representative*

Judge Lane McCotter
Wasatch County Justice Court

Judge Brent Bullock
Lindon and Pleasant Grove Justice Courts

Judge Reed S. Parkin
*Orem City Justice Court,
Judicial Council Representative*

Judge John L. Sandberg
*Clearfield City and Clinton City Justice
Courts, Judicial Council Representative*

Richard Schwermer
*Board Staff, Assistant State
Court Administrator*

PRESIDING JUDGES

The presiding judge is elected by a majority vote of judges from the district and is responsible for effective court operation. The presiding judge implements and enforces rules, policies and directives of the Judicial Council and often schedules calendars and case assignments. The presiding judge works as part of a management team in the district, which includes the trial court executive and clerk of court.

PRESIDING JUDGES

Utah Supreme Court
Chief Justice Matthew B. Durrant

Court of Appeals
Judge J. Frederic Voros, Jr.

First District Court
Judge Thomas L. Willmore

First District Juvenile Court
Judge Jeffrey “R” Burbank

Second District Court
Judge John R. Morris

Second District Juvenile Court
Judge Jeffrey Noland

Third District Court
Judge Royal I. Hansen

Third District Juvenile Court
Judge C. Dane Nolan

Fourth District Court
Judge David N. Mortensen

Fourth District Juvenile Court
Judge Suchada Bazzelle

Fifth District Court
Judge John Walton

Fifth District Juvenile Court
Judge Thomas M. Higbee

Sixth District Court
Judge Wallace A. Lee

Sixth District Juvenile Court
Judge Paul D. Lyman

Seventh District Court
Judge Lyle R. Anderson

Seventh District Juvenile Court
Judge Scott N. Johansen

Eighth District Court
Judge Edwin T. Peterson

Eighth District Juvenile Court
Judge Keith E. Eddington

TRIAL COURT EXECUTIVES

The Utah State Court’s trial court executive is responsible for day-to-day supervision of non-judicial administration of the courts. Duties include hiring and supervising staff, developing and managing a budget, managing facilities, managing court calendars and developing and managing court security plans.

Appellate Courts
Tim Shea

First District and Juvenile Courts
Corrie Keller

Second District Court
Sylvester Daniels

Second District Juvenile Court
Travis Erickson

Third District Court
Peyton Smith

Third District Juvenile Court
Neira Siaperas

Fourth District Court
Shane Bahr

Fourth District Juvenile Court
James Peters

Fifth District and Juvenile Courts
Rick Davis

Sixth District and Juvenile Courts
Wendell Roberts

Seventh District and Juvenile Courts
Terri Yelonek

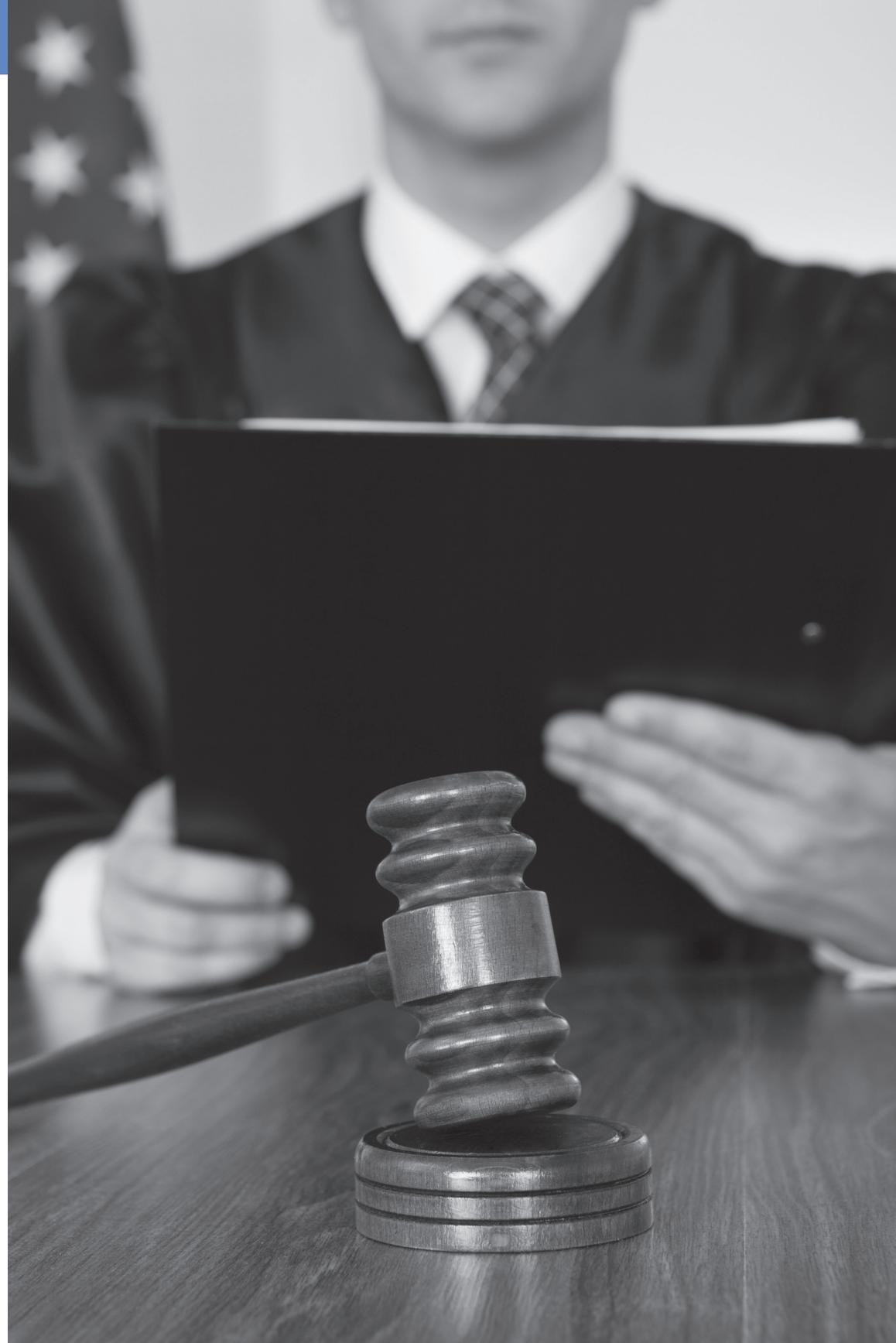
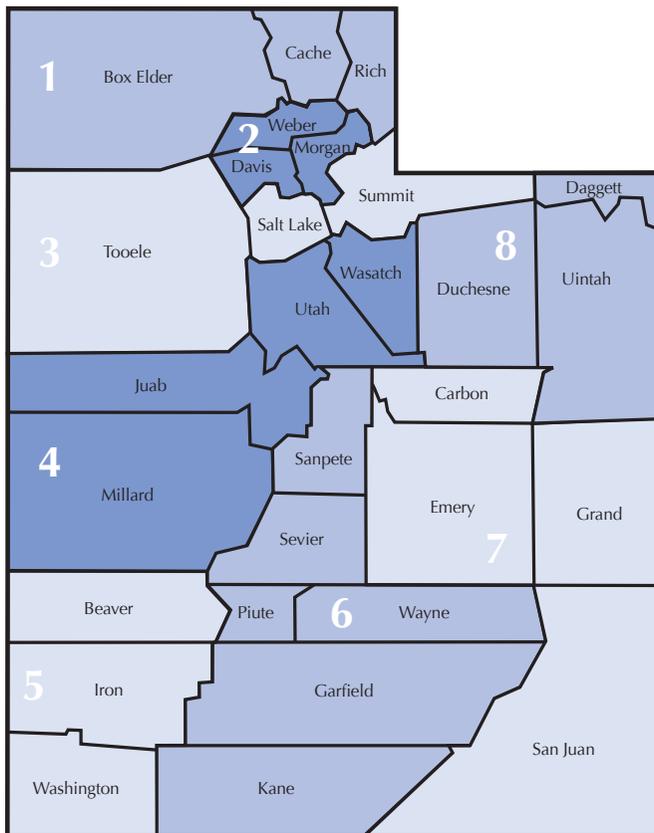
Eighth District and Juvenile Courts
Russell Pearson



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

The Administrative Office of the Courts is responsible for organizing and administering all of the non-judicial offices of the Utah State Courts. Activities include implementing the standards, policies and rules established by the Utah Judicial Council. The Court Administrator Act provides for the appointment of a State Court Administrator with duties and responsibilities outlined in the Utah Code. Daniel Becker serves as state court administrator. Appellate, district, juvenile and justice court administrators and local court executives assist the state court administrator in performing these duties and responsibilities. Also assisting the state court administrator are personnel in finance, human resources, internal audit, judicial education, law, planning, public information, rules and technology. Mediators, Office of the Guardian ad Litem, a District Court capital case staff attorney and a Juvenile Court law clerk are also based in the Administrative Office of the Courts.

For more information on Utah's State Court System, go to www.utcourts.gov.



Awards, Honors, Recognition

Amanda Acevedo Judicial Assistant, Third District Court,
2014 Meritorious Service Award, Utah Judicial Council

Award of Excellence in Records Quality, Clerks of Court, Connie Adams,
Gabrielle Bremner, Charity Johnson, Pat Mullins, Jennifer Schuh

Honorable Christine M. Durham Utah Supreme Court,
2014 Rosa Parks Award, NAACP Salt Lake Branch

The CARE Core Team *2014 Records Quality Award*, Utah Judicial Council
(Brody Arishita, Christina Bishop, Amber Buist, Lynette Eyre, Katie Gregory,
Yvette Hansen, Dawn Hautamaki, Sheri Knighton, Raechel Lizon, Kyle Memmott,
Claudia Page, Kyle Parry, Teri Purser, Dawn Marie Rubio, Neira Siaperas.)

Corporal Manuel Escoto, Roosevelt Police Dept.,
2014 Service to the Courts Award, Utah Judicial Council

Court Interpreter Team, *2014 Meritorious Service Award*, Utah Judicial Council
(Juana Gutierrez, Evangelina Burrows, Rosa Oakes)

Robert Godfrey, Conference Coordinator, Administrative Office of the Courts,
2014 Amicus Curiae Award, Justice Court Board

Dr. Douglas F. Goldsmith, Executive Director, The Children's Center,
2014 Amicus Curiae Award, Utah Judicial Council

Brent Johnson, General Counsel, Administrative Office of the Courts,
2014 Hearts and Hands Award, Volunteers of America

Kristene Laterza, Judicial Case Manager, Third District Court,
2014 Meritorious Service Award, Utah Judicial Council

Joseph Pierre Moynier, Probation Officer, Eighth District Juvenile Court,
2014 Meritorious Service Award, Utah Judicial Council

Monica Murphy, Support Services Technician, Administrative Office of the Courts,
2014 Meritorious Service Award, Utah Judicial Council;
Citizen Service Award, Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office



Kodi Nelson, Clearfield City Justice Court, *2014 Employee of the Year Award*,
Justice Court Board

Honorable Reed Parkin, Orem City Justice Court, *2014 Judge of the Year Award*,
Justice Court Board

Honorable G.A. "Jody" Petry, Naples and Uintah County Justice Courts,
2014 Quality of Justice Award, Utah Judicial Council;
2014 Justice Court Service Award, Justice Court Board

Carol Price, Court Security Director, *2014 Judicial Administration Award*,
Utah Judicial Council

Rick Schwermer, Assistant State Court Administrator, *Lifetime Achievement Award*,
Justice Court Board

Honorable James Shumate, Fifth District Court Judge (ret.),
2014 Judge of the Year Award, Utah State Bar

Pat Tingey, Training Coordinator, Third District Juvenile Court,
2014 Terminal Agency Coordinator of the Year Award

Judges Who Retired From the Bench in 2014

Honorable Hans Q. Chamberlain, Fifth District Juvenile Court

Honorable Terry Christiansen, Third District Court

Honorable L.A. Dever, Third District Court

Honorable Donald J. Eyre, Jr., Fourth District Court

Honorable Ben Hadfield, First District Court

Honorable Steven Hansen, Fourth District Court

Honorable Larry E. Jones, First District Juvenile Court

Honorable John Paul Kennedy, Third District Court

Honorable Denise Posse Lindberg, Third District Court

Honorable Robin Reese, Third District Court

Honorable James Shumate, Fifth District Court

In Memoriam

Honorable Paul Crawford, Seventh District Court

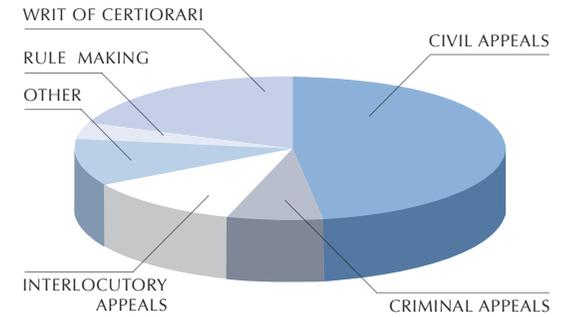
Honorable Maurice Jones, Third Circuit Court



2014 Court Caseloads

FY 2014 Supreme Court Filings

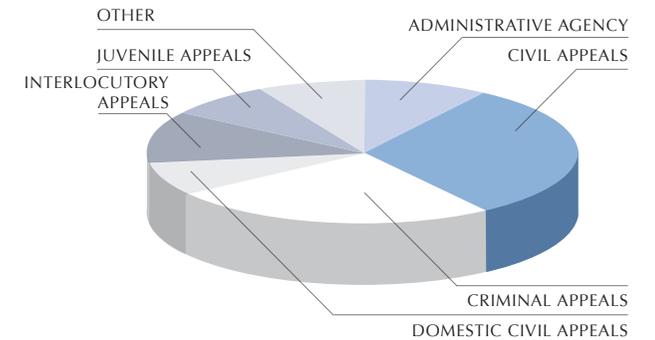
Civil Appeals.....	299
Criminal Appeals	48
Interlocutory Appeals.....	76
Other	56
Rule Making.....	21
Writ of Certiorari.....	126
Total Filings.....	626
Transferred to Court of Appeals.....	440
Retained for decision.....	186
Total FY 14 Dispositions	232



FY 2014 Court of Appeals Filings

(Including Transfers from Supreme Court)

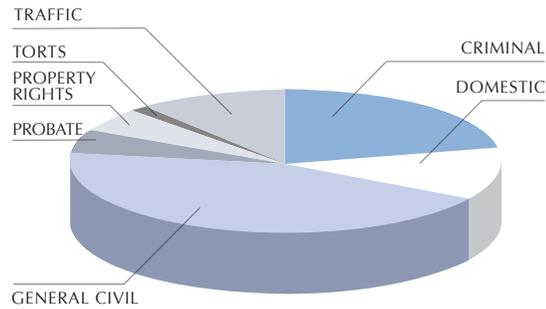
Administrative Agency	96
Civil Appeals.....	303
Criminal Appeals	247
Domestic Civil Appeals	75
Interlocutory Appeals.....	111
Juvenile Appeals.....	80
Other	79
Total Filings.....	991
Total FY 14 Dispositions	897



FY 2014 District Court Filings and Dispositions

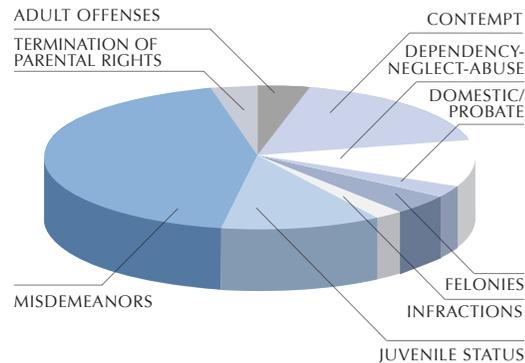
(Including Transfers from Supreme Court)

	Filings	Dispositions
Criminal.....	37,484	38,236
Domestic.....	20,595	20,566
General Civil.....	79,721	82,805
Probate.....	8,885	8,855
Property Rights.....	8,389	8,460
Torts.....	2,003	2,066
Traffic.....	20,111	21,343
Total Filings.....	177,188	182,331



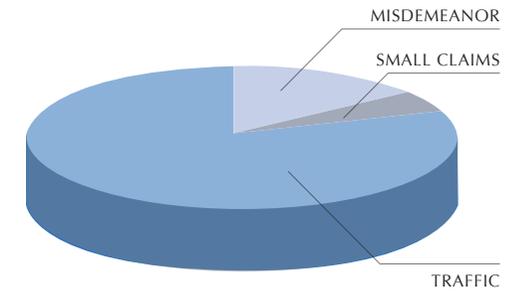
FY 2014 Juvenile Court Referrals

	Referrals	Dispositions
Adult Offenses.....	1,338	1,314
Contempt.....	6,404	6,105
Dependency-Neglect-Abuse.....	3,528	3,479
Domestic/Probate.....	744	779
Felonies.....	1,843	1,751
Infractions.....	725	639
Juvenile Status.....	4,396	3,891
Misdemeanors.....	15,677	15,547
Termination of Parental Rights..	1,421	1,327
Totals.....	36,076	34,832



FY 2014 Justice Court Filings and Dispositions

	Filings	Dispositions
Misdemeanor.....	73,819	84,646
Small Claims.....	25,886	30,354
Traffic.....	397,248	418,104
Totals.....	496,953	533,104

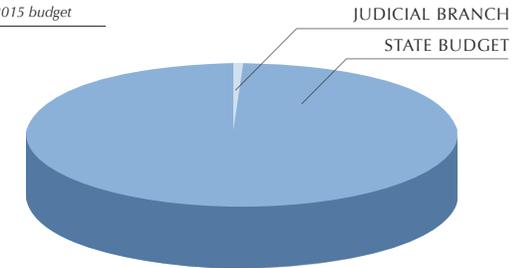


FY 2015 Annual Judicial Budget as Part of State of Utah Budget

All Funds Including General Funds & Federal Funds

Judicial Branch.....	\$ 145,540,000	appropriated FY 2015 budget
State Budget.....	\$15,060,519,000	appropriated FY 2015 budget

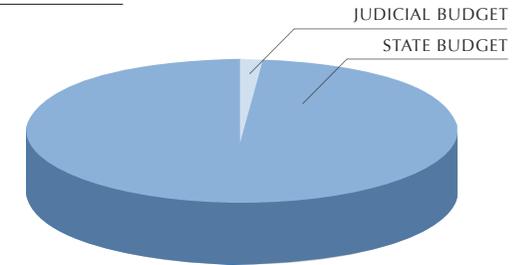
Total State Budget ... \$15,206,059,000



General Funds Only

Judicial Budget.....	\$ 117,287,000	appropriated FY 2015 budget
State Budget.....	\$2,218,571,000	appropriated FY 2015 budget

Total State General Funds.... \$2,335,858,000



Court Assistance is a Call, Email or Text Away

The Self-Help Center is a free service of the Utah State Courts that helps people understand their legal rights and responsibilities and helps them resolve legal problems on their own if they cannot afford a lawyer or choose not to hire one.

The Self-Help Center is a virtual center that provides services through a toll-free telephone helpline, email, text and the court's website. The center's staff speaks English and Spanish and are able to access court interpreters if someone speaks another language. The center helps people with cases at all court levels—justice, juvenile, district and appellate—and responds to questions about all legal issues. In FY2014, the center responded to well over 16,000 inquiries.

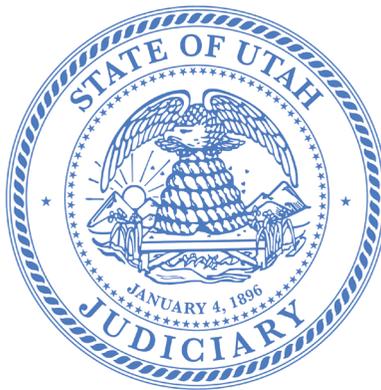
Self-Help Center staff attorneys provide the following services:

- Information about the law and court processes
- Court forms and instructions and assistance completing forms
- Information about an individual court case
- Information about mediation services, legal advice and representation through pro bono and low cost legal services, legal aid programs and lawyer referral services
- Information about resources provided by law libraries and government agencies
- Presentations to the public and court staff on court self-help resources and how to navigate the justice system

For more information, go to www.utcourts.gov and search for "self help".







2015 Annual Report to the Community

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Scott M. Matheson Courthouse

450 South State Street

Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

801-578-3800 | www.utcourts.gov