

## FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OVERVIEW

January 1, 2021

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 12 employees in the probation department.

The case filings for the Fifteenth Judicial Districts courts for fiscal year 2020 are as follows:

	County Court	District Court
Baca County	497	149
Cheyenne County	629	72
Kiowa County	1422	101
Prowers County	2374	712
Total Filings	4922	1034

These filings represent a 21.89% increase in county court cases from the 2019 statistics compared to a state-wide decrease of 11.44% and a 2.07% increase in district court filings compared to the state-wide increase of 2.03%.

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, 65% FTE	7/1/16	1/10/23

Please address any questions related to the trial courts to Diane Crow, Court Executive, at 719-336-7424 or [diane.crow@judicial.state.co.us](mailto:diane.crow@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](mailto:byron.hall@judicial.state.co.us).