



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY  
2013

# Introduction

It is our belief that Utahns should feel good about how their court system performs in delivering timely, fair, and efficient justice. But we are part of the court system so we naturally feel this way. So how does the public view their courts? To answer this question the Utah Judicial Council commissioned an independent survey of the public to determine the level of trust and confidence they have in their courts. Eight-hundred Utah residents were surveyed during July and August 2012.

We are pleased to report that the public shares our opinion. Eighty-one percent of the public responded that they were confident in the Utah State Courts, with 29 percent responding that they were “very confident.” In comparison, a national survey, conducted about the same time, found that 13 percent reported being very confident in their state courts. The Utah survey results are particularly gratifying in that they come following a downsizing of the court’s workforce, record high civil caseloads, and are at a time when public confidence in governmental institutions is on the wane nationally.

Having the public’s confidence is critical to courts being able to carry out their constitutional responsibilities. The report that follows highlights some of the many accomplishments by our dedicated judges and staff to make sure we’re not taking the public’s confidence for granted. For example, with the support provided by the 2012 Legislature, we have expanded the services of the Self-Help Center to thousands of litigants statewide who find themselves in court without an attorney. Technological advances have allowed the courts to do more with less while at the same time improve services. For example,

our district courts have been paperless since July 2012 in all civil and domestic cases. Beginning April 2013, all civil filings will be required to be made electronically. Also in April, the news media will be able to video record court proceedings in trial courts for the first time in Utah’s history. These are but a few of the efforts we have underway that will help make our courts more fair, efficient, and transparent.

It’s our pleasure to provide the *Annual Report to the Community*, and we hope that you find it useful and informative. We also hope that it will encourage you to learn more about your courts.

In closing, we express our appreciation to Governor Gary Herbert and members of the Legislature for their continued support of our courts.



**HONORABLE MATTHEW B. DURRANT**  
*Chief Justice, Utah Supreme Court*



**DANIEL J. BECKER**  
*Utah State Court Administrator*



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## UTAH STATE COURT’S MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Utah State Courts is to provide an open, fair, efficient, and independent system for the advancement of justice under the law.





# Growing Confidence

## IN UTAH'S COURTS

During the past decade, national public opinion polls have shown that public confidence in government institutions, including the judiciary, is on the decline. To see if this view held true in Utah, the Utah Judicial Council commissioned a court survey in 2006, to determine citizens' views of the judiciary and to measure the public's knowledge, experience, and expectations of the courts.

The survey results showed that the majority of respondents had a positive perception of the judiciary, felt Utah's courts were accessible, and that court employees were respectful and responsive in working with the public, among other findings.

As a result of the 2006 survey, the courts implemented a number of programs to build upon the public's confidence in the courts: the court's website—[www.utcourts.gov](http://www.utcourts.gov)—was re-designed for easier navigation, juror instructions were audited to ensure clarity, court performance reports were published on the website, a Diversity Subcommittee was formed to address the needs of minority populations, and a Self-Help Center pilot program was implemented to assist those who could not afford an attorney.

In 2012, the Judicial Council authorized a follow-up survey to gauge changes in the public's confidence in Utah's courts, to determine the progress made in the programs, and to learn about any new areas of concern.

The 2012 survey results show that the public continues to have confidence in Utah's court system. The overall confidence in Utah's courts increased from 78 percent in 2006, to 81 percent in 2012. Those surveyed ranked protecting constitutional rights as the most important function of the courts followed by ensuring public safety, reporting on court performance, and assisting those acting as their own attorney.

The 2012 survey provided valuable information about how the public is getting information about the courts. Reliance on the Internet as a source of information about the courts increased dramatically over the past six years from 22 percent in 2006, to 51 percent in 2012. The survey also showed that jurors reported being more confident in the courts as a result of their service.

In response to these survey findings and others, the court is moving forward to ensure the public's confidence in the courts remains high. The court

is planning to review methods of communicating to the public about its work; to raise awareness of court performance measurements by directing the public to the CourTools section of its website; to improve communication with ethnic populations; to re-visit employee customer service training to ensure the best experience for court patrons;

and to improve the juror experience at courthouses throughout the state.

By implementing these programs and others, the court will strive to increase the public's trust in Utah's judiciary and gain an even higher level of confidence in the years to come.

## Passing Of The Gavel

In April 2012, the Honorable Matthew B. Durrant began a four-year term as Chief Justice of the Utah Supreme Court replacing Justice Christine Durham who had served for 10 years in the position. Chief Justice Durrant was elected by a unanimous vote and Justice Ronald E. Nehring assumed the position of Associate Chief Justice. In Utah, the Chief Justice has two important roles: as the presiding judge of the Utah Supreme Court and as the presiding officer of the Utah Judicial Council, the court's governing body.

"I am honored and humbled that my colleagues have elected me to serve as Chief Justice. I hope to continue the tradition of commitment to the fair and efficient administration of justice," Chief Justice Durrant said at the time of his appointment.



## Utah's Courts Recognized Nationally

If imitation is the sincerest form of praise then Utah's courts should be flattered. More and more states are turning to Utah's courts to learn how they have implemented new programs and policies.

In October 2011, a representative from the National Center of State Courts visited Utah for three days to learn about Utah's system of court governance and the steps taken in response to budget reductions. The result is a 50-page report titled *A Case Study: Reengineering Utah's Courts through the Lens of the Principles for Judicial Administration*.

The report, released in February 2012, looks at Utah's court structure as an effective model for governing a court system. The report also highlights the Utah Judicial Council as the policy-making body for the judiciary and the culture it has created to promote meaningful participation and cooperation.

In addition, two states—Arizona and South Carolina—have recently sent representatives from their courts to learn about programs Utah's courts have pioneered. In June 2012, several staff members from South Carolina's Administrative Office of the Courts visited Utah to find out about Utah's

digital audio recording system, appellate transcript management program, and the court interpreter program. In October 2012, judges and administrators from the Arizona Superior Court in Maricopa County spent a day in Utah to learn about the Administrative Office of the Court's clerical restructuring and the transition to an electronic record.

Utah's judges, administrators, and managers are also called upon to serve on national boards and present at national conferences. Justice Christine Durham, for example, has served as president of the Conference of Chief Justices, and State Court Administrator Dan Becker has served as president of the Conference of State Court Administrators. Justice Durham has received numerous national awards and accolades, including the prestigious William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence. Becker currently serves on the board of the State Justice Institute, which is a presidential appointment. Judges and court staff—too numerous to name—are frequently invited to present at national conferences about topics ranging from child welfare to technology. Utah's citizens can take pride in knowing that its court system is not only efficient but effective as well.



# Serving the Public

PROVIDING ACCESS, STAYING ACCOUNTABLE

## ACCESSIBLE

### Courts Implementing Cutting-edge Technology

Rapid advances in technology that may seem common place in many organizations have been slow to be applied in many court systems. But this is changing. In the past few years, Utah's courts have implemented new online technology that has helped the public to access court information, to access legal forms, and to pay court fines. The court has also implemented an electronic record, which has increased the court's efficiency with internal operations.

The current focus in new technology is on electronic filing—commonly referred to as e-filing. Beginning in April 2013, Utah's courts will accept documents filed in civil and domestic cases only via e-filing. Other case types will soon follow: probate case e-filing begins in July 2013 and criminal case e-filing is being pilot tested.

The shift to e-filing is expected to substantially impact the court's work flow and work load, make court documents available anytime, anywhere via the Internet, and reduce trips to the courthouse by lawyers and litigants.

### Juvenile Court E-warrants Ensure Child Safety

In July 2012, Utah's Juvenile Court marked the one-year anniversary of launching a child welfare e-warrant application. The application allows an on-call judge to quickly respond to warrant requests, even when they are away from the courthouse. The process begins when the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) seeks a warrant to remove a child from home to ensure his or her safety. A DCFS child protective services (CPS) worker and assistant attorney general draft and digitally sign the required documents on the public safety system. Once the documents are completed, a text message is automatically sent to the mobile device of the on-call judge. Using the same device, the judge then digitally approves, rejects, or returns the documents to the CPS worker. The judge is able to attach comments and questions so the CPS worker can revise and re-submit the documents, if necessary. Once approved, the CPS worker is able to take prompt action to serve the signed warrant to ensure a child's safety. By using this system, judges have been able to approve warrant requests in as little as 8 minutes, supporting the prompt removal necessary to ensure a child is safe.

## Breaking the Language Barrier

The Utah State Courts strive to provide access to the courts for individuals from all walks of life. For those who speak limited to no English, the court's Interpreter Program provides language assistance in all court-related matters. Interpreters are available at any point in an individual's contact with the court—whether it is a criminal or civil case or a Juvenile Court probation meeting.

A roster of trained spoken language and American Sign Language interpreters is maintained by the court to ensure the highest level of interpretation is provided. Depending on the language, interpreters are trained and tested and receive credentials to identify their level of achievement.

The court is continually working to expand and refine the Interpreter Program and recently completed two pilot projects to test enhancements. The first project tested remote interpreting equipment, which allows interpreters at Salt Lake's Scott M. Matheson Courthouse to interpret hearings in Manti, Moab, Richfield, Roosevelt, and Vernal. This project has proven to be a feasible undertaking and is being fine tuned.

The second pilot project—underway in the Third Judicial District—is to provide on-site staff interpreters who are certified in Spanish to assist in all aspects of court interpreting and translating. (Typically, interpreters are hired on a contract basis

for individual cases or court sessions.) These interpreters are available to interpret any court matter in the Third Judicial District, perform remote interpreting, and translate the court website. In addition, the interpreters travel to the Eighth Judicial District to interpret hearings. This project has resulted in a recommendation to the Utah Judicial Council to permanently employ interpreters as full-time staff. The court is now analyzing whether the interpreting needs in other districts warrant hiring on-site interpreter staff.

Overall, these pilot projects have resulted in a number of benefits to the courts, including cost-savings and increased efficiencies. Information about how to request an interpreter as well as how to become a court interpreter is available at [www.utcourts.gov/resources/interp](http://www.utcourts.gov/resources/interp).

## Helping People Navigate the Justice System

The purpose of the Self-Help Center is simple: provide information and tools to anyone accessing Utah's state court system.

Since December 2007, the center has delivered services to thousands of people who are representing themselves in court. The center is a "virtual" program that provides free services by telephone, email, text messaging, and online chat. Staff attorneys are available to assist anyone who contacts the center in either English or Spanish. The center's staff provides information about court procedures, assists

with filling out court forms, helps patrons navigate the court's website, and explains what to do in court as well as after the court issues an order.

Center staff do not provide legal advice but do give helpful information in a wide range of legal matters and at all levels of court. In addition, the center works with the state and local bar associations, nonprofit legal agencies, public libraries, and state and community programs to connect people to helpful resources.

In 2012, the Utah State Legislature enacted a bill that established the center as a permanent, statewide program of the courts. As of July 2012, the center began serving the entire state and has experienced an enormous increase in the number of people utilizing its services. With the expansion statewide, the center anticipates it will respond to more than 15,000 contacts during FY 2013.

Feedback has shown that people frustrated by the judicial system are relieved to talk with someone who guides them through the court process, treats them with respect, and gives them practical answers to their questions. As one individual commented: "I think it is an extremely valuable and important resource to help people navigate what can be an intimidating system."

The center is cost-effective, efficient, and well-received. By assisting self-represented individuals move through the court system, the center is not only helping self-represented litigants, but also assisting

court staff, judges, and attorneys do their jobs more efficiently and effectively.

## Court Program Protects Vulnerable Adults

The Court Visitor Volunteer Program is a new guardianship monitoring pilot program established by the Utah Judicial Council in 2011, and funded by a State Justice Institute grant. The purpose of the program is to protect vulnerable adults from abuse, exploitation, neglect, and self-neglect. The program aims to preserve an individual's independence and self-determination despite diminished capacity.

The concept of a court visitor is not new. Judges have had the authority since 1975—as part of the Utah Code—to assign court visitors in adult guardianship cases. But the court has used its authority sporadically because of a lack of qualified people willing to serve as court visitors.

The Court Visitor Volunteer Program works to recruit and train volunteers to prepare files for guardianship hearings, investigate whether or not to excuse the vulnerable adult from the hearing, and monitor the protected person's well-being after a guardian is appointed.

In any given year, there are about 1,500 new adult guardianship and conservatorship petitions filed in Utah. At any given time, there are about 12,000 active cases. These numbers are only projected to grow. Utah's State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias estimates that the number

of Utahns with Alzheimer's disease—about 32,000 in 2010—will increase by about one-quarter by 2020, and by 2025 the number will have increased by 56 percent to about 50,000. The Alzheimer's Association estimates that Utah has the highest per capita increase of Alzheimer's disease cases in the country. The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget estimates that the number of Utahns age 65 and older—about 250,000 in the 2010 census—will increase by approximately one-third by 2020 and by 2030 the number will more than double.

The Court Visitor Volunteer Program currently operates in both urban and rural communities in the Third, Fourth, and Seventh Judicial Districts. Current court volunteer visitors come from a variety of backgrounds, including retired and employed lawyers, social work students, auditors, law enforcement officers, and advocates for the elderly and persons with disabilities. More information about the program and volunteer opportunities is available at [www.utcourts.gov/visitor](http://www.utcourts.gov/visitor).

## Justice for Veterans

In January 2011, a Veterans Court opened its doors in Judge John Baxter's courtroom at the Salt Lake City Justice Court to address the unique challenges encountered by veterans who have been charged with violating the law.

Veterans Court is a post-plea court, which means the defendant has pled guilty to a crime or that a plea in abeyance has been accepted by the court. A Veterans

Court team—comprised of the judge, city prosecutor, legal defender, and veterans outreach coordinator—works together to address the special needs of each veteran.

Veterans Court integrates treatment with justice and provides veterans access to alcohol, drug, mental health, and rehabilitation services. Veterans who comply with the court requirements receive credit for fines and community service and can receive shortened probation periods.

Team members take a non-adversarial approach to addressing the needs of each veteran, which produces positive results. "Judicial interaction with each vet lets them know that we care about them, that we support them, and that we are watching over them," says Judge John Baxter. "This is essential to the success of the program."

The unique approach to assisting veterans involved in the justice system is an example of an effective program that is ensuring justice for all.



## ACCOUNTABLE

### Measuring Time to Case Resolution in Utah's Courts

Utah courts use a variety of case management measurements to ensure accountability to citizens. The volume and age of pending cases, for example, is reviewed regularly to manage employee workload. The time it takes to resolve or dispose of a case is another fundamental case management measurement and is often reported in relationship to a time standard. These proposed standards recommend the amount of time it should typically take to dispose of various types of court cases.

In 2011, model time standards were approved by the Conference of Chief Justices and the Conference of State Court Administrators to assist state courts in establishing and monitoring their own time standards. In May 2011, the Utah Judicial Council authorized a pilot project to review the model time standards and recommend time standard guidelines for cases in Utah's district, juvenile, and justice courts.

The Judicial Council established an advisory group to review the national standards and legal procedures as well as statutory requirements unique to Utah. The group then developed and refined a reporting tool that Utah courts can use for time to case disposition. After reviewing data and developing recommendations, feedback about the proposed reporting

tool was provided by the boards of judges and judicial leadership statewide. The recommended time standard guidelines were presented to the Judicial Council in December 2012 and will be finalized in early 2013.

### Juvenile Court: Ongoing Quality Improvement

When youth and families become involved in Utah's Juvenile Court they should feel confident that they will receive the highest quality services available. The Juvenile Court works to ensure this occurs by conducting ongoing evaluations of its programs to meet the changing needs of youth.

One way the Juvenile Court ensures a successful experience is by administering an annual evaluation that measures the progress of youth involved in the court and the effectiveness of youth programs. These measurements are found in a Juvenile Court Report Card to the Community that is available at [www.utcourts.gov/courts/juv](http://www.utcourts.gov/courts/juv).

The Report Card provides an overview of cases handled by the Juvenile Court and measures how well time standards are being met. The Report Card also shows how long it takes for a case to work its way through Juvenile Court; in Utah most delinquency cases are adjudicated within 90 days. The Report Card also tracks data, such as how often Utah youth re-offend after being involved with Juvenile Court.

In addition to processing cases efficiently, Juvenile Court works to ensure that children and families are receiving

effective services. The court uses a two-pronged approach: the youth is evaluated using the Correctional Program Checklist (CPC) and an analysis is performed to determine changes in the youth's attitudes and behaviors.

The Juvenile Court also collaborates with organizations that provide ongoing research and technical support to help improve youth programs. Program managers and administrators have access to an interactive website to assess program results. The website shows outcome measures over time as well as program trends. For example, program recidivism rates can be checked and compared to a similar groups.

By using these tools, the Juvenile Court maintains continuous quality improvement and the effective implementation of evidence-based practices. The court believes that Utah's families and youth deserve this level of transparency and feedback from the judicial system.

## TRANSPARENT

### Court Opens Door to Video Cameras

A major shift in the way television stations cover court cases is about to take place in Utah's trial courts. In November 2012, the Utah Judicial Council adopted rules to allow expanded media coverage of court proceedings.

The rule changes will allow one video camera to cover court proceedings in Utah's trial courts beginning in April 2013. The public will be able to watch portions of court proceedings when a television station requests and is approved to cover a case. By opening the courts to television cameras the public will be better informed about the work of the judiciary.

The rules also allow electronic devices to be brought into a courtroom. The Judicial Council has acknowledged the public's need to use cell phones, smart phones, laptops, and other electronic tools while attending to court business. The rule change aims to balance access to technology while preserving the fair administration of justice.

### Court Reports on Performance

In 2004, the Utah Judicial Council identified a number of measurements to monitor the court's performance and implement improvements to better serve the public. Eight measures are currently monitored and outcomes are posted on the court's website. To learn more go to [www.utcourts.gov/courtools](http://www.utcourts.gov/courtools).

## Virtual Employee Training

During the past few years, the Utah State Courts have been on a fast-track to implement electronic processes for a number of functions. This has been most apparent externally as the court has implemented e-warrants, e-payment, and e-filing. In-house, the court has been on a parallel track to create an e-library of learning programs developed to train clerical staff on job-specific tasks.

This Online Training Program (OTP) was launched in July 2010 to provide employees access to job-specific training from the convenience of one's own computer. Rather than requiring employees to attend a class away from the office, the court now delivers the training directly to the employee's desktop. This is not only convenient for employees, but also provides a cost-efficient way for the courts to train employees.

The OTP library currently consists of more than 120 training modules. Employees initiate training at their convenience and complete lessons at a pace suited to

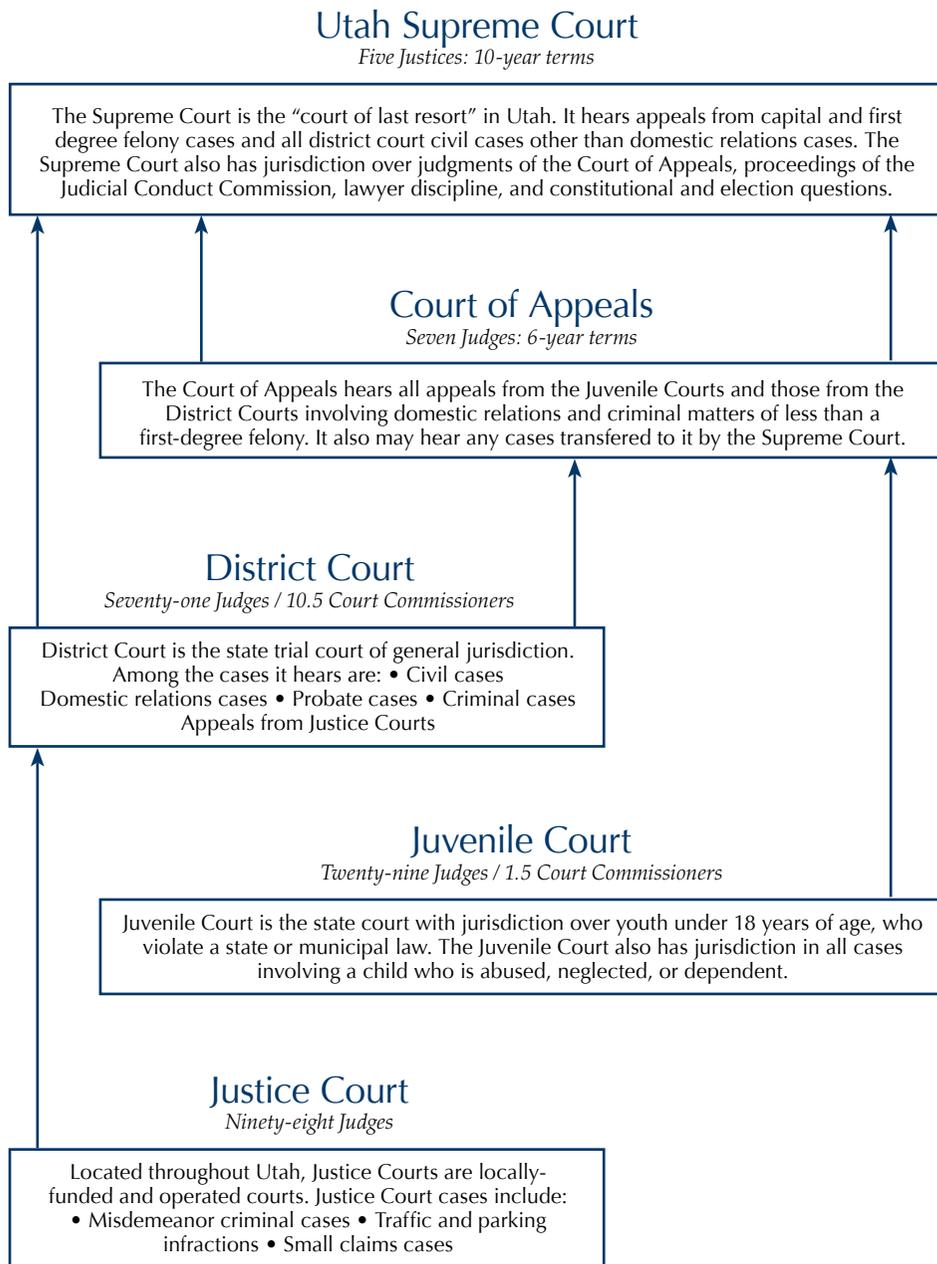
their own needs. The OTP modules are designed to simulate on-the-job tasks and prompt users to put into action the skills necessary in a given lesson. The OTP library is a virtual storehouse of performance-related instruction and reference material. Employees can return to the content at any time to review or enhance their skills.

After the initial launch, the OTP has continued to expand to meet the training needs of clerical staff across the state. As the courts move toward relying on the electronic record, new case management technologies are developed and existing processes are modified to accommodate new standards. The resulting changes in clerical procedure demand quick and efficient training. The OTP serves as a reliable way to educate staff on the court's new systems.

Moving forward, the OTP will continue to grow in content and contribute to the ability of the courts to provide its customers with the finest service possible.



# Navigating the Court System



# Court Governance and Administration



2012-2013 UTAH JUDICIAL COUNCIL

**FRONT ROW**

Judge Gregory K. Orme, Judge George M. Harmond, Judge Judith S.H. Atherton, Justice Jill N. Parrish, Judge Kimberly K. Hornak, Utah State Court Administrator Daniel J. Becker, Judge David N. Mortensen.

**BACK ROW**

Utah State Bar Representative John Lund, Esq., Judge Reed S. Parkin, Judge Paul Maughan, Chief Justice Matthew B. Durrant, Judge Larry A. Steele, Judge Brendan P. McCullagh, Judge Glen R. Dawson.

Not pictured: Judge John L. Sandberg

## Utah Judicial Council

The Utah Judicial Council is established in the Utah Constitution and directs the activities of all Utah courts. The Judicial Council is responsible for adopting uniform rules for the administration of all courts in the state, setting standards for judicial performance, and overseeing court facilities, support services, and judicial and nonjudicial personnel. The Judicial Council holds monthly meetings, typically at the Scott M. Matheson Courthouse in Salt Lake City. These meetings are open to the public. For dates and locations of Judicial Council meetings, go to [www.utcourts.gov/admin/judcncl/sched.htm](http://www.utcourts.gov/admin/judcncl/sched.htm).

**CHIEF JUSTICE MATTHEW B. DURRANT,**  
*Chair, Utah Supreme Court*

**JUDGE GREGORY K. ORME,**  
*Utah Court of Appeals*

**JUDGE KIMBERLY K. HORNAK,**  
*Vice Chair, Third District Juvenile Court*

**JUDGE REED S. PARKIN,**  
*Orem City Justice Court*

**JUDGE JUDITH S.H. ATHERTON,**  
*Third District Court*

**JUSTICE JILL N. PARRISH,**  
*Utah Supreme Court*

**JUDGE GLEN R. DAWSON,**  
*Second District Court*

**JUDGE JOHN L. SANDBERG,**  
*Clinton and Clearfield Justice Courts*

**JUDGE GEORGE M. HARMOND,**  
*Seventh District Court*

**JUDGE LARRY A. STEELE,**  
*Eighth District Juvenile Court*

**JUDGE PAUL G. MAUGHAN,**  
*Third District Court*

**JOHN LUND, ESQ.,**  
*Utah State Bar*

**JUDGE BRENDAN P. MCCULLAGH,**  
*West Valley City Justice Court*

**DANIEL J. BECKER,**  
*Secretariat, State Court Administrator*

**JUDGE DAVID N. MORTENSEN,**  
*Fourth District Court*



## Utah State Court's Boards of Judges

The Utah State Courts has four boards of judges representing each court level. The boards propose court rules, serve as liaison between local courts and the Judicial Council, and plan budget and legislative priorities.

### BOARD OF APPELLATE COURT JUDGES

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**CHIEF JUSTICE MATTHEW B. DURRANT,**  
*Chair, Utah Supreme Court*

**JUDGE GREGORY K. ORME,**  
*Utah Court of Appeals*

**JUDGE MICHELE M. CHRISTIANSEN,**  
*Utah Court of Appeals*

**JUSTICE JILL N. PARRISH,**  
*Utah Supreme Court*

**JUDGE JAMES Z. DAVIS,**  
*Utah Court of Appeals*

**JUDGE STEPHEN L. ROTH,**  
*Utah Court of Appeals*

**JUSTICE CHRISTINE M. DURHAM,**  
*Utah Supreme Court*

**JUDGE WILLIAM A. THORNE, JR.,**  
*Utah Court of Appeals*

**JUSTICE THOMAS R. LEE,**  
*Utah Supreme Court*

**JUDGE J. FREDERIC VOROS, JR.,**  
*Utah Court of Appeals*

**JUDGE CAROLYN B. MCHUGH,**  
*Utah Court of Appeals*

**DIANE ABEGGLEN,**  
*Board Staff, Appellate Court Administrator*

**JUSTICE RONALD E. NEHRING,**  
*Utah Supreme Court*

### BOARD OF DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

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**JUDGE SCOTT M. HADLEY,**  
*Chair, Second District Court*

**JUDGE DEREK PULLAN,**  
*Fourth District Court*

**JUDGE KEVIN K. ALLEN,**  
*First District Court*

**JUDGE RANDALL N. SKANCHY,**  
*Third District Court*

**JUDGE DAVID M. CONNORS,**  
*Second District Court*

**JUDGE JAMES R. TAYLOR,**  
*Fourth District Court*

**JUDGE MARK S. KOURIS,**  
*Third District Court*

**JUDGE KATE A. TOOMEY,**  
*Third District Court*

**JUDGE ERIC LUDLOW,**  
*Fifth District Court*

**DEBRA MOORE,**  
*Board Staff, District Court Administrator*

**JUDGE CLARK A. MCCLELLAN,**  
*Eighth District Court*

## BOARD OF JUVENILE COURT JUDGES

**JUDGE MARK W. MAY,**  
*Chair, Third District Juvenile Court*

**JUDGE ELIZABETH A. LINDSLEY,**  
*Third District Juvenile Court*

**JUDGE SUCHADA P. BAZZELLE,**  
*Fourth District Juvenile Court*

**JUDGE MARY NOONAN,**  
*Fourth District Juvenile Court*

**JUDGE JEFFREY R. BURBANK,**  
*First District Juvenile Court*

**JUDGE KARLA STAHELI,**  
*Fifth District Juvenile Court*

**JUDGE JANICE L. FROST,**  
*Second District Juvenile Court*

**LISA-MICHELE CHURCH,**  
*Board Staff, Juvenile Court Administrator*

## BOARD OF JUSTICE COURT JUDGES

**JUDGE DAVID C. MARX,**  
*Chair, Hyde Park and North Logan City  
and Logan City Justice Courts*

**JUDGE REED S. PARKIN,**  
*Orem City Justice Court,  
Judicial Council Representative*

**JUDGE BRENT A. DUNLAP,**  
*Iron County Justice Court*

**REUBEN J. RENSTROM,**  
*Harrisville City, Riverdale City, South Ogden  
City, South Weber City, and Woods Cross City  
Justice Courts*

**JUDGE PAUL FARR, HERRIMAN,**  
*Lehi, and Sandy City Justice Courts*

**JUDGE JOHN L. SANDBERG,**  
*Clearfield City and Clinton City Justice Courts,  
Judicial Council Representative*

**JUDGE SHERLYNN FENSTERMAKER,**  
*Springville City and Mapleton City Justice Courts*

**JUDGE ELAYNE STORRS,**  
*Carbon County and  
Wellington City Justice Courts*

**JUDGE MICHAEL KWAN,**  
*Taylorsville Justice Court*

**RICHARD SCHWERMER,**  
*Board Staff, Assistant State Court Administrator*

**JUDGE BRENDAN P. MCCULLAGH,**  
*West Valley City Justice Court, Judicial Council  
Representative*

## PRESIDING JUDGES

The presiding judge is elected by a majority vote of judges from the court or district and is responsible for effective court operation. The presiding judge implements and enforces rules, policies, and directions of the Judicial Council and often schedules calendars and case assignments. The presiding judge works as part of a management team in the district, which includes the trial court executive and clerk of court, and in the case of Juvenile Court, the chief probation officer.

During the past few years, the Utah State Courts have embarked on an initiative to better define and strengthen the role of the presiding judges. This process has included review and revision of existing rules and statutes, along with training that is designed to enhance the judges' skills in handling administrative duties.

## PRESIDING JUDGES

**UTAH SUPREME COURT**  
Chief Justice Matthew B. Durrant

**FIFTH DISTRICT COURT**  
Judge James L. Shumate

**COURT OF APPEALS**  
Judge Carolyn B. McHugh

**FIFTH DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT**  
Judge Thomas Higbee

**FIRST DISTRICT COURT**  
Judge Ben H. Hadfield

**SIXTH DISTRICT COURT**  
Judge Wallace A. Lee

**SECOND DISTRICT COURT**  
Judge Brent W. West

**SIXTH DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT**  
Judge Paul D. Lyman

**SECOND DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT**  
Judge Janet L. Frost

**SEVENTH DISTRICT COURT**  
Judge Douglas B. Thomas

**THIRD DISTRICT COURT**  
Judge Royal I. Hansen

**SEVENTH DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT**  
Judge Mary L. Manley

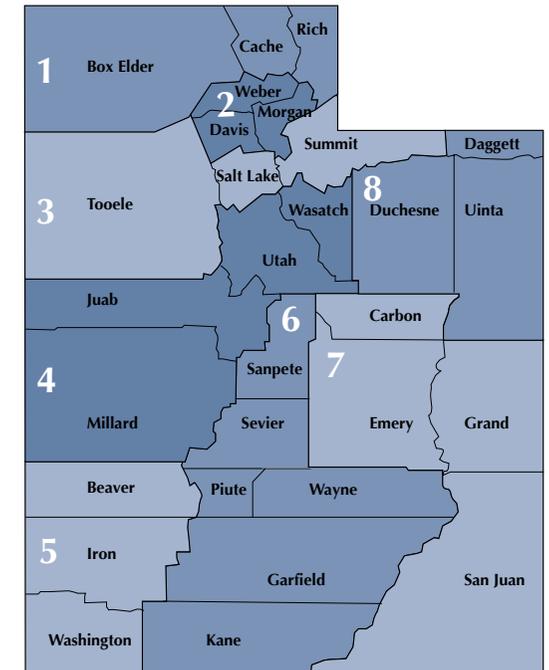
**THIRD DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT**  
Judge James R. Michie, Jr.

**EIGHTH DISTRICT COURT**  
Judge Edwin T. Peterson

**FOURTH DISTRICT COURT**  
Judge Samuel D. McVey

**EIGHTH DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT**  
Judge Larry A. Steele

**FOURTH DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT**  
Judge Mary T. Noonan



## TRIAL COURT EXECUTIVES

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The Utah State Court's trial court executives are responsible for day-to-day supervision of non-judicial administration of the courts. Duties include hiring and supervising staff, developing and managing a budget, managing facilities, managing court calendars, and developing and managing court security plans.

### APPELLATE COURTS

Diane Abegglen

### FOURTH DISTRICT COURT

Shane Bahr

### FIRST DISTRICT AND JUVENILE COURTS

Corrie Keller

### FOURTH DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT

James Peters

### SECOND DISTRICT COURT

Sylvester Daniels

### FIFTH DISTRICT AND JUVENILE COURTS

Rick Davis

### SECOND DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT

Travis Erickson

### SIXTH DISTRICT AND JUVENILE COURTS

Wendell Roberts

### THIRD DISTRICT COURT

Peyton Smith

### SEVENTH DISTRICT AND JUVENILE COURTS

Terri Yelonek

### THIRD DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT

Duane Betournay

### EIGHTH DISTRICT AND JUVENILE COURTS

Russell Pearson

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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The Administrative Office of the Courts is responsible for organizing and administering all of the non-judicial offices of the Utah State Courts. Activities include implementing the standards, policies, and rules established by the Utah Judicial Council. The Court Administrator Act provides for the appointment of a State Court Administrator with duties and responsibilities outlined in the Utah Code. Appellate, district, juvenile, and justice court administrators and local court executives assist the state court administrator in performing these duties and responsibilities. Also assisting the state court administrator are personnel in finance, human resources, internal audit, judicial education, law, planning, public information, rules, and technology. Mediators, Office of the Guardian ad Litem, a District Court capital case staff attorney, and a Juvenile Court law clerk are also based in the Administrative Office of the Courts.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON UTAH'S STATE COURT SYSTEM,  
GO TO [WWW.UTCOURTS.GOV](http://WWW.UTCOURTS.GOV).**



# Awards, Honors, Recognition

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**ARTHUR ADAIR**, 7th District Juvenile Court Deputy Probation Officer, *2012 Meritorious Service Award*, Utah Judicial Council

**BRODY ARISHITA**, Administrative Office of the Courts Software Support, *2012 Meritorious Service Award*, Utah Judicial Council

**LAURA R. BARKER**, North Ogden Justice Court, *2012 Employee of the Year Award*, Justice Court Board

**PAT BARTHOLOMEW**, Utah Supreme Court Clerk of Court, *2012 Meritorious Service Award*, Utah Judicial Council (awarded posthumously)

**HONORABLE JOSEPH BEAN**, Syracuse Justice Court, *2012 Quality of Justice Award*, Utah Judicial Council

**CAROLYN BULLOCH**, 5th District Court Clerk of Court, *2012 Meritorious Service Award*, Utah Judicial Council

**SYLVESTER DANIELS, JR.**, 2nd District Trial Court Executive, *2012 Judicial Administration Award*, Utah Judicial Council

**CHRISTINE DAVIES**, 3rd District Court Clerk of Court, *2012 Meritorious Service Award*, Utah Judicial Council

**HONORABLE JUSTICE CHRISTINE M. DURHAM**, *Dwight D. Opperman Award for Judicial Excellence*, American Judicature Society; *2012 Justice Court Amicus Curiae Award*; *Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice Annual Award*; *2012 Lifetime Service Award*, Utah State Bar; *Recognition of service to improve the lives of Utah children in foster care and kinship care*, Children's Service Society

**TODD EATON**, Administrative Office of the Courts LAN Administrative Specialist III, *2012 Meritorious Service Award*, Utah Judicial Council

**JODY GONZALES**, Administrative Office of the Courts Executive Assistant, *2012 Meritorious Service Award*, Utah Judicial Council

**KATIE GREGORY**, Administrative Office of the Courts Assistance Juvenile Court Administrator, *2012 Meritorious Service Award*, Utah Judicial Council



HONORABLE DAVID R. HAMILTON, *Distinguished Service Award*, Utah State Bar

HONORABLE ROYAL HANSEN, *Judge of the Year Award*, Utah State Bar

JASON HASLAM, *Stonefly Society Chapter of Trout Unlimited, 2012 Service to the Courts Award*, Utah Judicial Council

HONORABLE KIMBERLY HORNAK, *2012 Governor's Award*, Substance Abuse Advisory Council

SANDY IWASAKI, *Administrative Office of the Courts Administrative Assistant, 2012 Amicus Curiae Award*, Justice Court Board

BRENT JOHNSON, *Administrative Office of the Courts General Counsel, 2012 Hearts and Hands Award*, Utah State Bar

BEV KLUNGERVIK, *Administrative Office of the Courts Child Welfare Mediator, 2012 Peacekeeper Award*, Utah Council on Conflict Resolution; *Outstanding Service in Assisting At-risk Youth Award*, Agencies and Organizations Serving Troubled Youth

HONORABLE TYRONE MEDLEY, *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Civil Rights Award*, NAACP-Salt Lake Branch

HONORABLE SANDRA PEULER, *Dorothy Merrill Brothers Award*, Utah State Bar

HONORABLE JACK STEVENS, *Hyrum, Nibley, and Logan Justice Courts, 2012 Judge of the Year Award*, Justice Court Board

JESSICA VAN BUREN, *Utah State Law Librarian, O. James Werner Award*, American Association of Law Libraries' State, Court, and County Law Libraries Special Interest Section

SUSAN VOGEL, *Utah Self-Help Center Attorney, 2012 Social Justice & Culture Award*, Utah Coalition of La Raza

FRANCIS M. WIKSTROM, *Attorney at Law, 2012 Amicus Curiae Award*, Utah Judicial Council

KRISTEN YOUNGBERG, *Administrative Office of the Courts, 2012 Records Quality Award*, Utah Judicial Council



## Judges Who Retired From the Bench in 2012

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HONORABLE WILLIAM BARRETT, *Third District Court*

HONORABLE RAND BEACHAM, *Fifth District Court*

HONORABLE TYRONE E. MEDLEY, *Third District Court*

HONORABLE STERLING SAINSBURY, *Fourth District Juvenile Court*

## In Memoriam

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HONORABLE ROBERT WILLIAM DAINES, *First District Court*

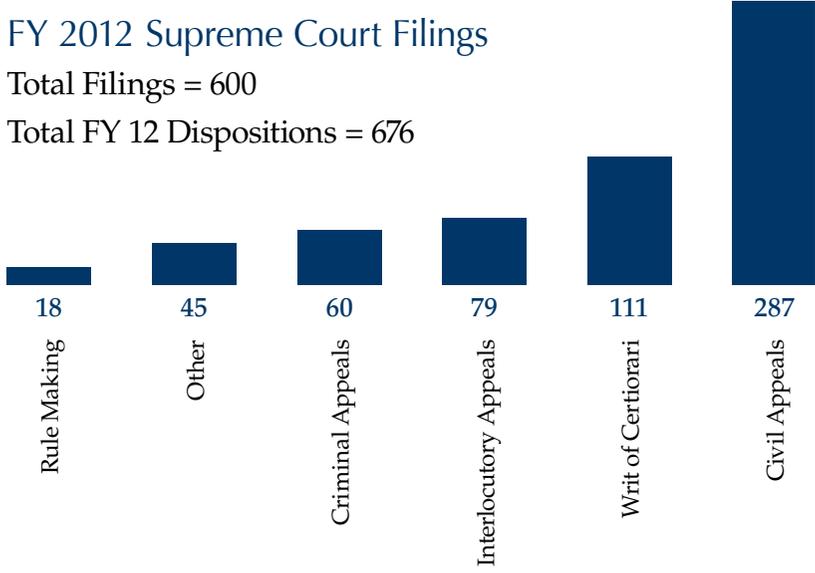
HONORABLE STANTON M. TAYLOR, *Second District Court*



# 2012 Court Caseloads

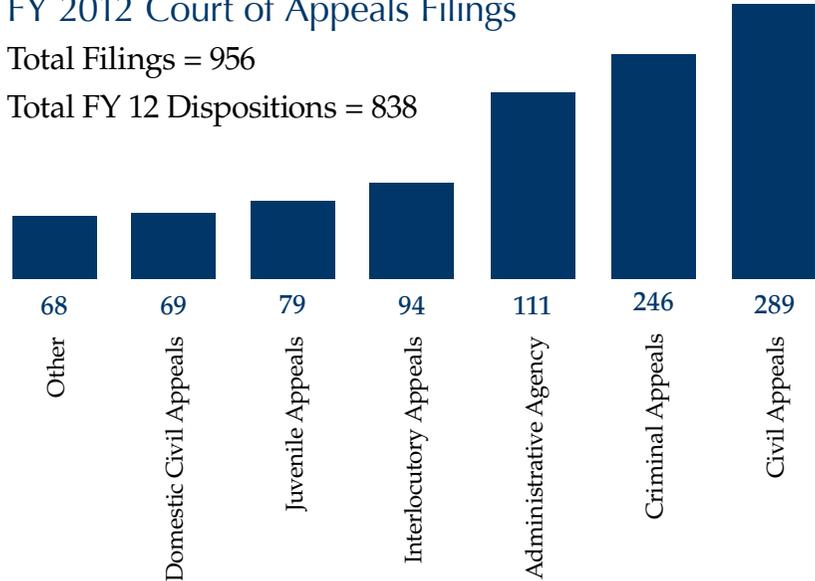
## FY 2012 Supreme Court Filings

Total Filings = 600  
 Total FY 12 Dispositions = 676



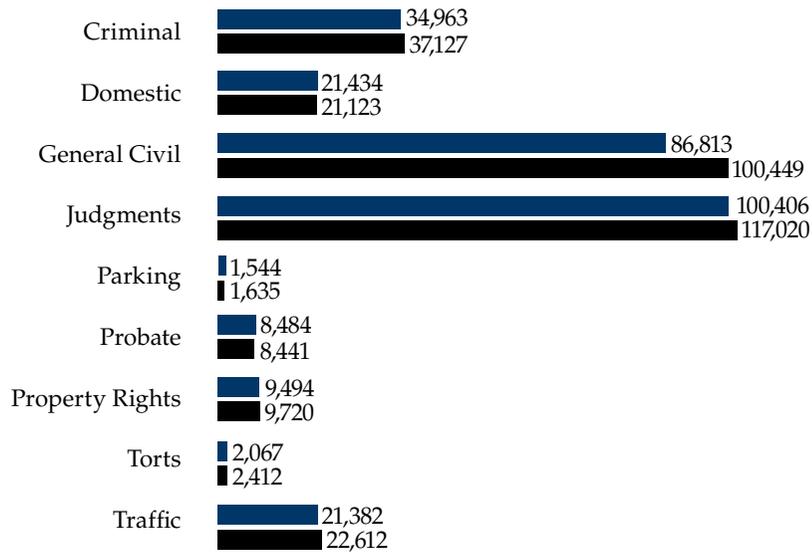
## FY 2012 Court of Appeals Filings

Total Filings = 956  
 Total FY 12 Dispositions = 838



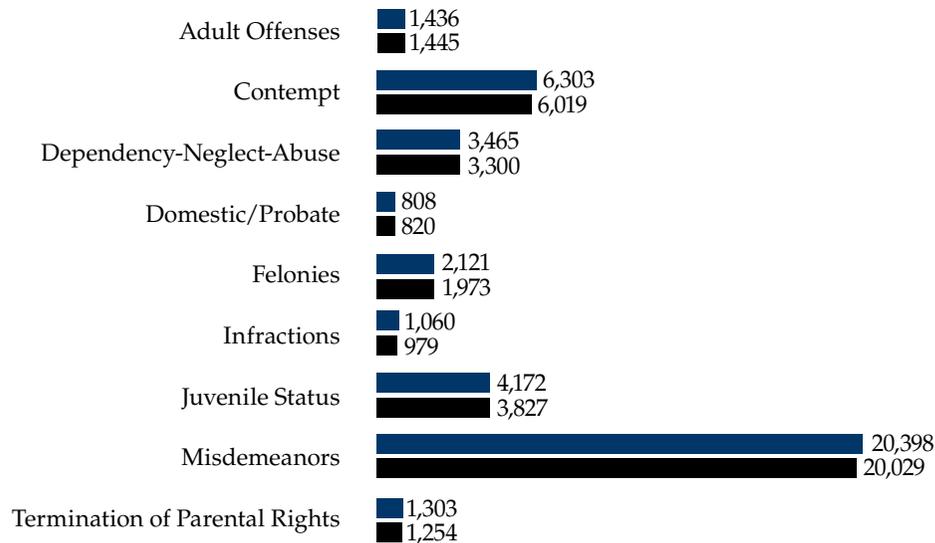
## FY 2012 District Court Filings & Dispositions

■ Total Filings = 286,587  
 ■ Total Dispositions = 320,539



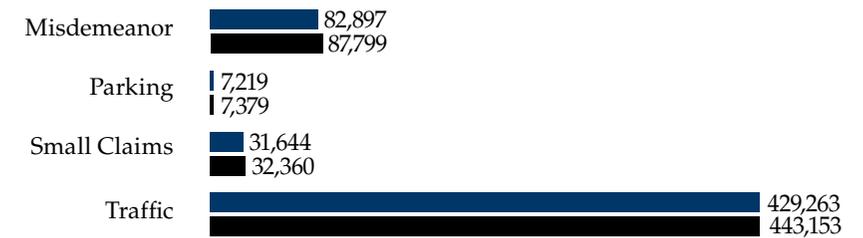
## FY 2012 Juvenile Court Referrals

■ Total Referrals = 41,066  
 ■ Total Dispositions = 39,646



## FY 2012 Justice Court Filings & Dispositions

■ Total Filings = 551,023  
 ■ Total Dispositions = 570,691



## FY 2013 Annual Judicial Budget

*As part of State of Utah budget. All funds including general funds and federal funds.*



## General and Education Funds Only (Appropriated FY 2013 budget)

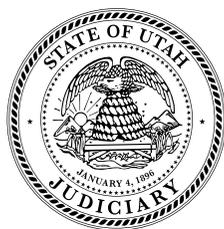
*The judicial budget is 2.21 percent of the state's general fund budget.*



# ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Scott M. Matheson Courthouse  
450 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

(801) 578-3800 • [www.utcourts.gov](http://www.utcourts.gov)



## ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2013

