

District Overview-2019

Fourth Judicial District

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 724,000 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 2018, which runs from June 2017 to July 2018, **over 88,000 cases were filed**: 29,994 cases filed in District Court and 58,063 cases filed in County Court. In FY18, the Court combined to collect over \$5.25 million dollars in **restitution** for victims of crime.

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 14 Magistrates. The District also has 237.88 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 Eight **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, 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 60,000 children since opening its doors in May of 2003. Our **Office of Dispute Resolution Program** continues to be one of the most innovative and successful in the state and in 2018 it began piloting a criminal mediation program. Our **Justice Colorado Corps** program is in its tenth year. This program uses University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and Colorado College students under the AmeriCorps Program to assist the public with resources.

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 cooperative relationships with community partners for self-represented parties.

The Honorable William Bain is the Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial District and the Honorable Jill Brady 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 Scott Sosebee, Court Executive, at 719-452-5270 or scott.sosebee@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 operational criminal and non-criminal Problem Solving Courts, please visit the Fourth Judicial District's [website](#).