

news

Colorado Judicial Branch
Mary J. Mullarkey, Chief Justice

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SUPREME COURT CHANGES POLICY ON DECISION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attorneys, members of the media and the public can now get advance notice of upcoming Colorado Supreme Court decisions on the internet. In addition, the court's opinions will be available on the web at the same time they are released to the public, usually on Monday mornings by 9:00 a.m.

"The internet makes it possible for the Court to distribute its decisions faster and to a larger audience than ever before," said Mac Danford, clerk of the Supreme Court.

"We want to provide the information to attorneys, the public and the press, regardless of whether someone lives in Denver or Grand Junction, at the very same time we make the announcements at the Judicial Building."

Previously, the decisions were posted on the web the following day through an arrangement with the Colorado Bar Association. The bar association will also continue to provide this service.

The Court also changed its policy of not divulging in advance any notice of what opinions were going to be announced. A list is now posted each Friday identifying the cases in which an opinion will be released the following Monday at 9:00 a.m. The Friday

list includes only the case numbers and case captions, and does not announce the result of the opinion.

“Attorneys and members of the media had been hampered by not knowing when a case was to be announced,” Danford said. “Reporters would pick up the court’s opinions and immediately call the attorney for comment only to find out the attorney was not aware that an opinion had been announced. We hope these new procedures will be helpful and timely to the public, the bar and the press.”

Access to the Supreme Court’s announcement list and the published decisions is available on the Judicial Branch homepage at www.courts.state.co.us/supct/supct.htm

Court of Appeals announcements are now available at the time of announcement, usually on Thursdays, at www.courts.state.co.us/ctappeals/ctapps.htm

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