



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
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Colorado court service-improvement program coming to Alamosa County *Surveys to be conducted Tuesday at Alamosa courthouse*

ALAMOSA, Colo. – People with business at the Alamosa Combined Court on Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010, will be asked to participate in a program designed to help ensure the Colorado Judicial Branch is providing the best possible service to the public.

Throughout the day, court employees will ask people exiting the courthouse at 702 4th Street to fill out brief, anonymous survey forms – in English or in Spanish – asking about their experiences as jurors, parties to a case or as recipients of other Judicial Branch services.

Attorneys, law enforcement officers and anyone else who does business with the courts also will be encouraged to participate.

Data from survey responses will be used to measure public opinion about access to and fairness of the courts. People will be asked whether they had problems finding the court building, whether they could easily understand the forms they needed, whether they felt safe in the building and other related questions.

The survey forms also will ask people whether their case was handled in a fair manner, whether the judge or magistrate listened to them and had all the necessary information before making a decision, and whether they were treated with courtesy, understood what was happening in their case and were given clear information about the next step in their case.

“These are the people’s courts,” Supreme Court Chief Justice Mary Mullarkey said.

“Coloradans deserve the best the Judicial Branch can possibly offer them.”

The surveys have been used in 21 of Colorado’s 22 judicial districts during the past three years; this will be the first time they have been used in the 12th Judicial District (Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande and Saguache counties).

“The 12th Judicial District appreciates our customers’ participation in the survey and will consider the results in seeking to improve our service to the public,” said Chief Judge O. John Kuenhold. “We look forward to learning more about how we can better serve the people of Colorado.”

In Fiscal Year 2009, Colorado’s 12th Judicial District saw 2,206 district-court cases filed, 804 of which were in Alamosa County; and 9,176 county-court cases filed, 2,991 of which were in Alamosa County.