



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
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18th Judicial District managing court interpreter wins Judicial Branch award *Colorado Judicial Branch recognizes outstanding employees*

DENVER – The 2011 Colorado Judicial Branch *Court Employee of the Year* award went to Jenni Turnidge, managing court interpreter for the 18th Judicial District (Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln counties). The Colorado Judicial Branch annually recognizes a handful of outstanding employees for exemplary work contributing to the high quality of service provided throughout the state’s 22 judicial districts.

Turnidge was nominated for the award by 22 district and county court judges and magistrates serving the 18th Judicial District. The judicial officers nominated Turnidge because she exemplifies the dedication and devotion to the Judicial Branch to which all Judicial employees should aspire.

“Ms. Turnidge is the consummate professional in both her individual responsibilities as a Certified Court Interpreter, and as the managing court interpreter in the 18th Judicial District,” wrote District Court Judge John L. Wheeler in a letter of recommendation on behalf of the 22 judicial officers. “She has taken the initiative to not only increase the accuracy and efficiency of the language interpretation in our own district, but has imported those policies and procedures through her own professionalism statewide.”

The Colorado Judicial Branch includes the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, as well as the state's district and county trial courts. The branch is also home to the Department of Probation Services, which employs more than 1,100 people including approximately 900 probation supervisors and officers. The department's officers are responsible for supervising more than 6,000 juvenile offenders and more than 54,000 adult offenders.

As of July 1, 2011, the Colorado Judicial Branch employed approximately 3,400 employees, which includes 374 justices, judges and magistrates. In fiscal year 2011, the latest for which full statistics are available, there were 505,265 cases filed statewide at the County Court level, 246,728 filed in District Court, 2,742 in the Court of Appeals and 1,387 in the Supreme Court. There were an additional 956 cases filed in the Water Courts.