

District Overview-2015
Fourth Judicial District
www.elpasocountycourts.com

The Fourth Judicial District encompasses all of El Paso and Teller Counties and includes both urban as well as rural populations spread over a sizeable geographic area. The 2010 Census lists El Paso County as the most populous county in the state (2010 Census Bureau). The largest city in the District is Colorado Springs. In addition to the Fountain and Widefield areas, the district also serves Monument, Manitou Springs, Woodland Park, and Cripple Creek, where the Historic Teller County Courthouse is located.

The Fourth Judicial District serves a population of approximately 659,000 people. Unique to this demographic is an estimated 79,106 veterans living in the District. The District is home to five military installations (Ft. Carson Army Post, Peterson Air Force Base, Schriever Air Force Base, US Air Force Academy and Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station) (US Census Bureau).

El Paso County Combined Court is the largest court in the state of Colorado housed in one facility. During Fiscal Year 2014, which runs from June 2013 to July 2014, **over 91,000 cases were filed**: 28,089 cases filed in District Court and 63,006 cases filed in County Court. In FY14, the Court and Probation combined to collect over \$3.2 million dollars in **restitution** for victims of crime. To help with the collection of restitution, three new collection investigators were hired in the latter half of 2014.

The caseload is the responsibility of **22 District Court Judges** (one of which sits in Teller County), **11 County Court Judges** (one of which sits in Teller County) and 13 Magistrates. The District also has 241.43 Authorized FTE in the Trial Court and 103.6 allocated FTE in Probation.

Some of our specialized programs include the El Paso County Court's **First Appearance Center** and **Domestic Violence Fast Track**. The Fourth Judicial District also operates **Nine Problem Solving Courts** which consists of six criminal courts—DUI Court, Veteran's Trauma Court, Adult Criminal Drug Court, Healthy Engaged and Living Sober (HEALS) Drug Court, Mental Health Court and Domestic Violence Court—a family treatment drug court, and two accountability courts—Truancy Court and Child Support Court-Responsible Parent Program. **Court Care**, which is an on-site child care center located in the El Paso County Courthouse has served over 30,000 children since opening its doors in May of 2003. Under the direction of Director Michelle McKenna, our **Office of Dispute Resolution Program** continues to be one of the most innovative and successful in the state. Our **Justice Colorado Corps** program is in its sixth year. This program uses University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and Colorado College students under the AmeriCorps Program to assist the public with resources.

In 2014, a half-time **Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator (SRLC)** was hired for Teller County. Currently, the 4th has two and a half SRLCs to better assist self-represented parties , to further

enhance services within the Courthouse, and to establish further cooperative relationships with community partners for self-represented parties.

The Honorable Gilbert Martinez is the Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial District and the Honorable David Prince is the Deputy Chief Judge. They are assisted in administrative duties by a team of dedicated judicial officers who preside over Domestic, Civil, Probate, Juvenile, Criminal Court, and County Court areas.

Please address any questions related to the Trial Courts to Danny Davis, District Administrator, at 719-452-5270 or danny.davis@judicial.state.co.us. Questions regarding Probation in the Fourth Judicial District may be directed to Ellen Walker, Chief Probation Officer, at 719-452-5702 or ellen.walker@judicial.state.co.us. For more detailed information about any of our nine operational criminal and non-criminal Problem Solving Courts, please visit the Fourth Judicial District's website.