



# news

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## **First Judicial District offers one-on-one assistance to self-represented litigants** *Event celebrates Law Day theme of ‘Why Every Vote Matters’*

GOLDEN, Colo. – People representing themselves in court proceedings in the First Judicial District (Gilpin and Jefferson counties) will have the opportunity to meet with an attorney for 15 minutes to discuss their criminal, eviction, money, divorce, custody, child support, or small-claims case.

The Law Day event, sponsored by the 1<sup>st</sup> JD Bar Association, will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Thursday, May 1, 2014, in the atrium between the Jefferson County Administration offices and the Jefferson Combined Court, 100 Jefferson County Parkway, in Golden.

There is no charge to meet with an attorney at the Law Day event. Discussions will be confidential.

The event is part of a broader national program to celebrate the nation's commitment to the rule of law. This year's Law Day theme is American Democracy and Rule of Law: Every Vote Matters.

“We are commemorating this Law Day not only with a reminder of the importance of past and present struggles for voting rights, but also with an offer of help in conjunction with the local bar association to people representing themselves in some types of court proceedings,” said Magistrate Joel Schaefer. “With an ever-increasing number of *pro se* litigants comes a greater

demand for this kind of assistance, which helps the courts as well as the people who need them to resolve disputes.”

For more information, contact April Bernard or Brigitte Smith at 303-271-6570, or visit

[http://www.courts.state.co.us/Courts/County/Custom.cfm?County\\_ID=2&Page\\_ID=352](http://www.courts.state.co.us/Courts/County/Custom.cfm?County_ID=2&Page_ID=352).