

2017 Twentieth Judicial District Overview

The Twentieth Judicial District encompasses Boulder County and serves a population estimated at 319,372. Court facilities are located in Boulder and Longmont. In Longmont, the caseload is primarily county court and small claims cases. During state fiscal year 2016 (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016), 27,308 cases were filed in the 20th Judicial District with 10,358 cases in district court and 16,950 cases in county court.

There are a total of 17 judges and magistrates in the district. Nine judges and three (2.8 FTE) magistrates sit in district court. District court judges preside over felony criminal matters, civil cases over \$15,000, domestic relations cases, as well as juvenile, probate, and mental health cases. There are five judges in county court. County court has jurisdiction over civil cases under \$15,000 in value, and all misdemeanor and traffic cases. County court judges also preside over preliminary hearings in nearly all criminal cases. Magistrates are non-elected judicial officers responsible to the chief judge. Their duties are defined by Colorado Supreme Court rules and state statutes.

The Twentieth Judicial District operates on a cooperative docket system. It is essential that all judicial officers be willing to share work on any given day. One of the most important goals of the district is that all cases be resolved when set and litigants are never required to return on a different day because the assigned judge is unable to handle a matter. In addition, in the event of illness or disability each judicial officer is expected to cover other dockets as may be necessary.

The Twentieth Judicial District has 140.9 FTE staff in the probation (50.6 FTE) and trial court offices (90.3 FTE). Two staff provide support to each judge in district court. A pool of court reporters also provide support for the district court. Each county court judge is assigned 1.5 FTE judicial assistants. Magistrates are supported by one judicial assistant. Staff members in the Clerk of Court office provide services such as maintaining court records, providing copies, answering questions, facilitating child support payments, or assisting with restitution and victims' assistance. The Probation Department staff provide supervision for adult and juvenile defendants.

For further information, please contact Amy Waddle, District Administrator, Twentieth Judicial District, Boulder County Justice Center, 1777 6th Street, P.O. Box 4249, Boulder, CO 80306-4249, (303) 441-3882.

Revised: January 11, 2017