



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
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7th Judicial District County Judge wins Judicial Branch award *Colorado Judicial Branch recognizes outstanding employees*

DENVER – The 2011 Colorado Judicial Branch *Judicial Officer of the Year* award went to the Hon. Sandra K. Miller, Delta County Court Judge. 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.

Judge Miller was nominated for the award by Pamela Bliss, volunteer coordinator with Meth Free Delta County, and 7th Judicial District Probation Officer Juan P. Gallegos.

“Judge Sandra Miller has donated countless hours of her time to make Adult Treatment Court a reality for Delta County,” Bliss wrote in a letter of recommendation. “Through her wisdom and compassion, a multitude of once drug-addicted individuals have gone on to have productive lives reunited with their families in Delta County.”

“Judge Miller’s interactions with clients are frequently mentioned at court graduations as the most important and impactful interactions they have had while in the program,” Gallegos wrote in a letter of recommendation. “One client, who may have been the most difficult in the history of the program recently graduated. At the graduation, her biggest and most emotional thank you was reserved for Judge Miller, and I think that says it all.”

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.