

JUDICIAL BRANCH COLLECTIONS

In Fiscal Year 2010, the state courts throughout Colorado collected \$26 million in restitution for victims of crime along with \$168 million in other statutory fines, fees, and costs. Collection efforts are concentrated in Collections Investigator offices in the local courts and probation departments. Under this statewide program, the Judicial Branch has implemented a variety of proactive strategies and procedures to maximize the collection of restitution, fines and fees. Examples include: investigating offender assets and earnings; issuing wage attachments; locating offenders who are attempting to avoid their financial obligations to the court; intercepting state income tax refunds, lottery winnings, and property previously unclaimed; bank account garnishments; suspensions of drivers licenses; and referral of accounts to private collection agencies. In addition to the efforts of Collections Investigators, other system personnel also play key roles in enforcing payment including judges, clerks, probation officers, court administrators, district attorneys and other criminal justice agencies.

Helping make victims of crime whole through the recovery of restitution continues to be a major emphasis. The chart below shows the restitution recoveries over the last ten years.

