



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
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1st Judicial District juvenile probation officer wins Judicial Branch award *Colorado Judicial Branch recognizes outstanding employees*

DENVER – The 2011 Colorado Judicial Branch *Probation Employee of the Year* award went to Judy Sanger, a probation officer who works with juveniles in the 1st Judicial District (Jefferson and Gilpin 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.

Sanger was nominated for the award by several judges, a prosecutor and others involved with the Jefferson County Mental Health Court, where she was the first supervising probation officer.

“Throughout our six years with the Mental Health Court, we have encountered many challenges and worked through many changes to try to improve our services,” Jefferson County Judge K.J. Moore, who presides over the court, said in a nomination letter. “Judy has been at the forefront of every discussion finding innovative solutions to any problems we face and anticipating many of our difficulties even before they occur.”

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.