



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
Michael L. Bender, Chief Justice
Gerald Marroney, State Court Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Feb. 26, 2013

Contact: Robert McCallum or Jon Sarché
720-625-5815
720-625-5811

robert.mccallum@judicial.state.co.us
jon.sarche@judicial.state.co.us

18th Judicial District offers aid to self-represented litigants in new center

CENTENNIAL, Colo. – People representing themselves in non-criminal court proceedings in the 18th Judicial District (Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln counties) can now turn to a new Self-Help Center for assistance in navigating the court system.

The center, open 8 a.m.-noon and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday, is located in room 106B on the first floor of Courthouse II at the Arapahoe County Justice Center, 7325 S. Potomac Street, in Centennial.

A full-time staff is available to help self-represented parties with procedural information, assistance in locating and filling out court forms, and providing information regarding the legal process, though the staff cannot provide legal advice. Legal reference materials and brochures also are available in the center. There is no charge for these services.

The center is part of a broader program the Colorado Judicial Branch created to help the courts address the ever-growing number of cases in which people forego representation by attorneys. For example, in 63 percent of Colorado divorce cases today, neither party has a lawyer.

“Many people involved in civil matters in Colorado’s courts don’t qualify for help from Colorado Legal Services, but don’t earn enough income to hire private attorneys,” said Lindsey

N. Adams, self-represented litigant coordinator for the 18th Judicial District. “We can help fill that gap and broaden access to the justice system.”

E-mail assistance also is available at 18CourtHelpCenter@judicial.state.co.us. Court forms and other self-help material may be found at <http://www.courts.state.co.us> and in the clerk’s office.