

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OVERVIEW

January 1, 2019

The Fifteenth Judicial District is comprised of the counties of Baca, Cheyenne, Kiowa and Prowers with an estimated combined population of 19,600 (2010 U.S. Census estimates). The economy in this area is deeply rooted in agriculture, as well as natural resources such as oil and wind.

The district is served by two district judges who have their primary offices in Prowers County. Both district judges have a regular travel schedule to the other counties in the district. In addition to the regular travel schedule, the judges travel to the outlying counties on an “as needed” basis. Each county has a part-time county judge who handles the county court caseload for that respective county. The judicial officers are supported by 16 trial court employees consisting of administrative staff, clerks of court, judicial assistants, court reporters, family court facilitator, protective proceedings monitor and self-represented litigant coordinator. The district employs an additional 10 employees in the probation department.

The case filings for the Fifteenth Judicial Districts courts for fiscal year 2018 are as follows:

	County Court	District Court
Baca County	353	133
Cheyenne County	384	83
Kiowa County	408	63
Prowers County	2,600	688
Total Filings	3,805	967

These filings represent a 0.58% increase in county court cases from the 2017 statistics compared to a state-wide increase of 0.86% and a 1.36% increase in district court filings compared to the state-wide increase of 8.09%.

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
JUDICIAL OFFICERS

	<u>FIRST SWORN IN</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>
<u>DISTRICT COURT JUDGES</u>		
Stanley A. Brinkley, Chief Judge	10/15/01	1/10/23
Michael J. Davidson	10/3/15	1/7/25
 <u>COUNTY COURT JUDGES</u>		
Debra M. Gunkel, Baca County, 20% FTE	1/11/11	1/10/23
Gerald D. Keefe, Cheyenne County, 20% FTE	1/3/12	1/10/23
Gary W. Davis, Kiowa County, 20% FTE	5/8/92	1/10/23
Curtis "Lane" Porter, Prowers County, 60% FTE	7/1/16	1/10/23

Please address any questions related to the trial courts to Barbara McDaniel, District Administrator, at 719-336-7424 or barbara.mcdaniel@judicial.state.co.us. Questions regarding probation may be directed to Byron Hall, Chief Probation Officer, at 719-336-2765 or byron.hall@judicial.state.co.us.