EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT: ARAPAHOE, DOUGLAS, ELBERT and LINCOLN COUNTIES, COLORADO Arapahoe County Justice Center 7325 South Potomac Street Centennial, Colorado 80112 Arapahoe County Court, Division A 1790 West Littleton Boulevard Littleton, Colorado 80120 Arapahoe County Court, Division B 15400 East 14th Place Aurora, Colorado 80011 Douglas County Justice Center, 4000 Justice Way, #2009, Castle Rock, Colorado 80104 Elbert County Courthouse, PO Box 232, 751 Ute Street, Kiowa, Colorado 80117 Lincoln County Courthouse, PO Box 128, 103 Third Avenue, Hugo, Colorado 80821	•COURT USE ONLY•
CHIEF JUDGE ORDER RE: OFFICIAL RECORDS	

During the past year, including Fiscal Year 2003 and now in Fiscal Year 2004, the State's budget shortfall has resulted in a loss of 13% of the staff that was allocated as of Fiscal Year 2002. Each judicial district, including the 18th Judicial District, has been required to provide services with fewer people in both clerk's offices and in the judges' divisions. Some services that previously have been available cannot be provided in as timely a manner as they were in the past.

At the same time, members of the public have been requesting services that have either not been authorized in the past or cannot be authorized now. One immediate issue involves requests for tape recordings, disks that contain transcripts or e-mail transmissions of those transcripts.

The Colorado Supreme Court and State Court Administrator's Office are reviewing these issues. Until such time as a Chief Justice Order or Directive enters, the undersigned, as Chief Judge of the 18th Judicial District now orders that, in all county and district courts in the 18th Judicial District, all persons, including litigants, counsel and the general public, may obtain only certified transcripts from the appropriate county or district court clerk's office or division office (including the assigned court reporter). No draft transcripts, disks containing draft or completed transcripts or any other form of "transcript" shall be provided to any person. Further, the public is not authorized to listen to tapes or CDs of any proceedings in any court of record in this district. No person may utilize any recording device, or any privately hired court reporter (except as authorized by the judge in a specifically designated case) in any courtroom in an effort to create an "alternate record."

The only document that will be available is a certified transcript, the cost of which is either paid for in advance or is approved by the District Attorney's Office, the Attorney General's Office, the Office of the State Public Defender and the Office of Alternate Defense Counsel. No transmissions by e-mail will be authorized except as set forth in established agreements with the aforementioned district and state offices.

The only exception to this order will be for attorneys in criminal cases who have standing arrangements for review of records on an emergency or immediate as-needed basis.

SO ORDERED.

DONE this 15 day of Sept, 2003.

BY THE COURT:

John P. Leopold
Chief Judge

EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT: ARAPAHOE, DOUGLAS, ELBERT and LINCOLN COUNTIES, COLORADO Arapahoe County Justice Center 7325 South Potomac Street Centennial, Colorado 80112 Arapahoe County Court, Division A 1790 West Littleton Boulevard Littleton, Colorado 80120 Arapahoe County Court, Division B 15400 East 14th Place Aurora, Colorado 80011 Douglas County Justice Center, 4000 Justice Way, #2009, Castle Rock, Colorado 80104 Elbert County Courthouse, PO Box 232, 751 Ute Street, Kiowa, Colorado 80117 Lincoln County Courthouse, PO Box 128, 103 Third Avenue, Hugo, Colorado 80821	•COURT USE ONLY•

CHIEF JUDGE ORDER MODIFYING ORDER RE: OFFICIAL RECORDS

THE COURT has been advised that its Order re: Official Records creates problems for the district's court reporters. This was not the intent of the order.

The Court now modifies its order to permit court reporters to continue to transmit orders by e-mail, ASCII disk, CDROM or in any other manner as they have in the past.

SO ORDERED.

DONE this 17 day of Sept., 2003.

BY THE COURT:

John P. Leopold
Chief Judge