

TWENTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
DOLORES AND MONTEZUMA COUNTIES

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2017-04

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING FAST TRACK FOR DRUG COURT

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WHEREAS, successful completion of Adult Drug Court and lasting sobriety is closely associated with enrollment in the program as soon as possible, and

WHEREAS, speedy entry into the program is a best practice and will increase the chances that participants will successfully complete the program.

THEREFORE, the following plan for felony cases where drug court is a possible method of resolving the case is adopted:

Effective immediately, in those cases where the District Attorney is intending to file felony charges, the charges will be filed as soon as possible after first appearance in County Court.

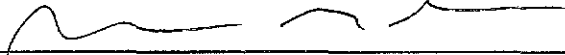
Once felony charges are filed, those cases which will be bound over to District Court without a preliminary hearing, will be bound over generally within 15 days of the filing of charges. If a case is eligible for a preliminary hearing, that preliminary hearing will normally occur, within 35 days of the date of the request. If a defendant is bound over after a preliminary hearing or if the preliminary hearing is waived, the Case will be set in District Court on the next docket day for the appropriate District Court Judge.

There is an expectation that a defendant will make a decision regarding their possible participation in Adult Drug Court no later than their second court appearance in District Court. Generally, those defendants who do not announce their choice to enter drug court by their second appearance in District Court will not be considered for the program. Each Judge will retain discretion to consider defendants for participation in Adult Drug Court after the defendant's second appearance, based upon unusual circumstances.

The attorney for the defendant will be responsible for informing their clients of the benefits of participating in the Adult Drug Court Program as well as the time limits set out in this order.

Pretrial services will hand out brochures and the Drug Court participant handbook to potential participants in the Adult Drug Court Program at the time of the first pretrial services screening.

SO ORDERED THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF August, 2017.



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Douglas S. Walker  
Chief Judge, Twenty-Second Judicial District