

Seventeenth Judicial District Overview

January, 2016

The Seventeenth Judicial District encompasses all of Adams County and the City and County of Broomfield. Adams County is the fifth largest county in Colorado with an estimated population of 469,193 people. The City and County of Broomfield has an estimated population of 59,471. In fiscal year 2015 there were 65,196 county court filings and 22,066 district court filings. This caseload is the responsibility of magistrates, county court judges and district court judges.

At the present time there are seven full time magistrates and one part time magistrate. Magistrates are judicial, non-elected officers who are responsible to the district's chief judge. Magistrates handle a variety of caseloads, including temporary domestic relations orders, juvenile defendants, small claims, probate, and traffic matters.

There are currently eight county court judges in Adams and one county court judge in Broomfield who are responsible for traffic and misdemeanor matters in addition to small claims and civil matters that do not reach the jurisdictional dollar amount of the district court. The bulk of the county court judges' duties consist of processing the large caseload for traffic and criminal matters.

There are fifteen district court judges who handle a caseload of domestic relations, felony criminal matters, juvenile matters, and civil filings which exceed the county court jurisdictional amounts. There are a number of specialized juvenile and domestic relations projects aimed at improving our system, and two self-help centers to assist pro se litigants.

In addition to 32 judges and magistrates, there are 323 support staff positions. These positions include division clerks, case processing clerks, court facilitators, court reporters, law clerks and probation department employees. The Seventeenth Judicial District continues to grow and is one of the largest and fastest growing districts in the state of Colorado. Between 2014 and 2015 new filings increased by 6%. The district continues to demonstrate its commitment to efficient and accessible justice through active judicial case management and oversight.