



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NEVADA JUDICIARY

FISCAL YEAR 2019

# Equal Branches of Government

## LEGISLATIVE



*"The effect of [a representative democracy is] to refine and enlarge the public views, by passing them through the medium of a chosen body of citizens, whose wisdom may best discern the true interest of the nation..."*

*- James Madison*

## EXECUTIVE



*"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."*

*- John Quincy Adams*

**LEGISLATIVE BRANCH TO MAKE THE LAWS.  
EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO ENACT THE LAWS.  
JUDICIAL BRANCH TO INTERPRET THE LAWS.**

## JUDICIAL



*"It is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is. Those who apply the rule to particular cases, must of necessity expound and interpret that rule. If two laws conflict with each other, the courts must decide on the operation of each."*

*- John Marshall*

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## THE JUDICIARY

The Nevada Judiciary interprets laws and provides an unbiased check on the Executive and Legislative branches. The Nevada Judiciary has the responsibility to provide impartial, efficient, and accessible dispute resolution in legal matters.

Although a separate branch of government, the Nevada Judiciary works with the other branches to serve the citizens of Nevada.



Expanded program notes and full statistics can be found on our website at <https://nvcourts.link/NVJAnnualReport>.



## Nevada Appellate Courts



### SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA

*Left to Right: Associate Chief Justice Kristina Pickering, Justice Ron D. Parraguirre, Chief Justice Mark Gibbons, Justice Abbi Silver, Justice James W. Hardesty, Justice Elissa F. Cadish, and Justice Lidia S. Stiglich.*

### FEMALE MAJORITY

*For the first time in Nevada history, more women than men are serving in the State's highest court.*

*Left to Right: Justice Abbi Silver, Associate Chief Justice Kristina Pickering, Justice Lidia S. Stiglich, and Justice Elissa F. Cadish.*



### NEVADA COURT OF APPEALS

*Judge Bonnie A. Bulla, Judge Jerome T. Tao, and Chief Judge Michael P. Gibbons.*



As Chief Justice, I am pleased to submit this *2019 Annual Report of the Nevada Judiciary* on behalf of the Supreme Court of Nevada and the entire Nevada Judiciary. The annual report highlights our service to the citizens of Nevada. The Nevada Judiciary is committed to providing access to justice and being a successful and advanced court system.

The Nevada Judiciary continues to process tens of thousands of cases each year as the population of our state continues to grow. In fiscal year 2019, Nevada District Courts disposed of 131,317 non-traffic cases, the Justice Courts resolved 193,979 non-traffic cases and 289,282 traffic and parking cases, and the Municipal Courts concluded 50,985 non-traffic cases and 143,057 traffic and parking cases. The Supreme Court resolved 1,852 cases, and the Court of Appeals resolved 1,301 cases. The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals disposed of 106 percent of all cases filed, with an inventory of 2,042 pending cases. The Supreme Court also completed a total revision of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure.

This report chronicles the service and dedication of judges and court staff to provide support to all who seek to resolve disputes in our courts. The Nevada Judiciary seeks to improve, and we include in this report efforts by Committees and Commissions to improve how we handle the public's business. Included are reports from Judicial Programs and Services detailing efforts to improve access, and a record of innovations and initiatives undertaken in fiscal year 2019 to improve the way the judiciary conducts business.

For the first time in history in 2019, a majority of the justices of the Nevada Supreme Court are women. It has been my privilege to serve as Nevada's Chief Justice this past year. I thank all the members of the Nevada Judiciary for the progress they have made to serve the citizens of Nevada.



Mark Gibbons  
Chief Justice  
Supreme Court of Nevada



*Chief Justice Mark Gibbons was first elected to the Nevada Supreme Court in 2002 and was elected to his third six-year term in 2014.*

## State Court Administrator Note

*“It matters enormously to a successful democratic society like ours that we have three branches of government, each with some independence and some control over the other two. That’s set out in the Constitution.”—Sandra Day O’Connor*



*Robin Sweet was appointed State Court Administrator in May 2011 and serves as the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts.*

Throughout the pages that follow, you will find a portrait of some of the work accomplished by the Nevada Judicial Branch. These brief summaries and statistics, while often representing individual justice, celebrate the initiatives and accomplishments of the Judicial Branch as we collaborate with the other two branches to serve the citizens of Nevada.

Some of the successful efforts, such as the Court Improvement Program (CIP), involve working closely with stakeholders from the Executive Branch such as the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS). Our recent collaborations have reduced the time to place children, who have been removed from the home due to neglect or abuse, in a permanent family setting by more than 5 months.

The Legislative Branch provides the funding authorization for the DCFS and part of the CIP staff salaries. However, most of the CIP program funding comes from federal grants. Additionally, as changes have been needed in statutes to ensure continued federal funding or to improve processes, the Legislature has listened and enacted many of those changes.

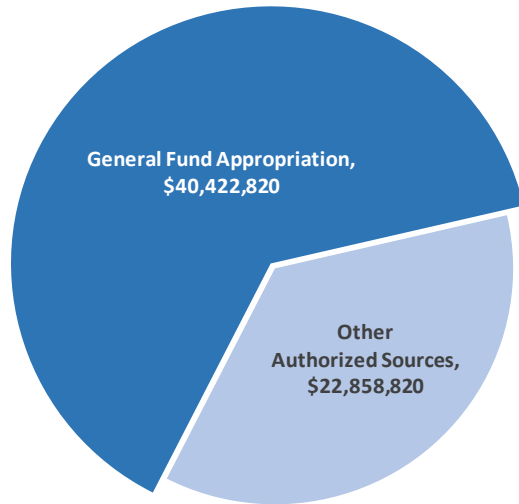
There are many other examples of such collaboration and improvement in the justice system. The hard-working staff of the Judicial Branch throughout Nevada will continue our efforts. As stewards of one of three branches, we must continue to strive to maintain this coequal balance, with the appropriate levels of continued independence, collaboration, and control. Our successful democratic society needs this from us all!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin Sweet". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robin Sweet  
State Court Administrator  
Director, Administrative Office of the Courts

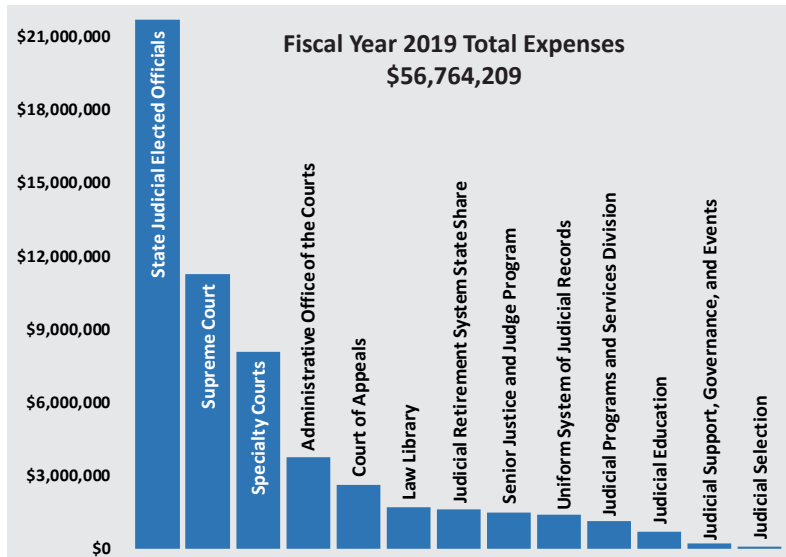
# Nevada Judicial System Fiscal Overview

Fiscal Year 2019 Approved Budget  
\$63,281,640



In fiscal year 2019, the State Judicial System was appropriated \$40,422,820<sup>1</sup> from the State’s General Fund. This equates to less than 1 percent of the statewide General Fund appropriation. Additional funding authorized in the budget included \$22,858,820 from administrative assessment revenue, reserves, and other funding sources, which brought the total of the State Judicial System budget approved by the Nevada Legislature to \$63,281,640. The pie chart to the left outlines funding by source.

<sup>1</sup> This amount excludes the appropriation to fund the Commission on Judicial Discipline, which is separate from the Judicial Branch.



Salaries for Supreme Court Justices, Judges of the Court of Appeals, and District Judges were \$21,620,870 and represented 38 percent of the total cost to operate.



The State Judicial System is funded primarily from a legislative appropriation out of the State’s General Fund and from administrative assessments applied to misdemeanor criminal and traffic violations adjudicated in limited jurisdiction courts.

At the end of fiscal year 2019, the State Judicial System spent \$56,764,209, returned \$2,887,362 to the State General Fund, and the remainder was carried forward for subsequent year expenses, primarily for specialty court programs, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and court technology improvements. The chart to the left outlines fiscal year 2019 total expenses by program area.



## CASES FILED

**2,982**

*Cases filed in Nevada Appellate Courts in fiscal year 2019.*



## CASES DISPOSED

**3,153**

*Decisions by Nevada Appellate Courts in fiscal year 2019.*

## CLERK OF COURT

The Clerk's Office maintains all Nevada Supreme Court and Court of Appeals files and documents, manages the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals caseloads and dockets, coordinates public hearings and oral arguments, and releases court decisions. During this fiscal year, 2,982 new cases were filed.

The Supreme Court and Court of Appeals issued a total of 3,153 decisions resolving cases. The Supreme Court conducted 9 public hearings on various administrative matters and held oral argument in 93 cases. The Court of Appeals held oral argument in 13 cases. In March 2019, the Clerk's Office updated automatic electronic filing for documents submitted to the Court.

In addition to its case management responsibilities, the Clerk's Office administers the Supreme Court's Settlement Program under the direction of Chief Assistant Clerk Harriet Cummings, Esq., and Shaunna Troop, Program Administrator.

The Settlement Program accomplished several important objectives, including the launch of an online library for settlement judges; the creation of the *Settlement Sentinel* newsletter for settlement judges; the publication of an updated Settlement Judge Handbook to reflect recent changes to the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure; and conducted a training session entitled, "Impasse is a Fallacy: An Advanced Mediator's Forum," led by expert Lee Jay Berman. During this fiscal year, 650 cases were assigned to the Settlement Program, with 469 cases processed. The Settlement Program achieved a 50 percent settlement rate, which matches last years rate.

Additionally, Kurt Jensen, Esq., was promoted to Chief Assistant Clerk to the Court of Appeals on April 8, 2019, after the unexpected passing of Thomas Harris, Esq. Mr. Jensen has served in the Nevada Supreme Court Clerks Office since 2007.





**350**

*Questions from incarcerated individuals.*

## INMATE RESEARCH



**1,300+**

*General questions answered by librarians.*

## REFERENCE REQUESTS

### SUPREME COURT LAW LIBRARY

In fiscal year 2019, the Supreme Court Law Library continued its outreach efforts, with the librarian taking part in two legal aid fairs sponsored by Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans. Additionally, monthly clinics were held by Nevada Legal Services, and the library assisted in promoting Pro Bono Week. Three continuing legal education seminars were offered, and the library gave 21 tours to groups visiting the Supreme Court; some groups were as small as 5 and some as large as 100. A pamphlet, “Women Justices of the Nevada Supreme Court,” was produced as part of the Northern Nevada Women Bar Association’s event held at the court in March 2019.

The Law Library has maintained its premiere collection of print materials while also adding additional electronic resources to enhance the quantity and accessibility of the collection to the public and to court operations in Las Vegas. Increased and improved access to electronic legal information remains a priority for the Law Library.

The Law Library also transitioned into a new integrated library system to increase staff productivity

and offer a better user interface for our patrons. Several training sessions were presented on how to use this new system, which coincided with National Library Week.

The two conference rooms within the library remained popular among attorneys and mediators with 497 reservations made during the fiscal year.

The library collects statistics on the questions asked, who asks them, as well as the gauged difficulty level of each question. The library answers questions not only from the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals, but from other government agencies, attorneys, and public libraries.

These statistics reveal that the library answered just over 1,300 reference questions during the fiscal year, with approximately 47 percent of them asked by the public. The Law Library defines a reference question as any interaction that requires the use of legal information or library resources to answer questions, including providing forms to self-represented litigants.

The Law Library also answered more than 350 questions from individuals incarcerated within Nevada.

## 2019 Fiscal Year in Review (July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019)



### PIONEERS

The Supreme Court assumed a female majority bench in 2019. Associate Chief Justice Kristina Pickering, Justice Lidia S. Stiglich, Justice Elissa F. Cadish, and Justice Abbi Silver joined nearly a dozen other Supreme Courts in the United States with a female majority on the bench.

—

Senior Judge Archie E. Blake was recognized by the Supreme Court for his 30 years of service, including his service to the Third Judicial District Court.

Judge Blake started the multi-county/multi-jurisdictional Western Regional Drug Court where he still hears cases.

### LEADERSHIP

Justice Mark Gibbons became Chief Justice and the administrative head of the Nevada Judiciary in 2019. Justice Kristina Pickering became Associate Chief Justice.

Chief Justice Gibbons represented the Judiciary at the Nevada Legislature and presented the State of the Judiciary address to lawmakers on March 21, 2019.

Under the Nevada Constitution, only Justices in the last two years of their current 6-year term of office are eligible to be Chief Justice. Justice Gibbons and Justice Pickering chose to share the duties, with Justice Pickering assuming the position of Chief Justice in 2020.

### TRAINING

The Nevada Judiciary partnered with the National Center for State Courts to bring Institute for Court Management (ICM) courses to Nevada. The Supreme Court held the first class in January 2019 in Sparks.

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ICM accepted two court executives from Nevada into the 2019 ICM Fellows Program. Alisa Shoults, Pahrump Court Administrator, and Randall Soderquist, Court Administrator for Elko Justice and Municipal Courts, joined candidates from other states for a three-week residency at the National Center for State Courts headquarters in Williamsburg, Virginia.



## CIVIL RULES

**20**

*of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure amended.*



## DRUG COURT TRAINING

**4**

*Drug Court teams reviewed service and treatment plans.*

### RULE AND PROCESS CHANGES

Amendments were made to the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure. The changes align Nevada Rules with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure while taking into account unique aspects of the practice of law in Nevada.

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The Supreme Court amended the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure and began work to create the Nevada Rules of Criminal Procedure.

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The Supreme Court ordered all state courts by September 2020 to use the Pre-Trial Risk Assessment to determine whether defendants should be released, and under what conditions, after arrest.

### OPERATIONAL TUNE-UP

Drug court teams from Carson City, Elko, Ely, and Henderson expanded their knowledge, skills, and treatment plans during Operational Tune-up Training at the Supreme Court in Carson City.

The training was presented by the National Drug Court Institute, in partnership with the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

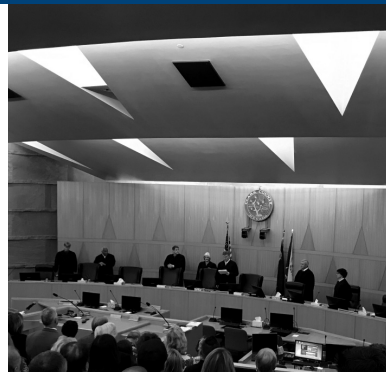
Each court team participated in a self-assessment of their specialty court based on the 10 Key Components of Drug Court Treatment and the Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards. The self assessment of individual programs identified ways to improve service and treatment.

### FAMILY COURT ASSESSMENT

The Supreme Court contracted with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to review and assess Washoe and Clark County Family Courts.

The Nevada Family Court Assessment will determine whether the Family Courts are addressing family and lawmaker expectations, following state and local court rules, and resolving legal disputes in a timely and effective manner. The assessment will also evaluate how Nevada compares with other jurisdictions.

After review, the Supreme Court may change Family Court rules and procedures or make recommendations for statutory changes.



## EDUCATION

A student mock trial team from Advanced Technologies Academy in Las Vegas won the state high school Mock Trial Competition. Nevada Court of Appeals Judge Jerome Tao, Civil Staff Attorney Amy Yonesawa, and attorneys John Shook, Julie Shook, and Dennis Kennedy coached the team.

—

Nevada rural residents attended the Orientation Workshop/Written Exam for Prospective Court Interpreters. The Workshop prepares registrants for the court interpreting profession. Offering the Workshop/English Written Exam and Oral examinations support the Supreme Court's efforts to improve language access needs statewide.

## INVESTITURES

Investitures, or formal oath of office and robing ceremonies, were held for newly elected Justices Elissa F. Cadish and Abbi Silver in Las Vegas at the Clark County Government Center on January 10, 2019.

Justice Cadish previously served as a District Judge in Eighth Judicial District Court. Justice Silver previously served as Chief Judge on the Nevada Court of Appeals and is the only judge in the history of Nevada to be elected to every level of court in Nevada's judicial system.

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Court of Appeals Judge Bonnie A. Bulla was appointed by Gov. Sisolak in February 2019, and took the formal oath of office at an investiture ceremony in Las Vegas City Hall on May 22, 2019.

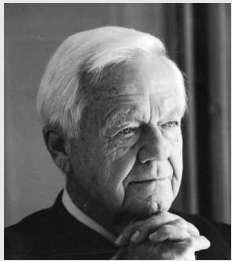
## AWARDS

The Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada awarded Senior Supreme Court Justice and former Chief Justice Michael L. Douglas with the Justice Nancy Becker Pro Bono Award of Judicial Excellence for his commitment to advancing pro bono service in Nevada during his career as a Justice and Judge.

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Senior Supreme Court Justice and former Chief Justice Michael A. Cherry received the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Nevada Justice Association for his efforts to seek fairness and balance in Nevada's judicial system.

## *In Memoriam*



### **JUSTICE CHARLES EDWARD SPRINGER**

Charles Edward Springer, 90, passed away February 19, 2019. In 1980, he was elected to the Supreme Court and last served as Chief Justice in 1998. He retired from the bench in 1999.

Justice Springer served on the faculty of the National College of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, The National Judicial College, and was an adjunct professor at the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law.



### **JUSTICE NOEL EDWIN MANOUKIAN**

Noel Edwin Manoukian, 81, passed away on April 11, 2019. Governor Michael O'Callaghan appointed Justice Manoukian to the Supreme Court in 1977 and he was then elected in 1979. He was Chief Justice in 1983 and served the court until 1985.

Justice Manoukian returned to private practice until he was appointed as a senior judge in 2003 by the Supreme Court.



### **THOMAS HENRY HARRIS**

Thomas Henry Harris passed away February 21, 2019. Mr. Harris served as the first Chief Assistant Clerk for the Supreme Court and Chief of Staff for the Court of Appeals.

Mr. Harris was a respected administrator who helped organize and create the processes used by the Court of Appeals. Mr. Harris earned his juris doctorate from the University of Utah in 1999 and spent more than 19 years with the Nevada Appellate Courts.



*Chief Justice Mark Gibbons addressed a joint session of the 80th Nevada Legislature in Carson City on March 21, 2019.*

Governor Sisolak, Lieutenant Governor Marshall, Speaker Frierson, Majority Leader Cannizzaro, Majority Leader Benitez-Thompson, Attorney General Ford, distinguished members of the Senate and the Assembly, honorable constitutional officers, and honored guests. Thank you for the opportunity of speaking to the Nevada Legislature on behalf of our state's judicial system.

On January 16th, in his State of the State address, Governor Sisolak began his remarks by acknowledging that for the first time in history, the Nevada Legislature has a majority of women. When I first began my career in Nevada as an attorney, Nevada had never elected a woman to either the Nevada Supreme Court or the district court. In 1982, Miriam Shearing became the first woman elected to the district court. Judge Shearing made history again in 1992 when she became the first woman elected to the Nevada Supreme Court. As Nevada makes further history, the Nevada Supreme Court now also has a majority of women.

I'd like to introduce my colleagues on the Nevada Supreme Court – Associate Chief Justice Kristina Pickering, Justice Jim Hardesty, Justice Ron Parraguirre, Justice Lidia Stiglich, Justice Elissa Cadish, and Justice Abbi Silver. It is my privilege to serve with these distinguished jurists.

Tonight from the Nevada Court of Appeals, we have with us Chief Judge Michael Gibbons and our newest judge, Bonnie Bulla. Also with us tonight are Chief Judge Linda Bell from the Clark County District Court, Chief Judge Scott Freeman from the Washoe County District Court, together with Judge Bridget Robb from Washoe County, Judge Tom Stockard from Churchill County and Judge Tom Gregory from Douglas County. I would also like

to recognize and thank the Clerk of the Supreme Court, Elizabeth Brown; Legal counsel, Phaedra Kalicki; the Supreme Court's extraordinary legal staff; the Director and Assistant Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts, Robin Sweet and John McCormick; Law Library Director, Jason Sowards, and the dedicated and hardworking staff of the Supreme Court and AOC. I would like to acknowledge attorney Tom Harris, Chief Assistant Clerk. Tom passed away on February 21, 2019. Tom spent 19 years with the court and was an extraordinary member of our court family. His loss is deeply felt by all of us and we will miss him very much.

I am privileged to speak on behalf of our 3 Court of Appeals judges, 82 district court judges, 67 justices of the peace, 30 municipal court judges, and the nearly 2,000 court employees throughout the state. On behalf of all employees of the Supreme Court and the Administrative Office of the Courts, I thank Governor Sisolak for including in his budget a request for a salary increase for all state employees and teachers.

Speaking as a long-term Nevada resident, I hope that consideration is also given to a pay increase for the most underpaid state employees in Nevada: the sixty-three hard working members of the Nevada Legislature. We appreciate your hard work, sacrifice and dedication not only during the session, but with the constituent and committee work you do throughout the year.

Nevada's judicial officers and court employees are committed to the administration of fair and impartial justice in criminal, civil, family, and juvenile disputes in accordance with the rule of law. In fulfilling our constitutional duties, we are mindful of the importance of providing timely

access to the court system and resolving cases as efficiently as budgets and caseloads permit.

I am proud to serve with these dedicated public servants and offer my profound thanks to all of them for their service to all Nevadans.

My purpose this evening is to discuss the state of the Judicial Branch. In doing so, I would like to share with you some of the many accomplishments of the Nevada courts and offer a vision for the future of Nevada's Judiciary.

As you know, the resolution of disputes represents the core function of the Nevada court system. In today's environment, what is the right role for Nevada's Judiciary?

Whether we like it or not, the state courts of this country are in the eye of the storm. We have become the emergency room for society's worst ailments – substance abuse, family violence, mental illness, and so much more. This reality has forced the courts to approach cases with innovation and collaboration with all involved. These pressures underscore the need for a public judicial system that is timely and efficient in its management of a case, while treating each person with respect and dignity.

As Justices of the Supreme Court, some of our duties include community outreach. For the past decade, the Supreme Court has held oral arguments of actual cases in high schools throughout Nevada. In Washoe County, the court has held arguments at Reno High School, Bishop Manogue and Sparks High Schools.

In Clark County, the court has held arguments at Palo Verde, Valley and Bishop Gorman high schools. Outside of our two largest counties, the court has held oral arguments at high schools in Pahrump, Tonopah, Panaca, West Wendover,

Elko, Winnemucca, Fallon, Yerington, and Minden. When we meet with high school students, we have an opportunity to show them how the courts work and answer their questions. It also gives us the chance to emphasize the importance of completing their education and the dangers of substance abuse.

As part of our community outreach, we urge all of our judges to serve on jury duty when the opportunity arises. In Clark County, a number of our district judges have served as jurors for civil cases. Several years ago, I was selected for jury duty for a one-week criminal trial in Carson City. I took this opportunity as a juror to submit several written questions to witnesses during the trial. My jury service was a great experience and I urge all Nevadans to do so if you have the opportunity.

Since the Nevada Court of Appeals was created in 2015, it has improved justice in our state by reducing the Supreme Court's caseload, shortening the time to decide appellate cases, and increasing the number of published opinions on Nevada law. From what I have witnessed during the first four years of operation, I can state with confidence that the Court of Appeals has a very bright future. Since 2015, the Court of Appeals has been assigned approximately 4,000 cases. By the end of 2018, the Court of Appeals had decided approximately 3,600 of these cases, or 90 percent of the cases assigned to it. The success of the Court of Appeals is one of many examples of the achievements of the Nevada Judiciary.

I would like to update you on a few others:

- In 2001, the Supreme Court created the Business Court in Clark and Washoe counties. Patterned loosely after Delaware's Chancery Courts, the Business Courts in Nevada are designed to



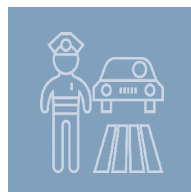
## BUSINESS COURTS

*The time to resolve a complex business case has been reduced from 4 to 2 years. Business Courts are designed to resolve the most complex, lengthy, and expensive business disputes in a more timely, cost efficient manner.*



## SPECIALTY COURTS

*Nevada created the 5th drug court in the United States. Drug Courts and other specialty courts served 6,527 individuals with intensive rehabilitation programs in 2018. When they are successful and graduate, participants receive a reduction or dismissal of criminal charges.*



## FELONY DUI COURTS

*There are 11 DUI court programs throughout Nevada. In 2018, 278 clients graduated from DUI court programs throughout the state. Felony DUI court deals with serious and chronic DUI offenders who have failed to appreciate their actions after prior jail or prison terms.*

## THE NEVADA COURT OF APPEALS HAS REDUCED PENDING APPELLATE CASES

*The Court of Appeals has improved justice in Nevada by reducing the Supreme Court's caseload, shortening the time to decide appellate cases, and increasing the number of published opinions on Nevada law.*

resolve the most complex, lengthy, and expensive business disputes in a timely, cost efficient manner. Prior to establishing Nevada's business court system, these cases usually took more than 4 years to complete. Today, a Business Court case takes roughly 2 years to reach conclusion.

- Nevada's drug courts and other specialty courts continue the incredible journey that began in 1992 when Nevada launched the nation's fifth drug court. The Legislature's continued support of these courts through administrative assessments and general fund appropriations has enabled dedicated specialty court judges and staff to achieve successes that no one thought possible.

In 2018 alone, the 56 drug and mental health courts throughout the state served 6,527 clients with 1,284 of these clients completing the program and graduating that year. During the past year, 48 drug free babies were born to participants in these and other specialty courts – that is 48 babies who now have a chance to grow up without the prenatal limitations caused by drug-addicted mothers.

- Individuals charged with non-violent crimes who have opioid or other substance abuse addictions can enroll in specialty court and complete an intensive rehabilitation program. When they are successful and graduate, they will receive a reduction or dismissal of the criminal charges.

Recently, 28 clients graduated from the Medication Assisted Treatment Court. This two-year diversion court serves adults suffering from opioid addiction under the supervision of a medical doctor.

Medications, such as Suboxone and Vivitrol, are prescribed to help addicts end dependency. Because of this success, the Medication Assisted

Treatment Court now has been expanded to 55 participants.

- National studies show that almost 60 percent of criminal defendants who graduate from a drug court program remain drug free for the remainder of their lives and do not commit new crimes.
- It is easier to staff drug courts in Nevada's urban areas. Nevertheless, the Supreme Court, through the Specialty Court Funding Committee, is making every effort to allocate necessary resources to our rural communities. As part of our state's effort to fight the opioid crisis and other controlled substance abuse, the Supreme Court has requested senior judges to assist the district courts to expand the number of participants in drug court programs.

For example, Senior Judges Peter Breen, at age 79, and Archie Blake, at age 76, drive 1,900 miles every month between Lovelock, Fallon, Hawthorne, Yerington, Minden, and Carson City to assist the district courts to service more than 460 drug court clients AND HELP SAVE LIVES.

Senior Judges Breen and Blake were two of the pioneers of development of drug courts in Nevada during the 1990s. When individuals with substance abuse problems graduate from drug court, they not only avoid incarceration at taxpayers' expense, but are able to maintain employment and contribute as productive members of society.

- Also, I want to update you on the success of the felony DUI court program. There are 11 DUI court programs throughout Nevada. This specialty court deals with serious and chronic DUI offenders who have failed to appreciate their actions after prior jail or prison terms. The DUI court has been remarkably successful in breaking

the destructive cycle of these offenders. In 2018, 278 clients graduated from DUI court programs throughout Nevada.

These initiatives are a few of the many achievements of the judicial branch. All of them illustrate the dedication of the judges and court employees who work very hard every day to make the courts responsive to the needs of Nevada's citizens.

As we look to the future, I perceive a lengthy agenda for Nevada's judicial system. We must continue our efforts to make the public judicial system responsive to the needs of people in civil cases. Access to justice in Nevada cannot be just a goal: it must be a reality. Families and children in crisis and unrepresented litigants have every right to expect their judicial system to work equally for them. Too often, parties turn away from the public judicial system because it is just too expensive and takes too long.

This issue is not unique to Nevada. A committee of the Conference of Chief Justices has been studying two fundamental reasons for cost and delay in the public judicial system. These reasons are case management by judges and the rules of civil procedure. Discovery rules add cost and time to an already challenging process.

The Nevada Supreme Court recently approved the recommendations of a committee of experts, who included Justices Pickering and Cadish, Judge Bulla, Judge Wilson from Carson City, Judge Wanker from Pahrump, and Washoe County Discovery Commissioner Wesley Ayres. As a result, the Supreme Court has amended the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure to help accomplish these goals. These rule changes will assist civil litigants for years to come.

- ✓ *The Supreme Court amended the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure to reduce delays in civil trials and improve access to justice.*
- ✓ *Pre-Trial Risk Assessment Tools will reduce jail populations by granting pre-trial release to individuals who pose low risk to the community and do not have the money or collateral to obtain bail.*
- ✓ *The Nevada Appellate Courts regularly visit communities outside Carson City and Las Vegas to hear oral arguments. These are opportunities to show how the courts work and to answer questions about the courts.*
- ✓ *The Nevada Judiciary has judges and court employees who are motivated, enthusiastic, innovative, and engaged in working every day to make an exceptional public judicial system.*

In addition, we must study and improve our methods for setting pretrial release conditions for those accused of a crime. Pretrial judicial decisions about the release or detention of a defendant must be based on risk assessments. The decisions of judges have a significant impact on thousands of defendants. Incarceration adds great financial stress to publicly funded jails holding defendants who are unable to make bail and meet financial conditions of release.

As our jail populations swell, particularly in Clark County, Nevada’s judges are adopting Nevada specific pretrial release assessment tools that better determine if a defendant will fail to appear or present a risk of safety to others. Studies show that imposing conditions on a defendant that are appropriate for that individual following a valid pretrial risk assessment substantially reduce pretrial detention without impairing the judicial process or threatening public safety.

In Washoe County and Clark County, District Judges Elliot Sattler and Doug Herndon, together with Justices of the Peace Scott Pearson and Joe Bonaventure, have initiated programs utilizing risk assessment tools to grant pre-trial release to individuals accused of crimes, but who do not have the money or collateral to obtain bail.

In rural Nevada, courts in Douglas and Churchill Counties have voluntarily initiated similar programs. These tools have been very successful in predicting whether an individual will commit other offenses while awaiting trial and further ensure that the individual will appear for all scheduled court appearances. The Nevada Supreme Court entered an order yesterday requiring all Nevada courts to commence training for the use of pretrial risk assessment tools within 9 months. We urge

the legislature to expand the statutory authority of these pretrial risk assessment tools.

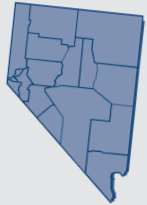
I am excited about the future of Nevada’s judicial system. I can’t think of a better time to practice law in our state. Boyd Law School is ranked among the top 60 law schools in the country.

We have judges and court employees who are motivated, enthusiastic, innovative, and engaged in working every day to make our public judicial system the best that it can be. I am proud to serve with these outstanding public servants. However, we cannot take the public’s confidence in the courts for granted.

We can improve justice if we adhere to the rule of law, remain proactive in the management of our cases, creative in our efforts to provide access to the courts, sensitive to the needs of people who come before us, innovative in our resolution of disputes, accountable for our behavior and decisions, and fiscally responsible and transparent in all that we do.

Finally, I want to leave you with a thought from Cicero, a Roman politician and lawyer, who said, “The people’s good is the highest law.”

Thank you for the opportunity to visit with you.



**11**

*Judicial Districts  
within five regions in  
Nevada.*

## JUDICIAL DISTRICTS



**190**

*10 Appellate Jurists  
and 180 Judicial  
Positions.*

## JUDICIAL POSITIONS

The Judicial Council of the State of Nevada (JCSN) assists the Supreme Court in its administrative role as head of the Nevada Judiciary. The JCSN is comprised of judicial representatives from Nevada's five regions—Clark, North Central, Sierra, South Central, and Washoe. Each region's council reviews issues unique to their area.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court chairs the JCSN and is assisted by judges from the five regions, State Court Administrator, and court administrators from the Clark and Washoe regions. Together, they decide the matters of concern to the Nevada Judiciary. The following are standing JCSN committees:

- **Court Administration Committee**

Reviews and recommends improvements to the delivery of judicial services. During fiscal year 2019, the committee reviewed and discussed issues including the implementation of Marsy's Law (Victim's Bill of Rights), employing changes to court policy and procedures due to legislation, and implementing revised reporting requirements to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

- **Court Improvement Program**

Cultivates judicial leadership to ensure that courts provide efficient and timely justice to children and families. It focuses on supporting children's rights for protection from abuse and neglect, avoidance of unnecessary family separations, timely permanency for abused or neglected children under the court's

jurisdiction, and seeks to protect the due process rights of all family members.

- **Judicial Education Committee**

Focuses on promoting the competency and professionalism of the Nevada Judiciary through a comprehensive system of funded courses and curriculum.

- **Language Access Committee**

Directs efforts to making language access available to litigants and witnesses who speak languages other than English, or have limited English proficiency.

- **Legislation and Rules Committee**

This committee promotes, supports, and make recommendations to the JCSN regarding court rules for submission to the Supreme Court for consideration. It also provides a coordinated strategy concerning legislation impacting the courts.

- **Specialty Court Funding Committee**

Works with the regional judicial councils to fund and support specialty court programs. It establishes procedures for requesting specialty court funding, distributes funds, develops best practices and standards, as well as supports the collection of specialty court statistics.

- **Technology Committee**

Promotes the application of technology in the courts and facilitates the coordination, collaboration, and integration of technology efforts between the judiciary, state, and local governments.

### THE SUPREME COURT RELIES ON COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS TO RECOMMEND IMPROVEMENTS



### GUARDIANSHIP COMMISSION

The Commission examined statewide policies and procedures to suggest statutory amendments, which ultimately became the blueprint for Senate Bill 20 that was passed by the 2019 Nevada Legislature. A Mediation Manual and additional statewide rules were drafted, and the Commission voted to submit them to the Supreme Court for adoption.

The Commission examined statistical information provided by the Second and Eighth Judicial District Courts regarding caseloads, compliance, appointment of counsel, demographics, and status or review of old cases. Both courts provided additional statistical information that will help the Commission recommend future improvements to the guardianship process and allow resources to be efficiently utilized.

The Commission examined and discussed the results of a survey conducted by the Guardianship Compliance Office that examined the collection and distribution of recording fees within individual counties. These fees provide support for legal services to abused and neglected children, as well as investigations for guardianship of minor cases.





**87**

*Applicants for six open judicial positions.*

## JUDICIAL APPLICANTS



**ADKT 491**

*Creates Nevada Rules of Criminal Procedure.*

## CRIMINAL RULES

### JUDICIAL SELECTION COMMISSION

The Nevada Commission on Judicial Selection interviewed and recommended attorneys to Governors Brian Sandoval and Steve Sisolak to fill six open judicial seats in Nevada's courts during the year.

Governor Sandoval selected David S. Gibson, Jr., to complete the unexpired judicial term in Dept. L of the Eighth Judicial District Court (EJDC) made vacant by the retirement of Judge Jennifer L. Elliott. Governor Sisolak selected Bonnie A. Bulla to fill the unexpired term of Justice Abbi Silver on the Court of Appeals and appointed four judges to fill District Court vacancies:

- Jacqueline Bluth to the EJDC, Dept. 6.
- Cristina Silva to the EJDC, Dept. 9.
- Rhonda K. Forsberg to the EJDC, Dept. G.
- Tamatha Schreinert to the Second Judicial District Court, Dept. 14.

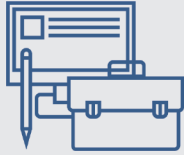
In June 2019, 16 applications were submitted by individuals seeking the judicial seat in EJDC, Dept. 8, with the retirement of Douglas Smith.

### COMMISSION ON STATEWIDE RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

The Nevada Supreme Court convened the Commission on Statewide Rules of Criminal Procedure in early 2015 to address the lack of uniformity in criminal procedure across the state. Commission membership is comprised of experienced legal professionals and members of the Nevada judiciary. The Commission is focused on examining key criminal procedure concerns and making recommendations for improvements on a statewide level.

In January 2019, Justice James Hardesty took over chairmanship of the Commission with Justice Abbi Silver and Justice Lidia Stiglich serving as co-vice chairs. In April 2019, the Commission filed its "First Interim Report and Recommendations" with the Supreme Court that included new rules permitting settlement conferences in criminal cases under certain conditions.

In response to this report, the Supreme Court held a public hearing on May 24, 2019. On June 7, 2019, the Court filed an "Order Amending Supreme Court Rules 250 and 252," officially adopting the Commission's first round of recommendations.



**35,000+**

*Cases closed by Nevada's Legal Aid Providers.*

**LEGAL AID**



**ADKT 522**

*Amends Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure.*

**CIVIL RULES**

**ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMISSION**

The Commission reported private attorneys donated 151,352 hours of direct legal services to low income clients, representing a 14 percent increase from last year. Nevada's legal aid providers donated 30,600 hours.

In addition, \$70,463 was donated by the private bar for legal aid. Attorneys offered dozens of free legal clinics for the public during Celebrate Pro Bono Week. The Nevada Statewide Study of Legal Needs and Economic Impacts found 376 non-legal Nevada-wide jobs result from investments in legal aid.

The Commission submitted a recommendation to the Eighth Judicial District Court (EJDC) to give *pro se* litigants access to electronic filing. EJDC plans to allow self-filers to e-file in fiscal year 2020.

Supreme Court Rule 15 was revised to add members from the healthcare, labor, public relations, and banking sectors to the Commission. This new composition will enhance the Commission by adding diversified insights and skills to create a wider public understanding of legal aid.

**NEVADA RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE COMMITTEE**

The Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure (NRCP) were reviewed and amended to conform with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The detailed review took approximately two years and changed rules that had not been amended since 2005.

Amendments took effect March 1, 2019, and apply to all civil actions and proceedings pending or filed in Nevada's district and appellate courts. The rules ensure just, speedy, and less-costly resolution of civil actions and proceedings.

The changes considered new technology and affect a number of civil law areas, including service, pleadings, pre-trial discovery, depositions, juries, judgments, stays, and injunctions.

The revised rules contain significant changes to civil procedure and have led to revisions of other rules and forms, including local district court rules and the Nevada Justice Court Rules of Civil Procedure.

Changes to the NRCP also resulted in amendments to the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure and the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules.





**379**

*Babies born to Specialty Court participants since 2013.*

**DRUG FREE BABIES**



**1,727**

*Graduates of Specialty Court Programs.*

**CLEAN AND SOBER**

## SPECIALTY COURT FUNDING COMMITTEE

The Nevada Supreme Court has two revenue streams for specialty or problem-solving courts: fee funding, including administrative assessments (NRS 176.059 and 176.0613) and the State General Fund. The 80th Legislature Session provided General Fund appropriations of at least \$3 million each year of the 2019-20 biennium with the goal of increasing availability of specialty courts throughout the state.

In 2019, a sub-committee of the Specialty Court Funding Committee, informed by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, worked on Best Practices and Standards with the goal of requiring peer review and certification of all specialty courts.

Specialty court programs exist in all counties, and can address issues concerning alcohol and drug dependency for adult, juvenile, and veterans, as well as addressing mental health, child support, habitual offender, and prostitution prevention matters.

During the fiscal year, in cases where gender was reported, 1,113 women and 2,145 men were enrolled in Specialty Courts. There were 210 participants in Veterans' Court Programs, within five jurisdictions.

### Summary of Specialty Court Revenue and Allocation, Fiscal Year 2019

Revenue:	
Balance Forward from Previous Year	\$2,627,491
Administrative Assessment NRS 176.0613	\$3,011,804
Bail Forfeitures 178.518	\$87,421
Court Assessment NRS 176.059	\$1,605,424
DUI Fee NRS 484C.515	\$671,948
Appropriation from State General Fund	\$3,583,971
Prior Year Refunds	\$55
Reversion <sup>1</sup>	(\$699,486)
<b>Total Revenue Received</b>	<b>\$10,888,628</b>
Expenses:	
Total Specialty Court Program <sup>2</sup>	\$8,302,084
Drug Court Case Management System	\$136,000
Team Training	\$1,209
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$8,439,293</b>
<b>Balance Forward to Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>\$2,449,335</b>

<sup>1</sup> This includes prior year reversions sent back after the year closed out.

<sup>2</sup> Admin. Assessments \$5,417,545 and State General Fund \$2,884,539.



## **AB 81**

*Aims to improve public defense in Nevada.*

### **PUBLIC DEFENDERS**



## **ADKT 539**

*Directs Nevada courts to use assessment tool.*

### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

## **INDIGENT DEFENSE COMMISSION**

During the 2019 fiscal year, the Indigent Defense Commission (IDC) continued its efforts to reform the public defense system in Nevada. The Commission worked closely with both the Nevada Right to Counsel Commission (NRTCC) and the Sixth Amendment Center as they assessed Nevada’s rural indigent defense systems and developed recommendations for improvement. Moreover, the IDC supported the NRTCC’s efforts in the 2019 Legislative Session and played an important role in the passage of Assembly Bill 81 and the subsequent creation of the Department of Indigent Defense Services and the Board on Indigent Defense Services.

Additionally, over the course of fiscal year 2019, the IDC continued its discussion of other challenges in Nevada’s indigent defense system, including statewide caseload standards and reporting needs.

The Supreme Court convened the Indigent Defense Commission in 2007 to examine and make recommendations regarding the delivery of indigent defense services in Nevada. The Commission filed its initial report in November of 2007.

## **COMMITTEE TO STUDY EVIDENCE-BASED PRETRIAL RELEASE**

Under the Chairmanship of Justice James W. Hardesty, the Committee to Study Evidence-Based Pretrial Release has made significant strides. In August 2018, following two years of piloting the Nevada Pretrial Risk Assessment (NPRA) tool in courts around the state, the Committee unanimously recommended the Supreme Court require the use of the validated pretrial risk assessment tool on a statewide basis for use in pretrial release decisions. In December 2018, the Committee filed a petition with the Nevada Supreme Court, which resulted in a public hearing was held on January 24, 2019.

On March 21, 2019, the Supreme Court issued an “Order Adopting the Statewide Use of the Nevada Pretrial Risk Assessment” and charged the Administrative Office of the Courts with developing training materials for the implementation and use of the NPRA.

The Committee is made up of district court judges, limited jurisdiction court judges, district attorneys, public defenders, pretrial services officers, as well as urban and rural county representatives.





## JUDICIARY

5

*Of 10 bills submitted by the Supreme Court were passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.*

### LEGISLATION AND RULES COMMITTEE

This Committee reviews pending legislation and provides a coordinated strategy concerning legislation affecting the Nevada Judiciary.

The 80th Legislative Session saw the passage of several bills affecting the judiciary. Five of ten bills proposed by the Supreme Court were passed and signed into laws.

Among the signed bills is a measure that will increase the number of district court judges in the Second, Fourth, and Eighth Judicial Districts. In addition, bills relating to guardianship, small claims, and bail exoneration were passed.

The session resulted in the passage of Senate Bill 528, which included an appropriation of \$5,000,000 to White Pine County to assist with the construction of a new courthouse.

The Legislature continued its general fund support of specialty court programs and provided funding within the Supreme Court budget for the Statewide Juvenile Dependency Mediation Program.





### CELEBRATING HISTORY

The Carson City courthouse welcomed an addition of a Charters of Freedom monument with a time capsule to be opened September 17, 2087, the 300th anniversary of the Constitution's completion. The Charters of Freedom are actual-size replicas of the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

—

First Judicial District Court Judges James T. Russell and James E. Wilson Jr., had benches with plaques installed in their courtrooms in remembrance of District Court Judges Michael R. Griffin and Michael E. Fondi.

### COURT IMPROVEMENT

Storey County has acquired a new commercial building located in Virginia City for the purpose of relocating the Justice Court courthouse by early 2020.

—

The First Judicial District Court and the Carson City Justice/Municipal Courts collaborated and installed six audio/video CourtSmart Digital Systems in 2018.

The technology upgrade project was completed at the Juvenile Division in December of 2018 when the last system was installed.

### COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Sixth Judicial Court Judge Mike Montero and his family opened their ranch in Winnemucca to local children in an effort to make the judges and courts more approachable.

Judge Montero discussed his love of ranching, and the children learned how to feed, respect, and care for the animals.

—

North Las Vegas Justice of the Peace Natalie L. Tyrrell hosted a Kids in the Court event. Fifth grade participants from C.P. Squires Elementary School, an at-risk school in North Las Vegas, participated in a mock trial and learned about setting goals for themselves.



## DRUG COURT GRANT

The Nevada Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Agency (SAPTA) awarded the Eighth Judicial District Court \$1 million and the Second Judicial District Court \$1.8 million in grants to provide sober living and residential treatment placements for individuals in county jails.

SAPTA grants fund sober living facilities and residential bed infrastructure. These grants aim to reduce the average number of days jailed drug court candidates spend waiting for residential placement. The courts will use the money to reduce jail population, aid drug courts, and benefit the community.

## JACKPOT SENIOR CENTER

Judge Kenneth Calton of the Wells Justice and Municipal Courts presided over the donation of the Elko County building that formerly housed the Jackpot Justice Court to the residents of Jackpot for use as a new senior citizens' center. The building had been empty since the closure of the Justice Court in 2016.

Judge Calton said, "...a price [was] discussed for the building however after considering it, ...[they] decided to just donate the building because it was going to an incredible cause and it was deeply needed for the community of Jackpot."

## COURT OF THE YEAR

The Nevada Association of Court Executives (NACE) presented the Court of the Year Award to the Second Judicial District Court on May 31, 2019.

The Court of the Year Award recognized the Second Judicial District Court for its use of best practices to develop, implement, and benchmark innovative and efficient processes that result in the effective delivery of judicial services to the public.

NACE is a professional organization that promotes quality court management and leadership through education, best practices, and process improvement.

### CONCENTRATED EFFORTS TO CARRY OUT THE WORK OF THE COURT



*Left to Right: CIP Coordinator Katherine R. Malzahn-Bass, Senior Justice Nancy M. Saitta, District Court Judge Egan Walker, and National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) CEO Joey Orduna Hastings.*

*The NCJFCJ recognized Malzahn-Bass as its 2019 Innovator of the Year.*

### COURT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

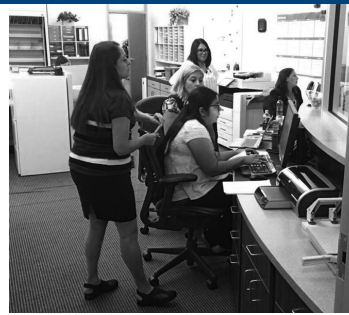
The Court Improvement Program (CIP) enables courts and agencies to improve the processing of child neglect and abuse cases while complying with state and federal laws.

Permanency hearings held within 12 months of removal have increased from 67 percent in 2012 to 87 percent in 2019. Reunification rates in Nevada fluctuate between 60 and 70 percent, while the national median is around 50 percent. The time to permanent placement of children has decreased 161 days, or 19 percent, between 2011 and June 2019 (from 848 median days to 687 median days).

The average time to achieve an adoption in Nevada dropped to 31 months in fiscal year 2019 from 36 months in 2010. Nearly 30 percent of adoptions of foster children now happen in fewer than 24 months, compared to almost 15 percent in 2010.

The Statewide Juvenile Dependency Mediation Program (JDMP) has completed more than 1,000 mediations, with every judicial district in the state participating. Judge Frank Sullivan in the Eighth Judicial District said “the non-confrontational environment of JDMP allows the parties to hear and listen to one another. It helps achieve more timely permanency for our children by helping parties resolve issues without the need of protracted litigation.”





## RURAL COURTS

Nevada's rural trial courts serve those jurisdictions outside of Clark and Washoe counties, making up 9 of Nevada's 11 judicial districts. The rural counties are divided into three judicial regions, each with its own regional judicial council; membership of these judicial councils include sitting judges within that region.

The Sierra Regional Judicial Council is comprised of the First, Third, Ninth, and Tenth Judicial Districts; the Council met four times during the 2019 fiscal year. The North Central Regional Judicial Council is comprised of the Fourth, Sixth, and Eleventh Judicial Districts; the Council met three times during fiscal year 2019. The South Central Regional Judicial Council is made up of the Fifth and Seventh Judicial Districts; members of this Council met twice during the 2019 fiscal year.

Fiscal year 2019 saw changes to the rural bench with ten new limited jurisdiction judges

taking office. Additionally, many rural court judges dedicated hours of their own time to serving their respective communities through involvement in community events, participation in local school programs and/or presentations, and engagement in various educational and outreach efforts.

Esmeralda Township Justice Court hosted a "Kids' Court" program. Local students spent several weeks learning about the legal system, the Nevada judiciary, and courtroom processes. The program culminated in a mock jury trial with participating students filling the key roles of judge, attorneys, and court personnel.

Argenta Township Justice Court hosted the first rural court interpreter certification workshop and written exam. The court's efforts will be essential in addressing a lack of certified court interpreters in the rural counties.



**74**

*Certified Spanish-language interpreters.*

**LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE**



**1,134**

*Participants of judicial distance education training.*

**REMOTE TRAINING**

**NEVADA CERTIFIED COURT INTERPRETER PROGRAM**

The Certified Court Interpreters Advisory Committee and the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada Language Access Committee developed a Language Access Poster; delivered an updated Bench Card to judges and court staff; and reviewed the 2016 Justice Index Language Access Findings to develop measures to improve language access.

The Nevada Certified Court Interpreter Program explored video remote interpreting possibilities while the National Video Remote Interpreting Program evaluated next steps for the national initiative. Interpreter staff also:

- Worked with the Rural Courts Coordinator to translate Marsy’s Law (Victim’s Bill of Rights) into Spanish for the Supreme Court website and for use by trial courts.
- In conjunction with the Rural Courts Coordinator, held an Orientation Workshop/Written Examination for Prospective Court Interpreters in Battle Mountain with Judge Denise Fortune. The workshop prepares attendees for the court interpreter profession.
- Delivered two presentations about the Credentialed Court Interpreter Program to the limited jurisdiction judges seminar.

**JUDICIAL EDUCATION**

Judicial Education offered two limited jurisdiction judges’ seminars, the Annual Family Jurisdiction Judges’ Conference, Annual District Judges’ Seminar, the Specialty Court Conference, and the Institute for Court Management (ICM) module on the Purposes and Responsibilities of Courts, reaching 519 clients with live presentations. The Judicial Education Unit provided distance education training to a total 1,134 clients in fiscal year 2019.

Awards for achievement in judicial education were given to 15 judges in the Basic, Advanced, and Distinguished Education categories.

Plans for educating the judiciary and court staff include: additional distance education courses, Law Clerk Orientation, continuing the Nevada-facilitated ICM program to offer certification for current and future court leaders, and the annual slate of live trainings.

Judicial Education will also roll out the Nevada Pre-Trial Release Assessment instrument to the trial courts, District Attorneys, and Public Defenders’ offices using distance education resources.





**5**

*Completed audits and reviews.*

## ACCOUNTING STANDARDS



**\$62,738**

*Awarded for rural court improvements.*

## COURT ENHANCEMENTS

### JUDICIAL BRANCH AUDIT UNIT

The Institute of Internal Auditors states, “Internal auditing is an independent, objective assurance, and consulting activity designed to add value and improve an organization’s operations.”

The Judicial Branch Audit Unit provides comprehensive audit coverage of all financial related business areas within the judiciary, including assisting the judicial branch to ensure proper internal control over judicial business functions. As independent appraisers of the judiciary’s business activities, the Audit Unit assists members of the judiciary by providing analyses, appraisals, recommendations, counsel, and information promoting effective controls and sound business practices. Highlights from fiscal year 2019:

- Completed five audits and reviews (one concerning Minimum Accounting Standards, two for Specialty Courts, and two for the Supreme Court/AOC) during the fiscal year. One review and two follow-up audits were still in progress at the close of the fiscal year.
- Received court-ordered 4-year independent audit reports and written procedure submissions for about half of Nevada’s courts.

### AOC GRANTS

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Grant Program has two grant sources available for Nevada trial courts seeking up to \$50,000. The Uniform System of Judicial Records and Trial Court Improvement Grants are designed to help trial courts improve statistical reporting, technology, security, and language access concerns.

During the fiscal year 2019 grant cycle, the AOC received two Trial Court Improvement Grant applications to fund large projects. The First Judicial District Court requested \$32,904 to install bullet resistant glass, bollards, and an intercom system at the Murphy-Bernardi Regional Juvenile Justice Center.

The Eleventh Judicial District Court sought \$29,834 to purchase and install an audio/recording system in the Pershing County Courthouse.

After a review process, the Supreme Court’s Executive Committee approved the funding of both grant projects.



**\$2,198,811**

*Worth of estate funds found at risk of loss.*

### ESTATES AT RISK



**273**

*Guardianship case audit reports*

### GUARDIANSHIP FINDINGS

## GUARDIANSHIP COMPLIANCE OFFICE

The Guardianship Compliance Office (GCO) provides additional monitoring services to Nevada district courts during the administration of guardianship services. The GCO currently staffs one program manager, two forensic financial specialists, and two investigators.

GCO services are voluntary for each district court and the office is available to review guardianship cases to identify reporting deficiencies by the guardian, review annual reports and accountings, and report findings to the district courts.

The GCO provides the district courts with enhanced financial reviews of accountings as well as investigations. The GCO works closely with the Guardianship Commission to improve guardianship practices in Nevada courts, participating in both the forms and rules subcommittees. The following points are highlights for fiscal year 2019.

- The GCO was ordered into 332 guardianship cases in Nevada, submitting findings reports for 273 investigations and audits.
- The GCO audited estates worth a total of \$19,712,480 and found \$2,198,811 worth of guardianship estate funds that were at risk of loss.
- The GCO adapted the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's *"Managing Someone Else's Money"* guide to be Nevada-specific. This guide provides guardians important information regarding their responsibilities.
- The Supreme Court adopted 82 standardized guardianship forms that were developed by the Guardianship Commission. GCO staff worked with others in the Administrative Office of the Courts to make the forms available as fillable documents on the Law Library Self-Help website.





**31**

*Law Enforcement Agencies use eCitations.*

## **ELECTRONIC CITATIONS**



**28**

*Courts process eCitations.*

## **INTEGRATED JUSTICE**

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The case information for the Court of Appeals was merged into the Supreme Court case management system (CMS). This allows the Appellate Courts to use one CMS to manage the daily workloads of the Courts. Cases can be transferred between the Appellate Courts without having to re-enter data into both systems.

For 18 months, the IT staff worked with a vendor to replace the existing document management system (DMS), which was completed this fiscal year. The CMS and DMS upgrades took place together to make changes to the case processing and management tools available at the same time. The electronic filing system was enhanced for the Court of Appeals and allows the public to use one web-based portal to search cases from either Court.

In addition, the Administrative Office of the Courts added courts to the Nevada Multi-County Integrated Justice Information System (MCIJIS) for electronic transmission of documents containing necessary data between justice agencies usually exchanged by paper. Current electronic exchanges include eCitations, DMV Convictions, DMV failures to appear, bookings, criminal dispositions, and warrants. In fiscal year 2019, 28 Courts

used eCitations, 26 used DMV Convictions, and 31 law enforcement agencies utilized eCitations to send issued citations to various courts through MCIJIS interfaces.

Furthermore, Wells Justice Court and Wells Municipal Court went live with the state-sponsored CMS in fiscal year 2019. This gives them a CMS compliant with Minimum Accounting Standards and allows for consistent statistical reporting as required by the Supreme Court.

A number of infrastructure enhancements were also completed. The e-mail system was upgraded to deal with an upcoming end-of-life situation. New core switches connecting the Court to the outside world were installed and the wireless access point was upgraded at both the Carson City and Las Vegas Courts. Internal network server blades were replaced to give the Court more server infrastructure capacity to accommodate the requirements needed for future applications and systems. A file transfer system was employed to enable Judicial Branch Audit Unit to collaborate with trial courts. A desktop video conferencing solution was piloted to offer functionality while reducing the cost for future conference rooms.



**740**

*Completed assignments by Senior Justice and Judges.*

**SENIOR ASSIGNMENTS**

**SENIOR JUSTICES AND JUDGES**

Article 6, Section 19 of the Nevada Constitution grants authority to the Chief Justice as the administrative head of the Nevada Court system to “recall to active service any retired justice or judge of the court system who consents to such recall and who has not been removed or retired for cause or defeated for retention in office, and may assign him [or her] to appropriate temporary duty within the court system.”

Currently, there are 6 Senior Justices and 26 Senior District Judges. Senior Justices and Judges provide extra support and assist in filling vacant judicial positions. This allows departments in all jurisdictions to stay open and serve the needs of the Nevada public.

Senior Justices and Judges also conduct drug and mental health specialty court programs in the First, Second, Third, Fifth, Ninth, and Tenth Judicial Districts. For certain offenders, these programs succeed in providing alternatives to jail time and assists them in becoming productive members of society.

**JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS AND HOURS, FISCAL YEAR 2019**

Judicial District	Assignment Type (n)	Hours Served
<b>First Judicial District</b> (Carson City & Storey Co.)	Cases (4), Durational (8), Settlement (9)	323.84
<b>Second Judicial District</b> (Washoe Co.)	Case (2), Durational (99), Settlement (15), Specialty Court (10)	3,605.25
<b>Third Judicial District</b> (Lyon Co.)	Case (9), Settlement (6)	178.25
<b>Fourth Judicial District</b> (Elko Co.)	Case (14), Durational (2), Settlement (18)	360.50
<b>Fifth Judicial District</b> (Nye & Esmeralda Co.)	Case (19), Durational (1), Settlement (2)	316.00
<b>Sixth Judicial District</b> (Humboldt Co.)	Case (25), Durational (6), Settlement (2)	400.00
<b>Seventh Judicial District</b> (Lincoln, Eureka, & White Pine Co.)	Case (7)	224.00
<b>Eighth Judicial District</b> (Clark Co.)	Case (6), Durational (148), Settlement (240), Short Trial (24)	7,228.50
<b>Ninth Judicial District</b> (Douglas Co.)	Case (4), Durational (3), Settlement (2)	160.00
<b>Tenth Judicial District</b> (Churchill Co.)	Case (20), Durational (1), Settlement (2)	391.00
<b>Eleventh Judicial District</b> (Lander, Mineral, & Pershing Co.)	Case (11), Durational (1), Settlement (2)	130.00
<b>Rural Specialty Court</b>	Specialty Court (11)	719.00
<b>Court of Appeals</b>	Durational (2)	279.00
<b>Supreme Court</b>	Congested Docket (1), Durational (2), Recusal (2)	50.25
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>740 Assignments</b>	<b>14,365.59</b>

*The Nevada Supreme Court and Nevada Court of Appeals hear all appeals filed from district courts.*



*(17) District Courts have general jurisdiction over all legal disputes including criminal, civil (greater than \$15,000), family, juvenile and appeals from justice and municipal courts. Cases may be resolved through arbitration, mediation, and trials.*

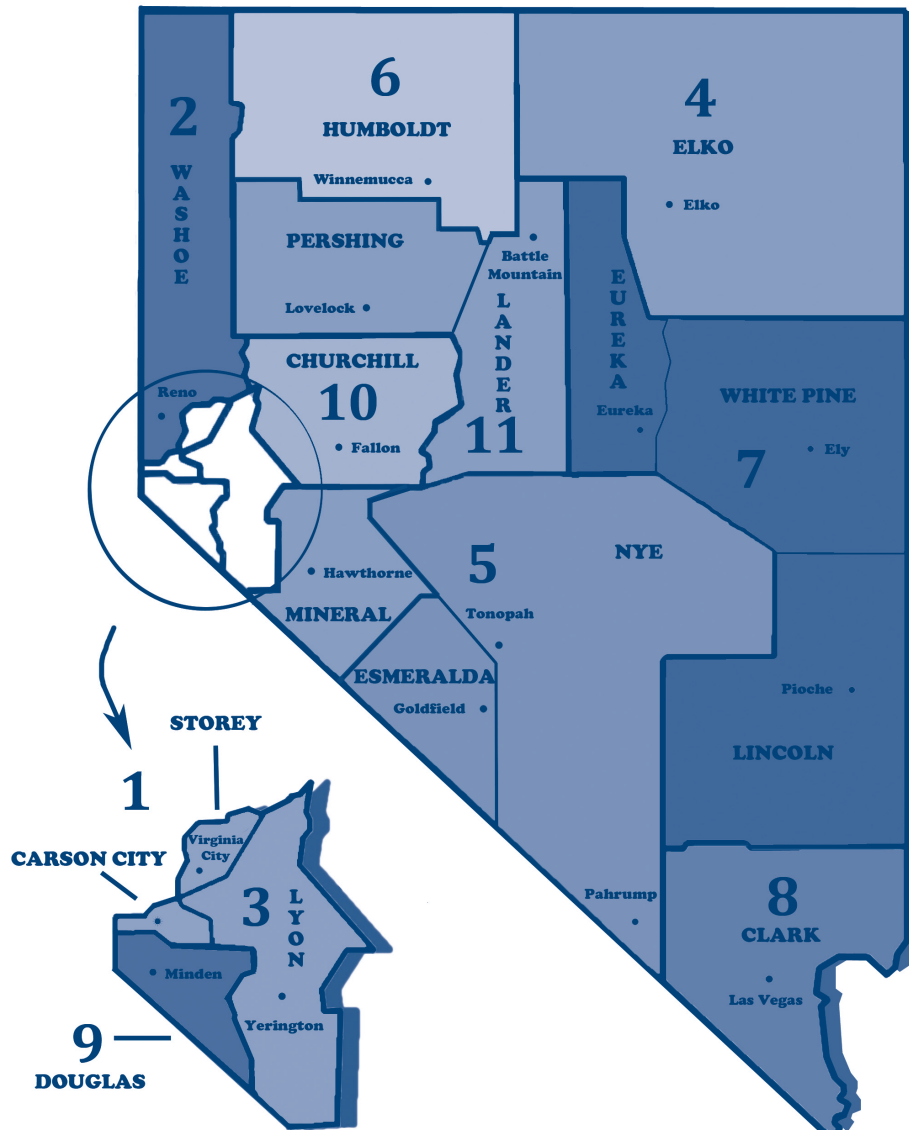


*(40) Justice Courts handle preliminary felony and gross misdemeanor matters, misdemeanor and traffic matters, small claims disputes, evictions, and other civil matters less than \$15,000.*



*(17) Municipal Courts manage cases involving violations of traffic and misdemeanor ordinances that occur within the city limits of incorporated municipalities.*

# Nevada Trial Court Judges (as of June 30, 2019)



## 1ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

### **DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

JAMES TODD RUSSELL  
JAMES WILSON, JR.

### **JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

#### **CARSON CITY TOWNSHIP**

THOMAS R. ARMSTRONG  
KRISTIN LUIS

#### **VIRGINIA CITY TOWNSHIP**

EILEEN HERRINGTON

### **MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES**

#### **CARSON CITY**

THOMAS R. ARMSTRONG  
KRISTIN LUIS

## 2ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

### **DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

BARRY BRESLOW  
FRANCES DOHERTY  
KATHLEEN DRAKULICH  
SCOTT FREEMAN  
DIXIE GROSSMAN  
DAVID HARDY  
CYNTHIA LU  
JEROME POLAHA  
BRIDGET ROBB  
ELLIOTT SATTLER  
TAMATHA SCHREINERT  
LYNNE SIMONS  
CONNIE STEINHEIMER  
EGAN WALKER  
CHUCK WELLER

### **JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

#### **INCLINE VILLAGE TOWNSHIP**

E. ALAN TIRAS

#### **RENO TOWNSHIP**

DAVID CLIFTON  
DEREK DREILING

### **JUSTICE COURT JUDGES CONT.**

PIERRE A. HASCHEFF  
SCOTT PEARSON  
PETE SFERRAZZA  
RYAN SULLIVAN

#### **SPARKS TOWNSHIP**

KEVIN HIGGINS  
JESSICA LONGLEY  
CHRIS WILSON

#### **WADSWORTH TOWNSHIP**

TERRY GRAHAM

### **MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES**

#### **RENO**

GENE DRAKULICH  
DOROTHY NASH HOLMES  
SHELLY O'NEILL  
TAMMY RIGGS

#### **SPARKS**

BARBARA S. MCCARTHY  
JAMES SPOO

## 3RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

### **DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

LEON ABERASTURI  
JOHN SCHLEGELMILCH

### **JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

#### **CANAL TOWNSHIP**

LORI MATHEUS

#### **DAYTON TOWNSHIP**

CAMILLE VECCHIARELLI

#### **WALKER RIVER TOWNSHIP**

DOUGLAS KASSEBAUM

### **MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES**

#### **FERNLEY**

LORI MATHEUS

#### **YERINGTON**

CHERI EMM-SMITH

**4TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

ALVIN KACIN  
NANCY PORTER

**JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

**CARLIN TOWNSHIP**  
TERI FEASEL

**EASTLINE TOWNSHIP**

BRIAN BOATMAN

**ELKO TOWNSHIP**

ELIAS GOICOECHEA  
MASON SIMONS

**WELLS TOWNSHIP**

KENNY CALTON

**MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES**

**CARLIN**

TERI FEASEL

**EASTLINE**

BRIAN BOATMAN

**ELKO**

MASON SIMONS  
ELIAS GOICOECHEA

**WELLS**

KENNY CALTON

**5TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

ROBERT W. LANE  
KIMBERLY A. WANKER

**JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

**BEATTY TOWNSHIP**  
GUS SULLIVAN

**ESMERALDA TOWNSHIP**

DANIELLE JOHNSON

**PAHRUMP TOWNSHIP**

LISA CHAMLEE  
KENT JASPERSON

**TONOPAH TOWNSHIP**

JENNIFER KLAPPER

**6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

MICHAEL MONTERO

**JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

**UNION TOWNSHIP**  
JIM LOVELESS

**7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

STEVEN DOBRESCU  
GARY FAIRMAN

**JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

**ELY TOWNSHIP**

STEPHEN BISHOP

**EUREKA TOWNSHIP**

DOROTHY ROWLEY

**MEADOW VALLEY TWP.**

MIKE D. COWLEY

**PAHRANAGAT VALLEY TWP.**

NOLA A. HOLTON

**MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES**

**CALIENTE**

MIKE D. COWLEY

**ELY**

MIKE COSTER

**8TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

VALERIE ADAIR  
NANCY ALLF  
JACQUELINE BLUTH

ROB BARE

LINDA MARIE BELL

LISA BROWN

REBECCA L. BURTON

KENNETH CORY

JIM CROCKETT

KATHLEEN DELANEY

MARK DENTON

BRYCE DUCKWORTH

KERRY EARLEY

CAROLYN ELLSWORTH

ADRIANA ESCOBAR

RHONDA K. FORSBERG

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES CONT.**

DENISE GENTILE  
DAVID GIBSON, JR.  
CYNTHIA N. GIULIANI  
ELIZABETH GONZALEZ  
JOE HARDY, JR.

MATHEW HARTER  
BILL HENDERSON  
DOUGLAS HERNDON  
MARY KAY HOLTHUS

CHARLES HOSKIN  
RENA G. HUGHES  
RONALD J. ISRAEL  
ERIC JOHNSON

SUSAN JOHNSON  
DAVID JONES  
TIERRA JONES  
WILLIAM KEPHART

JOANNA KISHNER  
MICHELLE LEAVITT  
LINDA MARQUIS  
STEFANY MILEY

CHERYL MOSS  
VINCENT OCHOA  
SANDRA POMRENZE  
WILLIAM POTTER

T. ARTHUR RITCHIE, JR.  
RICHARD SCOTTI  
CRISTINA SILVA  
DOUGLAS SMITH\*

GLORIA STURMAN  
FRANK SULLIVAN  
ROBERT TEUTON  
MICHAEL VILLANI

WILLIAM VOY  
JERRY WIESE  
TIMOTHY WILLIAMS

**JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

**BOULDER TOWNSHIP**

VICTOR L. MILLER

**BUNKERVILLE TOWNSHIP**

DARRYL B. DODENBIER

**GOODSPRINGS TOWNSHIP**

LARRY SHUPE

**HENDERSON TOWNSHIP**

SAMUEL BATEMAN  
STEPHEN GEORGE  
DAVID GIBSON, SR.

**LAS VEGAS TOWNSHIP**

MELANIE ANDRESS-TOBIASSON  
SUZAN BAUCUM  
KAREN BENNETT  
JOE BONAVENTURE

AMY CHELINI

CYNTHIA CRUZ

MELISA DE LA GARZA

ERIC A. GOODMAN

ELANA LEE GRAHAM

REBECCA KERN

HARMONY LETIZIA

MELISSA SARAGOSA

JOSEPH SCISCENTO

DIANA L. SULLIVAN

ANN E. ZIMMERMAN

**LAUGHLIN TOWNSHIP**

TIM ATKINS

**MESQUITE TOWNSHIP**

RYAN W. TOONE

**MOAPA TOWNSHIP**

RUTH KOLHOSS

**MOAPA VALLEY TOWNSHIP**

GREGOR MILLS

**NORTH LAS VEGAS TWP.**

KALANI HOO

CHRIS LEE

NATALIE TYRRELL

**SEARCHLIGHT TOWNSHIP**

RICHARD HILL

**MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES**

**BOULDER CITY**

VICTOR L. MILLER

**HENDERSON**

RODNEY BURR

DOUGLAS W. HEDGER

MARK STEVENS

**LAS VEGAS**

BERT M. BROWN

CARA CAMPBELL

**MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES CONT.**

MARTIN D. HASTINGS  
CEDRIC A. KERNS  
CYNTHIA S. LEUNG  
SUSAN ROGER

**MESQUITE**

RYAN W. TOONE

**NORTH LAS VEGAS**

SEAN HOEFFGEN

**9TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

THOMAS W. GREGORY  
NATHAN T. YOUNG

**JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

**EAST FORK TOWNSHIP**

CASSANDRA G. JONES

**TAHOE TOWNSHIP**

RICHARD GLASSON

**10TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

THOMAS STOCKARD

**JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

**NEW RIVER TOWNSHIP**

BENJAMIN D. TROTTER

**MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES**

**FALLON**

MICHAEL R. LISTER

**11TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**DISTRICT COURT JUDGES**

JIM C. SHIRLEY

**JUSTICE COURT JUDGES**

**ARGENTA TOWNSHIP**

DENISE FORTUNE

**AUSTIN TOWNSHIP**

BILL GANDOLFO

**HAWTHORNE TOWNSHIP**

MIKE JAMES

**LAKE TOWNSHIP**

KAREN STEPHENS

\*Judge Douglas Smith retired in April 2019.

# Nevada Appellate Courts Summary

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

Court	Incoming Cases <sup>a</sup>	Disposed Cases			Total	Rate	Pending Cases
		By Opinion <sup>b</sup>	By Order	Other <sup>c</sup>			
Supreme Court	1,886	68	1,730	54	1,852	98%	1,822
Court of Appeals	1,096	13	1,266	22	1,301	119%	220
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,982</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>2,996</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>3,153</b>	<b>106%</b>	<b>2,042</b>

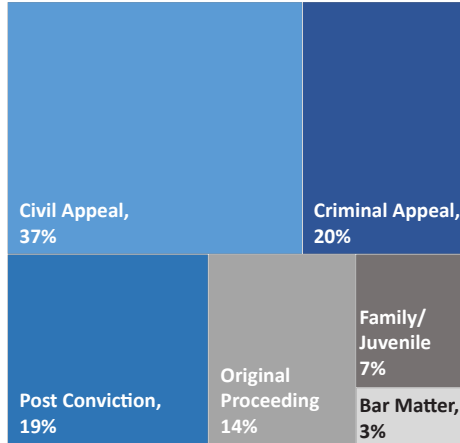
<sup>a</sup> Court of Appeals cases are assigned from original filings to the Supreme Court, including limited transfers.

<sup>b</sup> May include single and consolidated cases disposed per curiam or by authored opinion.

<sup>c</sup> Includes petitions for review denied and cases reassigned to the Supreme Court.

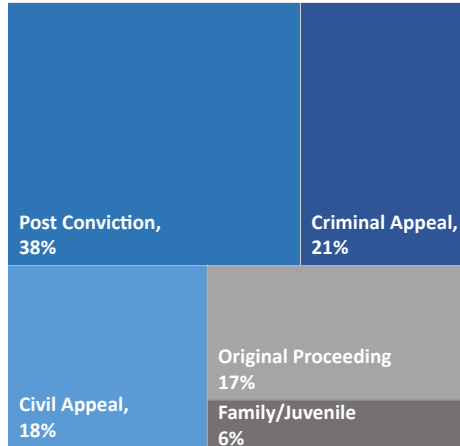
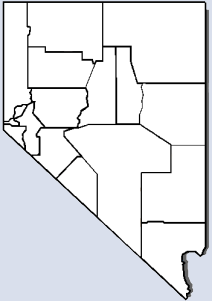
Source: Nevada Supreme Court Clerk's Office.

## SUPREME COURT CASE DISTRIBUTION



Juvenile and family statistics are a subset of civil filings for the Supreme Court. They are detailed here for comparison with the trial court statistics.

## COURT OF APPEALS CASE DISTRIBUTION

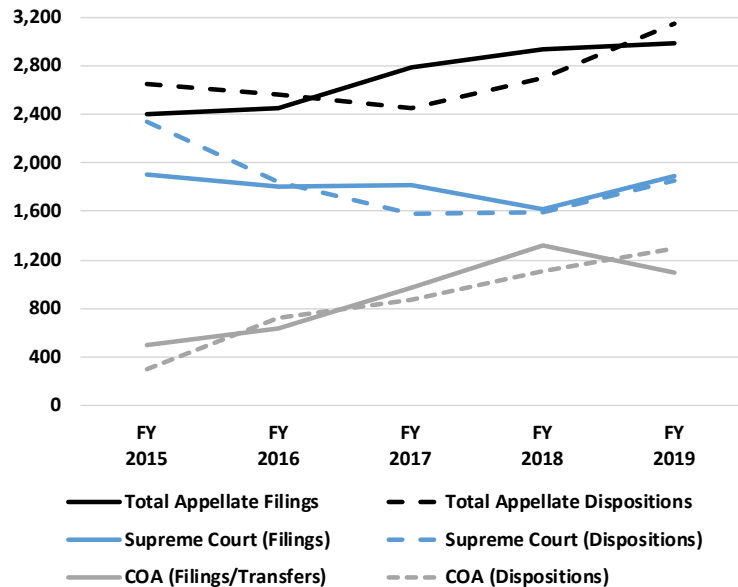



### Nevada Demographics

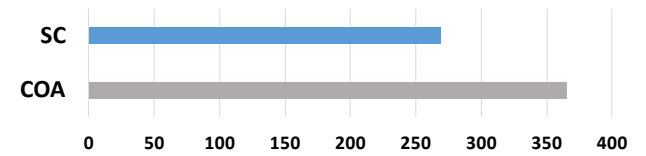
Population: 3,057,582 <sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 109,781 sq. mi. <sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 28/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous County: Clark

<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## APPELLATE FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



## INCOMING CASES PER JUDICIAL POSITION



**TABLE 1. SUPREME COURT APPEALS BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT, FY 2015-19.**

<b>Civil Appeals Filed <sup>a</sup></b>					
<b>District</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
First	33	54	33	41	34
Second	117	125	93	117	115
Third	8	12	11	8	9
Fourth	5	3	2	3	4
Fifth	16	13	11	7	17
Sixth	25	1	1	3	6
Seventh	8	8	13	11	12
Eighth	574	714	722	860	993
Ninth	12	15	12	10	14
Tenth	0	8	6	4	1
Eleventh <sup>b</sup>	-	6	12	13	11
<b>Total <sup>c</sup></b>	<b>798</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>1,077</b>	<b>1,216</b>

<b>Criminal Appeals Filed</b>					
<b>District</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
First	40	27	146	123	54
Second	199	161	164	156	188
Third	7	11	8	12	15
Fourth	22	17	19	24	21
Fifth	48	40	31	48	50
Sixth	11	9	21	6	15
Seventh	25	15	28	17	36
Eighth	695	662	775	813	694
Ninth	6	4	9	4	11
Tenth	5	7	9	5	5
Eleventh <sup>b</sup>	-	5	22	18	34
<b>Total <sup>c</sup></b>	<b>1,058</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>1,232</b>	<b>1,226</b>	<b>1,123</b>

<b>Total Appeals Filed</b>					
<b>District</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
First	73	81	179	164	88
Second	316	286	257	273	303
Third	15	23	19	20	24
Fourth	27	20	21	27	25
Fifth	64	53	42	55	67
Sixth	36	10	22	9	21
Seventh	33	23	41	28	48
Eighth	1,269	1,376	1,497	1,673	1,687
Ninth	18	19	21	14	25
Tenth	5	15	15	9	6
Eleventh <sup>b</sup>	-	11	34	31	45
<b>Total <sup>c</sup></b>	<b>1,856</b>	<b>1,917</b>	<b>2,148</b>	<b>2,303</b>	<b>2,339</b>

<sup>a</sup> Civil appeals include family and juvenile cases.

<sup>b</sup> The Eleventh Judicial District was created from the Fifth and Sixth Judicial Districts in July 2015.

<sup>c</sup> Table 2 totals differ due to appeals not associated with a specific judicial district.

Source: Nevada Supreme Court Clerk's Office.

Fiscal Year 2019

**TABLE 2. APPELLATE COURTS CASES FILED AND DISPOSED, FISCAL YEARS 2015-19. <sup>a</sup>**

	<b>Fiscal Year 2015</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2016</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2017</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2018</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2019</b>
<b>Supreme Court Cases Filed</b>					
Bar Matters	103	106	132	83	97
Appeals	1,858	1,922	2,155	2,312	2,345
Original Proceedings	398	340	391	445	404
Other	4	6	6	4	0
Reinstated	25	14	11	12	20
Petition for Review	15	61	90	79	116
<b>Total Cases Filed</b>	<b>2,403</b>	<b>2,449</b>	<b>2,785</b>	<b>2,935</b>	<b>2,982</b>
<b>Cases Filed with Supreme Court &amp; Assigned to Court of Appeals</b>					
Cases Assigned to COA	500	637	971	1,322	1,093 <sup>b</sup>
Reinstated	0	2	0	0	3
<b>Total Cases Filed with COA</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>1,322</b>	<b>1,096</b>
<b>Appellate Courts Cases Disposed</b>					
Supreme Court Cases Disposed					
By Opinions <sup>c</sup>	89	96	91	104	68
By Order	2,242	1,688	1,388	1,413	1,730
Petition for Review Denied	13	54	99	74	54
Court of Appeals Cases Disposed					
By Opinions <sup>c</sup>	4	16	1	8	13
By Order	299	707	873	1,086	1,266
Other	1	2	0	10	22
<b>Total Cases Disposed</b>	<b>2,648</b>	<b>2,563</b>	<b>2,452</b>	<b>2,695</b>	<b>3,153</b>
<b>Pending Cases</b>					
Supreme Court Pending <sup>a</sup>	1,544	1,518	1,754	1,776	1,822
Court of Appeals Pending <sup>a</sup>	196	110	207	425	220
<b>Total Appeal Cases Pending <sup>a</sup></b>	<b>1,740</b>	<b>1,628</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>2,201</b>	<b>2,042</b>
<b>Authored Opinions</b>					
SC Authored Opinions	87	96	88	104	65
COA Authored Opinions	4	15	1	8	10
<b>Total Authored Opinions</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>75</b>

<sup>a</sup> Pending cases vary year to year due in part to case reclassification, limited transfers to the Court of Appeals, and reinstated cases.

<sup>b</sup> Includes limited transfers to the Court of Appeals.

<sup>c</sup> May include single and consolidated cases disposed per curiam or by authored opinion.

Source: Nevada Supreme Court Clerk's Office.

**TABLE 3. STATEWIDE TRIAL COURT TOTALS, FISCAL YEARS 2017-19.**

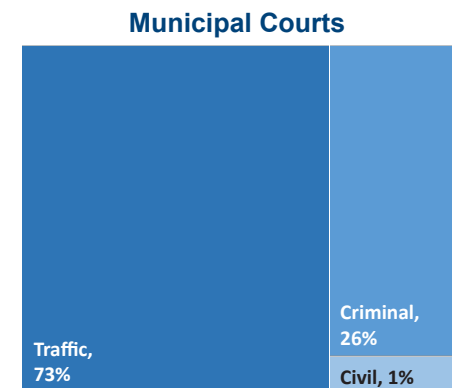
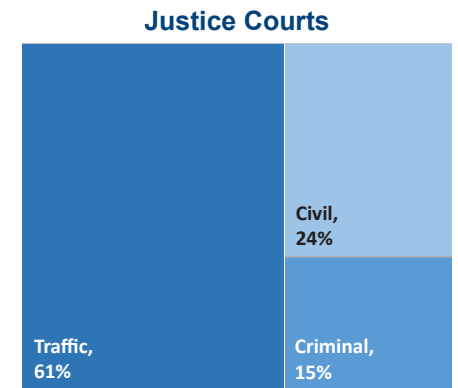
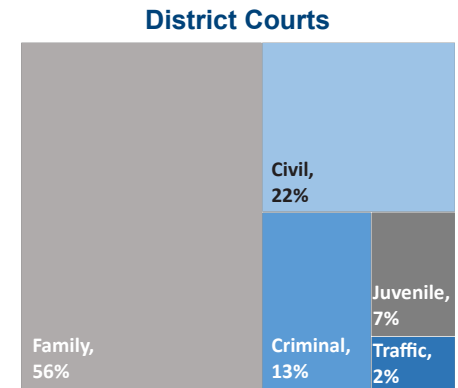
Caseload Filings <sup>a</sup>							
Court	Fiscal Year	Criminal <sup>b</sup>	Civil	Family	Juvenile	Total Non-Traffic	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>
District	2019	17,420	31,239	78,474	9,604	136,737	2,349
	2018	17,535	29,715	81,417	9,978	138,645	2,685
	2017	18,011	28,061	85,749	10,078	141,899	2,315
Justice	2019	77,366	123,883	NJ	NJ	201,249	312,859
	2018	75,008	122,346	NJ	NJ	197,354	318,257
	2017	80,464	113,739	NJ	NJ	194,203	297,171
Municipal	2019	52,222	1,261	NJ	NJ	53,483	148,175
	2018	46,223	2,231	NJ	NJ	48,454	129,695
	2017	46,249	3,862	NJ	NJ	50,111	121,893
Total	2019	147,008	156,383	78,474	9,604	391,469	463,383
	2018	138,766	154,292	81,417	9,978	384,453	450,637
	2017	144,724	145,662	85,749	10,078	386,213	421,379

Dispositions <sup>a</sup>							
Court	Fiscal Year	Criminal <sup>b</sup>	Civil	Family	Juvenile	Total Non-Traffic	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>
District	2019	16,459	30,083	75,655	9,120	131,317	2,327
	2018	17,014	31,822	83,862 <sup>r</sup>	8,868	141,566 <sup>r</sup>	2,341
	2017	16,910 <sup>r</sup>	29,279 <sup>r</sup>	79,871	9,424 <sup>r</sup>	135,484 <sup>r</sup>	2,249
Justice	2019	74,385	119,594	NJ	NJ	193,979	289,282
	2018	72,133	115,161	NJ	NJ	187,294	312,896
	2017	73,669	115,067	NJ	NJ	188,736	280,327
Municipal	2019	49,663	1,322	NJ	NJ	50,985	143,057
	2018	46,475	2,823	NJ	NJ	49,298	123,895
	2017	43,678	3,415	NJ	NJ	47,093	119,467
Total	2019	140,507	150,999	75,655	9,120	376,281	434,666
	2018	135,622	149,806	83,862 <sup>r</sup>	8,868	378,158 <sup>r</sup>	439,132
	2017	134,257 <sup>r</sup>	147,761 <sup>r</sup>	79,871	9,424 <sup>r</sup>	371,313 <sup>r</sup>	402,043

NJ Not within court jurisdiction.  
<sup>a</sup> Reopened cases are included in totals.  
<sup>b</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings and are counted by defendant.  
<sup>c</sup> Traffic and Parking include juvenile traffic statistics.  
<sup>r</sup> Data totals revised from previous annual reports due to updated or improved data collection.  
 Source: Uniform System for Judicial Records, Nevada AOC, Research and Statistics Unit.

**TRIAL COURT CASE DISTRIBUTIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019**



# NEVADA TRIAL COURT Overview

## NEVADA TRIAL COURT CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
District Courts	12,661	30,090	55,124	8,553	30,309	136,737	131,317	96%	2,349	2,327	99%
Justice Courts	70,111	115,294	-	-	15,844	201,249	193,979	96%	312,859	289,282	92%
Municipal Courts	47,230	1,048	-	-	5,205	53,483	50,985	95%	148,175	143,057	97%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>130,002</b>	<b>146,432</b>	<b>55,124</b>	<b>8,553</b>	<b>51,358</b>	<b>391,469</b>	<b>376,281</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>463,383</b>	<b>434,666</b>	<b>94%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.

<sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.

<sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.

## NEVADA HAS 11 JUDICIAL DISTRICTS SPANNING 17 COUNTIES

17 DISTRICT COURTS



82 DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

40 JUSTICE COURTS



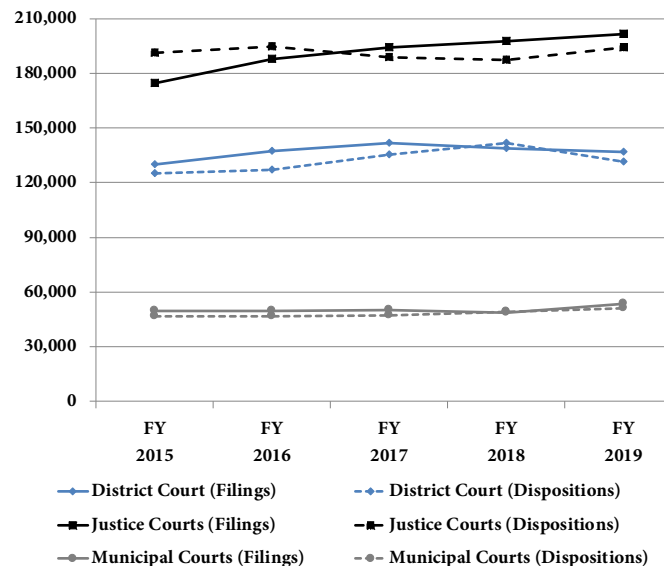
68 JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

17 MUNICIPAL COURTS

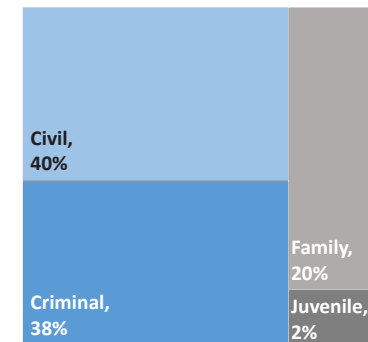


30 MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGES

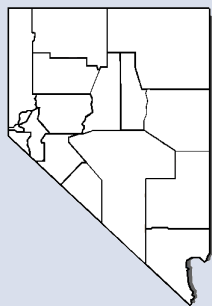
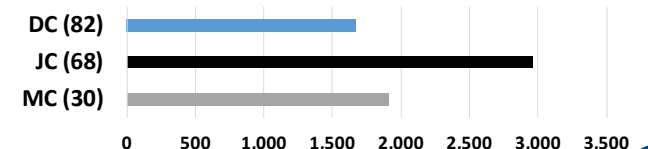
### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



### Nevada Demographics

Population: 3,057,582 <sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 109,781 sq. mi. <sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 28/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Las Vegas

<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer

<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

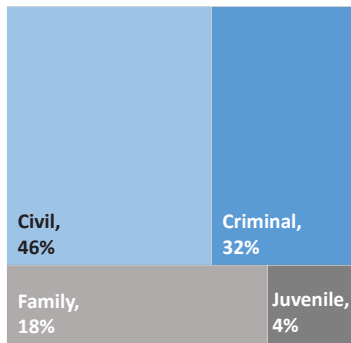
Fiscal Year 2019

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

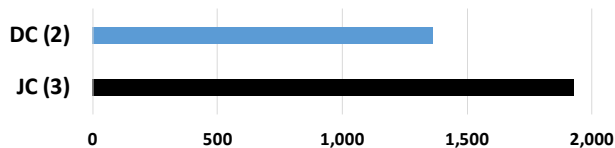
Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Carson City District Court	268	493	1,059	132	689	2,641	2,252	85%	216	92	43%
Storey County District Court	12	37	25	2	4	80	8	10%	0	1	-
Carson City Justice Court <sup>d</sup>	2,175	3,286	-	-	27	5,488	4,581	83%	9,687	9,912	102%
Virginia City Justice Court	211	85	-	-	0	296	220	74%	2,060	1,877	91%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,666</b>	<b>3,901</b>	<b>1,084</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>8,505</b>	<b>7,061</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>11,963</b>	<b>11,882</b>	<b>99%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.
- <sup>d</sup> Carson City Justice Court includes municipal court information.

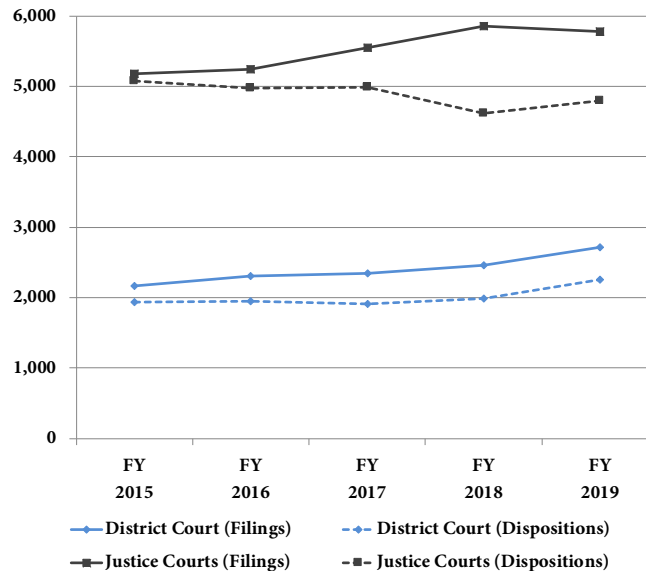
### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### District Demographics

Population: 60,284<sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 408 sq. mi.<sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 148/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Carson

<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

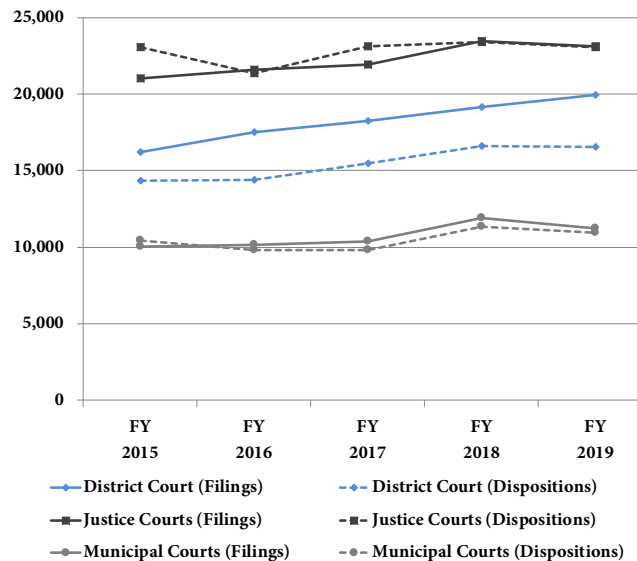
# SECOND Judicial District

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

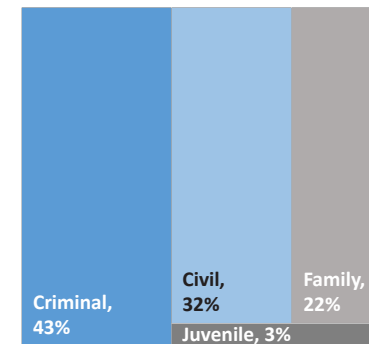
Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Washoe County DC	2,347	3,036	9,491	1,403	3,675 <sup>d</sup>	19,952 <sup>d</sup>	16,541	83%	1,202	1,259	105%
Incline Village Justice Court	214	144	-	-	87	445	469	105%	1,866	1,812	97%
Reno Justice Court	4,814	8,668	-	-	1,690	15,172	15,359	101%	20,684	21,062	102%
Sparks Justice Court	2,269	4,414	-	-	735	7,418	7,206	97%	6,517	6,232	96%
Wadsworth Justice Court	49	16	-	-	0	65	48	74%	2,544	2,390	94%
Reno Municipal Court	8,337	119	-	-	837	9,293	8,461	91%	11,169	11,098	99%
Sparks Municipal Court	1,911	31	-	-	12 <sup>d</sup>	1,954 <sup>d</sup>	2,468	126%	3,785 <sup>d</sup>	4,435	117%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,941</b>	<b>16,428</b>	<b>9,491</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>7,036</b>	<b>54,299</b>	<b>50,552</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>47,767</b>	<b>48,288</b>	<b>101%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.
- <sup>d</sup> Reopened cases under-reported or not reported.

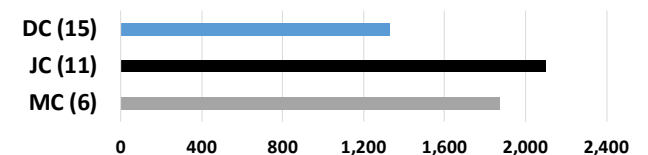
### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



**District Demographics**

Population: 460,237<sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 6,302 sq. mi.<sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 73/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Reno

<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Fiscal Year 2019

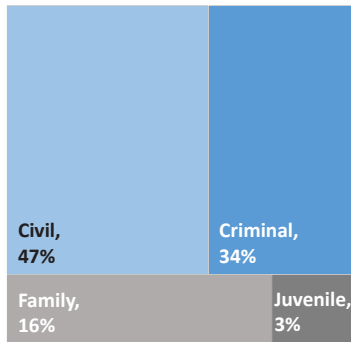
# THIRD Judicial District

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

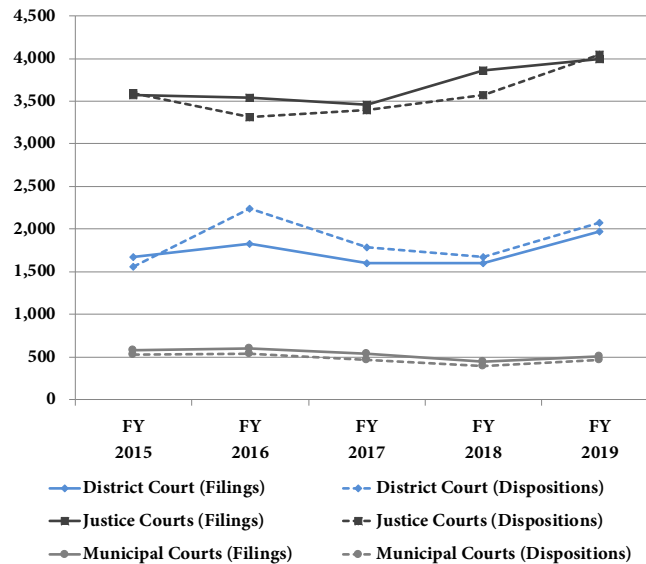
Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Lyon County District Court	293	328	620	144	593	1,978	2,075 <sup>d</sup>	105%	206	205	100%
Canal Justice Court	317	972	-	-	12	1,301	1,411	108%	1,066	1,149	108%
Dayton Justice Court	475	833	-	-	1	1,309	1,267	97%	3,303	3,316	100%
Walker River Justice Court	504	792	-	-	89	1,385	1,366	99%	3,105	3,010	97%
Fernley Municipal Court	434	0	-	-	0	434	409	94%	3,227	3,025	94%
Yerington Municipal Court	78	0	-	-	0 <sup>f</sup>	78 <sup>f</sup>	60	77%	99 <sup>f</sup>	87	88%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,101</b>	<b>2,925</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>6,485</b>	<b>6,588</b>	<b>102%</b>	<b>11,006</b>	<b>10,792</b>	<b>98%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.
- <sup>d</sup> Include administrative closures.
- <sup>e</sup> Include administrative closures.
- <sup>f</sup> Reopened cases under-reported or not reported.

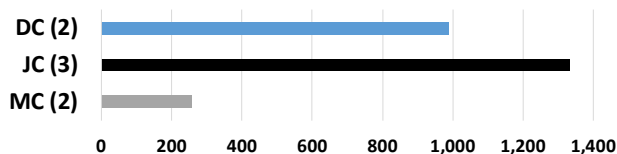
### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



### District Demographics

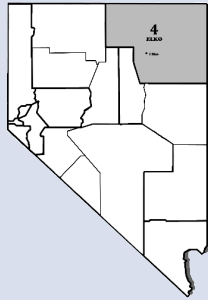
Population: 55,551<sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 2,001 sq. mi.<sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 28/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Dayton

<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Elko County District Court	451	232	539	205	714	2,141	1,989	93%	270	284	105%
Carlin Justice Court	101	76	-	-	0	177	147	83%	875	770	88%
Eastline Justice Court	99	105	-	-	0	204	240 <sup>d</sup>	118%	640	534	83%
Elko Justice Court	1,384	1,522	-	-	641	3,547	3,474	98%	7,137	6,466	91%
Wells Justice Court	124	79	-	-	2	205	130	63%	4,579	4,225	92%
Carlin Municipal Court	44	0	-	-	1	45	41	91%	115	118	103%
Elko Municipal Court	264	0	-	-	110	374	353	94%	284	238	84%
Wells Municipal Court	8	0	-	-	0	8	7	88%	39	39	100%
West Wendover MC	109	0	-	-	0	109	109	100%	499	464	93%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,584</b>	<b>2,014</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>1,468</b>	<b>6,810</b>	<b>6,490</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>14,438</b>	<b>13,138</b>	<b>91%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.
- <sup>d</sup> Include administrative closures.



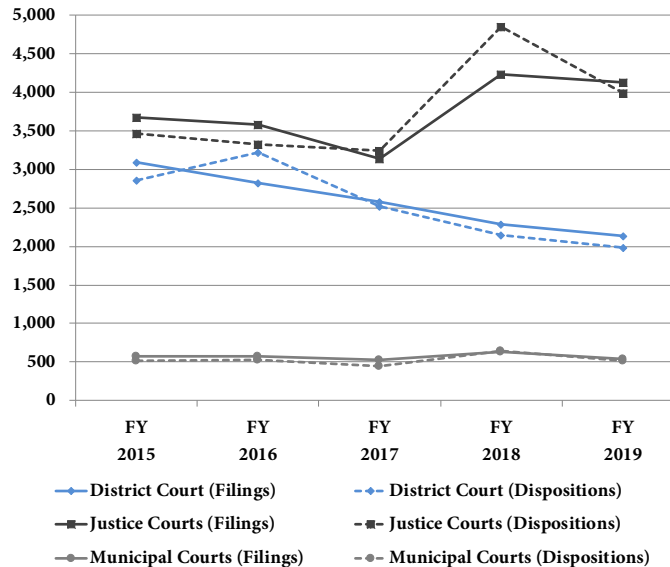
### District Demographics

Population: 54,326<sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 17,170 sq. mi.<sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 3/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Elko

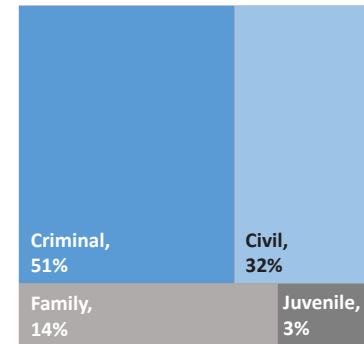
<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Fiscal Year 2019

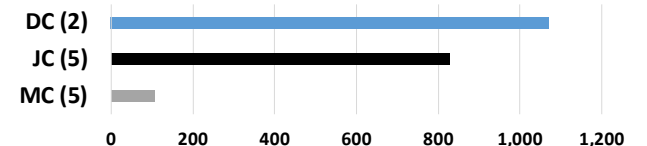
### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



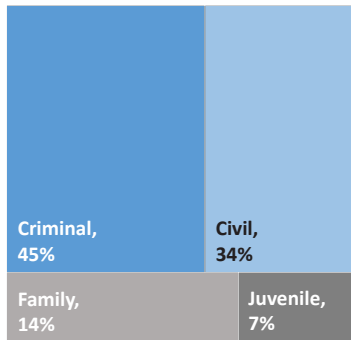
# FIFTH Judicial District

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

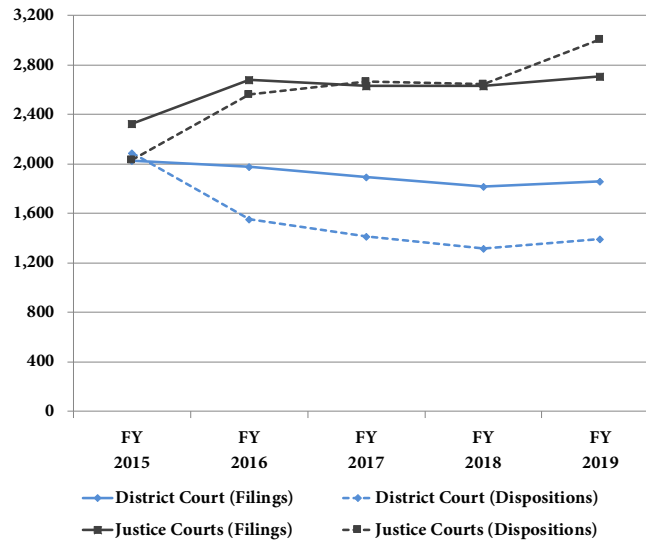
Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Esmeralda County DC	0	19	6	2	1	28	1	4%	4	0	0%
Nye County District Court	326	471	609	306	119	1,831	1,390	76%	89	53	60%
Beatty Justice Court	109	66	-	-	0	175	145	83%	1,395	1,360	97%
Esmeralda Justice Court	0	2	-	-	0	2	9	450%	3,354	3,925	117%
Pahrump Justice Court	1,144	876	-	-	255	2,275	2,605	115%	4,383	4,654	106%
Tonopah Justice Court	181	77	-	-	1	259	247	95%	3,184	3,037	95%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,760</b>	<b>1,511</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>4,570</b>	<b>4,397</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>12,409</b>	<b>13,029</b>	<b>105%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.

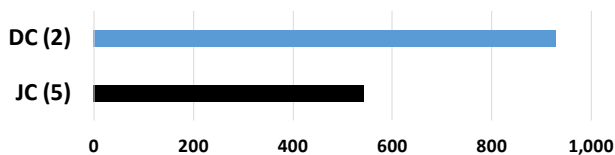
### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



### District Demographics

Population: 48,825 <sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 21,764 sq. mi. <sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 2/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Pahrump

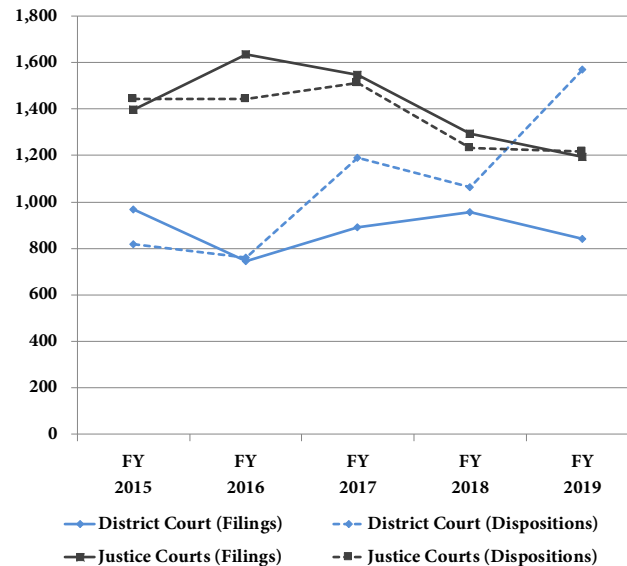
<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

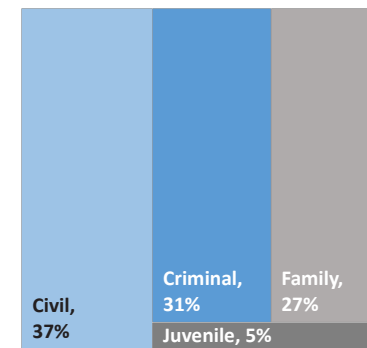
Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Humboldt County DC	70	120	342	89	221	842	1,571 <sup>d</sup>	187%	111	142 <sup>d</sup>	128%
Union Justice Court	556	636	-	-	3	1,195	1,215	102%	6,423	6,011	94%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>2,037</b>	<b>2,786</b>	<b>137%</b>	<b>6,534</b>	<b>6,153</b>	<b>94%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.
- <sup>d</sup> Include administrative closures.

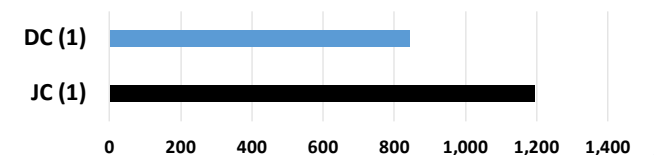
### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19

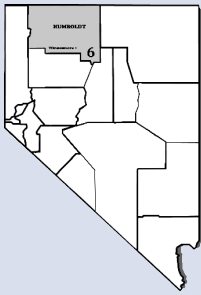


### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE





### District Demographics

Population: 16,989<sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 9,641 sq. mi.<sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 2/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Union

<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Fiscal Year 2019

# SEVENTH Judicial District

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Eureka County District Court	13	13	14	5	2	47	33	70%	(d)	(d)	(d)
Lincoln County District Court	29	31	34	14	10	118	153	130%	(d)	(d)	(d)
White Pine County DC	102	167	120	122	86	597	668	112%	(d)	(d)	(d)
Ely Justice Court	294	306	-	-	89	689	577	84%	2,685	2,390	89%
Eureka Justice Court	59	26	-	-	0	85	109	128%	925	1,092	118%
Meadow Valley Justice Court	111	58	-	-	6	175	171	98%	1,195	1,314	110%
Pahrnagat Valley JC	60	10	-	-	0	70	51	73%	3,609	3,488	97%
Caliente Municipal Court	1	0	-	-	0	1	1	100%	0	0	-
Ely Municipal Court	179	0	-	-	0 <sup>f</sup>	179 <sup>f</sup>	163	91%	323 <sup>f</sup>	333	103%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>8,737</b>	<b>8,617</b>	<b>99%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.

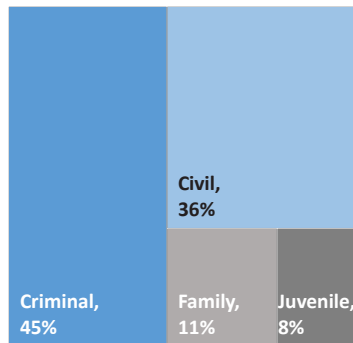
<sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.

<sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.

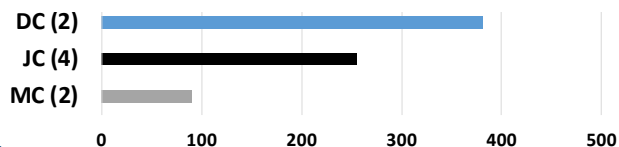
<sup>d</sup> Juvenile traffic violations handled and reported by Justice Courts.

<sup>f</sup> Reopened cases under-reported or not reported.

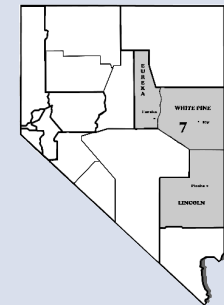
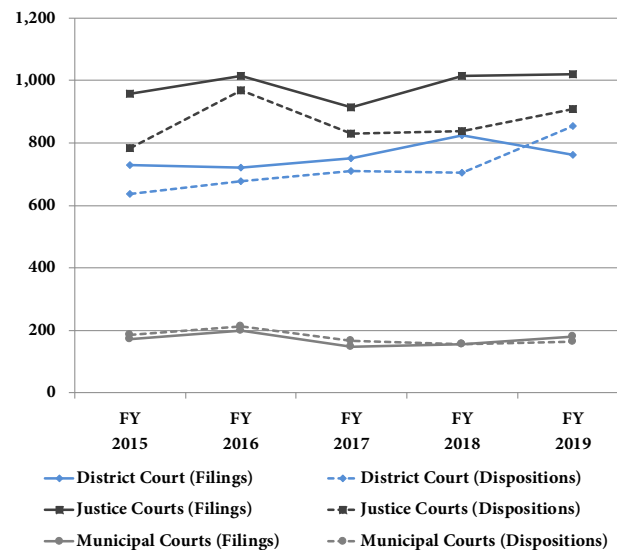
### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### District Demographics

Population: 17,884<sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 23,685 sq. mi.<sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: <1/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Ely


<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer

<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Clark County District Court	8,215	24,569	40,595	5,710	23,691	102,780	100,737	98%	(d)	(d)	(d)
Boulder Justice Court	112	255	-	-	10	377	402	107%	1,681	1,531	91%
Bunkerville Justice Court	14	8	-	-	2	24	21	88%	641	684	107%
Goodsprings Justice Court	230	25	-	-	0	255	193	76%	10,913	9,798	90%
Henderson Justice Court	2,810	8,173	-	-	231	11,214	9,858	88%	5,700	6,362	112%
Las Vegas Justice Court	43,610	72,766	-	-	11,542	127,918	125,648	98%	163,217 <sup>f</sup>	147,406	90%
Laughlin Justice Court	606	239	-	-	3	848	810	96%	8,322	7,137	86%
Mesquite Justice Court	190	271	-	-	0	461	478	104%	2	2	100%
Moapa Justice Court	55	19	-	-	3	77	70	91%	1,889	1,766	93%
Moapa Valley Justice Court	122	48	-	-	2	172	144	84%	1,172	998	85%
North Las Vegas Justice Court	3,490	7,927	-	-	213	11,630	8,973	77%	1,138	1,080	95%
Searchlight Justice Court	70	22	-	-	0	92	76	83%	3,830	3,271	85%
Boulder Municipal Court	379	6	-	-	13	398	356	89%	3,752	3,151	84%
Henderson Municipal Court	6,158	121	-	-	3,959 <sup>g</sup>	10,238 <sup>g</sup>	8,908	87%	38,593 <sup>g</sup>	33,814	88%
Las Vegas Municipal Court	23,098	634	-	-	270	24,002	23,281	97%	60,462	59,580	99%
Mesquite Municipal Court	656	7	-	-	0	663	602	91%	1,528	1,500	98%
North Las Vegas MC	5,162	130	-	-	0	5,292	5,382	102%	23,607	24,475	104%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94,977</b>	<b>115,220</b>	<b>40,595</b>	<b>5,710</b>	<b>39,939</b>	<b>296,441</b>	<b>285,939</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>326,447</b>	<b>302,555</b>	<b>93%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.
- <sup>d</sup> Juvenile traffic violations handled and reported by Justice Courts.
- <sup>e</sup> Reopened cases under-reported or not reported.
- <sup>f</sup> Reopened cases over-reported.



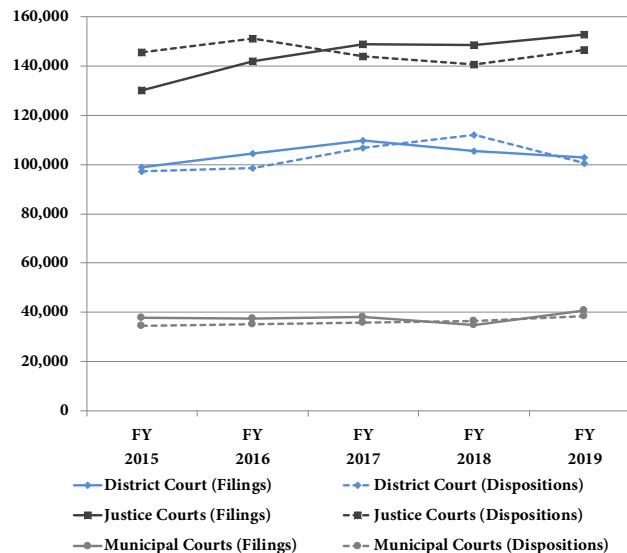
**District Demographics**

Population: 2,251,175<sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 7,891 sq. mi.<sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 285/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Las Vegas

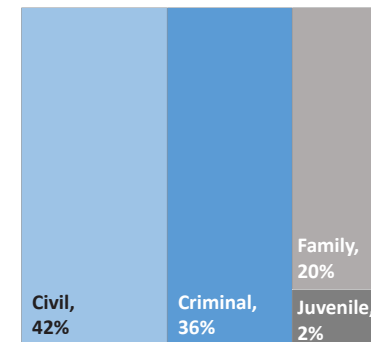
<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Fiscal Year 2019

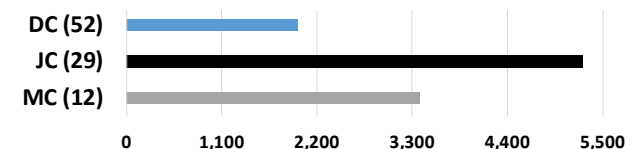
### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE

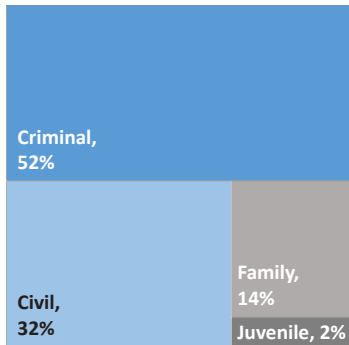


## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

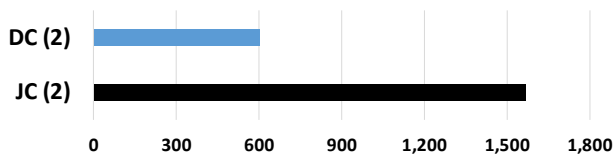
Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Douglas County DC	198	311	589	101	0 <sup>d</sup>	1,199 <sup>d</sup>	1,470	123%	148 <sup>d</sup>	120	81%
East Fork Justice Court	1,037	967	-	-	158	2,162	2,137	99%	4,835	5,048	104%
Tahoe Justice Court	821	121	-	-	25	967	851	88%	3,216	2,901	90%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,056</b>	<b>1,399</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>4,328</b>	<b>4,458</b>	<b>103%</b>	<b>8,199</b>	<b>8,069</b>	<b>98%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.
- <sup>d</sup> Reopened cases under-reported or not reported.

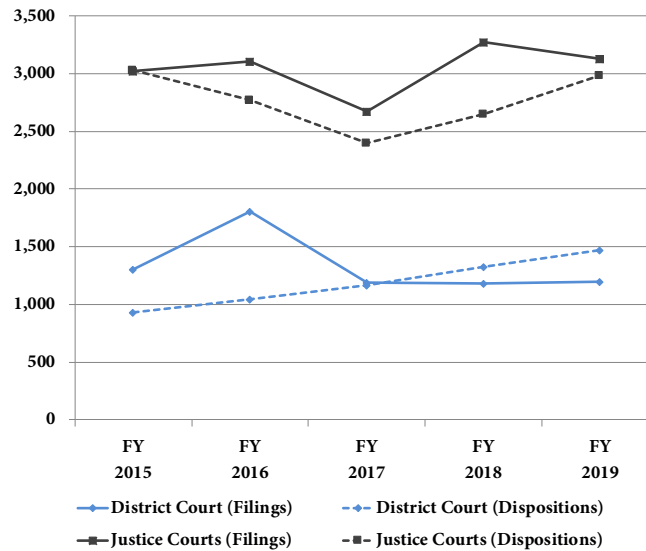
### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### District Demographics

Population: 49,070 <sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 710 sq. mi. <sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 69/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: East Fork

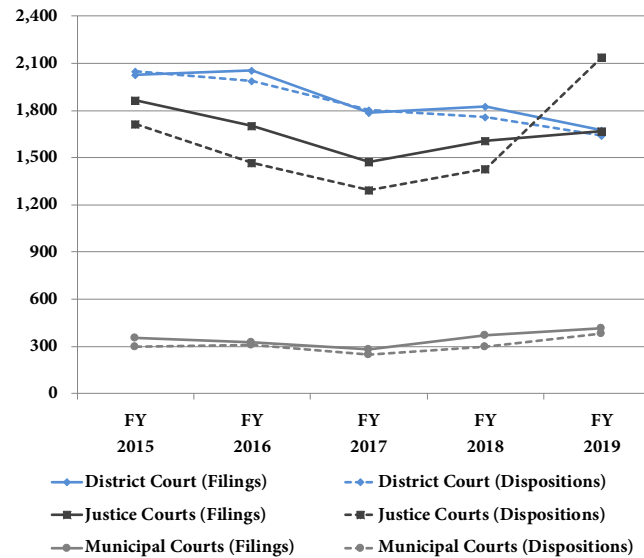
<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

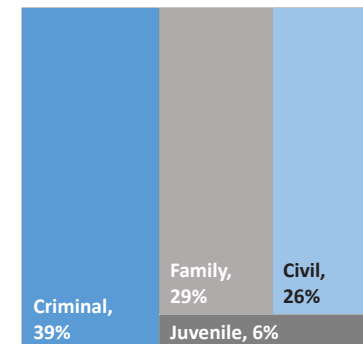
Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Churchill County DC	203	105	817	182	368	1,675	1,642	98%	35	111 <sup>d</sup>	317%
New River Justice Court	801	862	-	-	6	1,669	2,138 <sup>d</sup>	128%	4,749	4,807	101%
Fallon Municipal Court	412	0	-	-	3	415	384	93%	693	700	101%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>967</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>3,759</b>	<b>4,164</b>	<b>111%</b>	<b>5,477</b>	<b>5,618</b>	<b>103%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.
- <sup>d</sup> Include administrative closures.

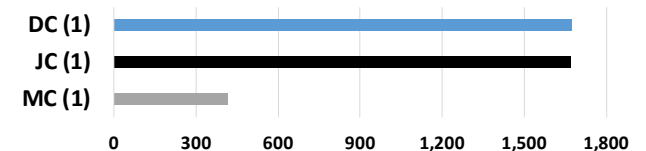
### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



### District Demographics

Population: 25,628<sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 4,930 sq. mi.<sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 5/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: New River

<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer  
<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

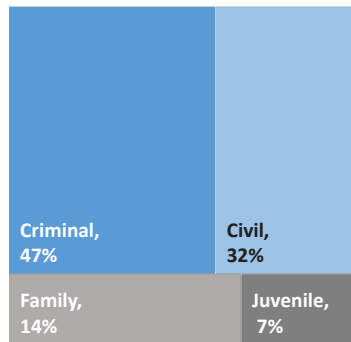
# ELEVENTH Judicial District

## CASELOAD FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2019

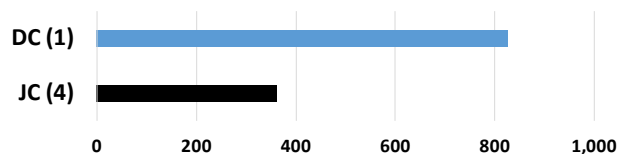
Court	Criminal Filings <sup>a</sup>	Civil Filings	Family Filings <sup>b</sup>	Juvenile Filings <sup>b</sup>	Reopened Cases	Total Cases	Total Disposed	Disp. Rate	Traffic and Parking <sup>c</sup>		
									Cases	Disposed	Disp. Rate
Lander County District Court	32	38	150	42	43	305	310	102%	28	26	93%
Mineral County District Court	40	27	58	17	2	144	87	60%	17	4	24%
Pershing County District Court	62	93	56	77	91	379	390 <sup>d</sup>	103%	23	30	130%
Argenta Justice Court	163	190	-	-	6	359	367	102%	1,645	1,703	104%
Austin Justice Court	8	6	-	-	0	14	39 <sup>d</sup>	279%	1,207	1,040	86%
Hawthorne Justice Court	406	158	-	-	4	568	288 <sup>i</sup>	51%	6,143	2,345 <sup>i</sup>	38%
Lake Justice Court	316	188	-	-	1	505	439	87%	1,343	1,377	103%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,027</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>2,274</b>	<b>1,920</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>10,406</b>	<b>6,525</b>	<b>63%</b>

- <sup>a</sup> Criminal includes felony, gross misdemeanor, non-traffic misdemeanor, and criminal appeals (District Court only) filings.
- <sup>b</sup> Family and juvenile case types only heard in District Courts.
- <sup>c</sup> Traffic and parking include reopened cases and juvenile traffic statistics.
- <sup>d</sup> Include administrative closures.
- <sup>i</sup> Incomplete.

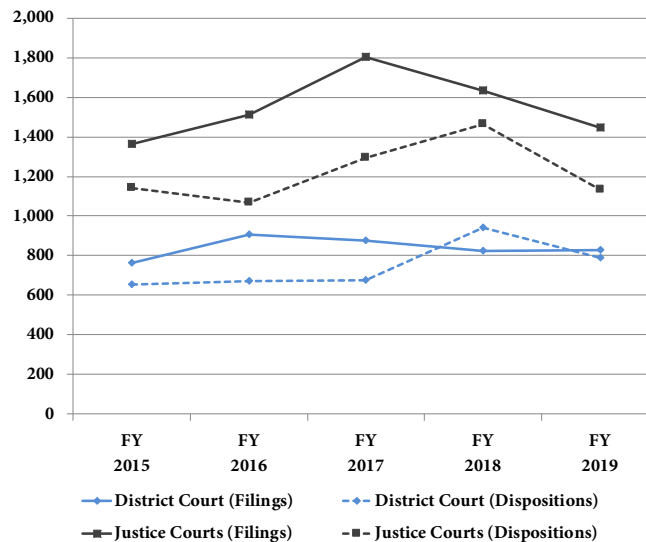
### PROPORTION OF NON-TRAFFIC CASES



### NON-TRAFFIC TOTAL CASES PER JUDGE



### NON-TRAFFIC FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS Fiscal Years 2015-19



### District Demographics

Population: 17,613<sup>a</sup>  
 Geographic Size: 15,280 sq. mi.<sup>b</sup>  
 Population Density: 1/sq. mi.  
 Most Populous Township: Lake

<sup>a</sup> Source: Nevada State Demographer

<sup>b</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# Specialty Courts

Specialty courts are problem-solving court programs that address the problems often contributing to criminal behavior. Many criminal offenders are not driven by a desire to harm or hurt others, but are stuck in a cycle of addiction, often as a way to self medicate, which drives them to do things they might otherwise not do if they were sober and clean. Specialty courts serve to provide a structured and positive path forward out of the cycles of addiction by focusing on helping defendants with mental health issues or substance abuse. Specialty courts work by coordinating efforts of

the court, prosecution, defense, probation, law enforcement, treatment providers, and social services. Together, they maintain a critical balance of necessary authority, supervision, support, and encouragement.

## SPECIALTY COURT CASELOADS

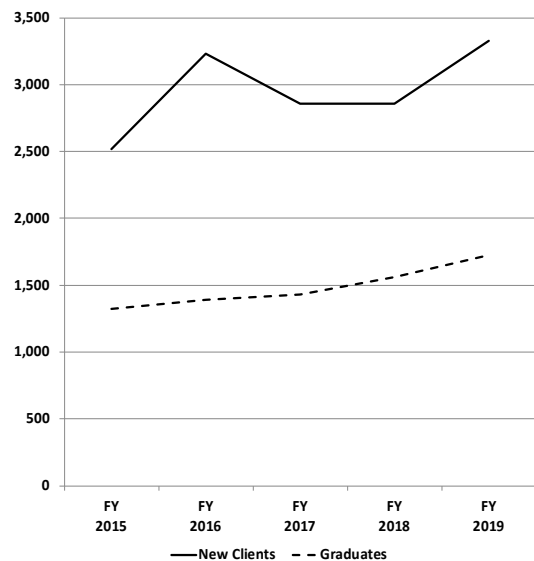
In Nevada, there are 85 specialty court programs that served more than 6,800 participants during fiscal year 2019. As shown in the charts below, the number of specialty court new clients and graduates increased to the largest in our history with 3,351 and 1,727,

respectively. This increase was due in large part to the additional funding authorized by the Nevada Legislature.

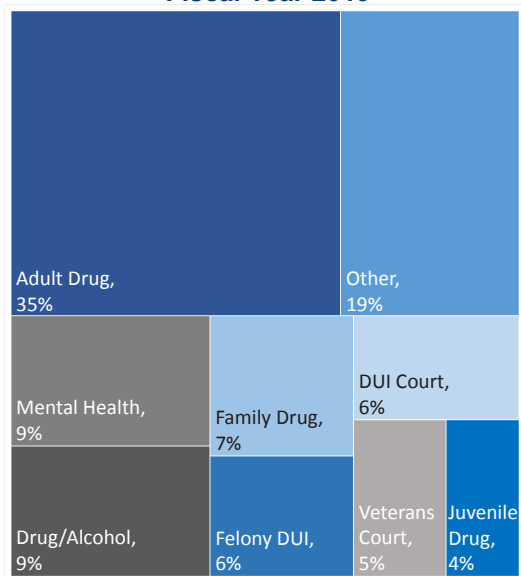
According to a study published by the National Drug Court Institute, specialty court programs reduce individual recidivism from 12 to 80 percent, depending on the type and quality of the program.<sup>1</sup> For Nevada, this means that up to 1,382 of the 1,727 graduates may not commit another criminal offense.

<sup>1</sup> Douglas B. Marlowe et al., *Painting the Current Picture*, National Drug Court Institute, June 2016.

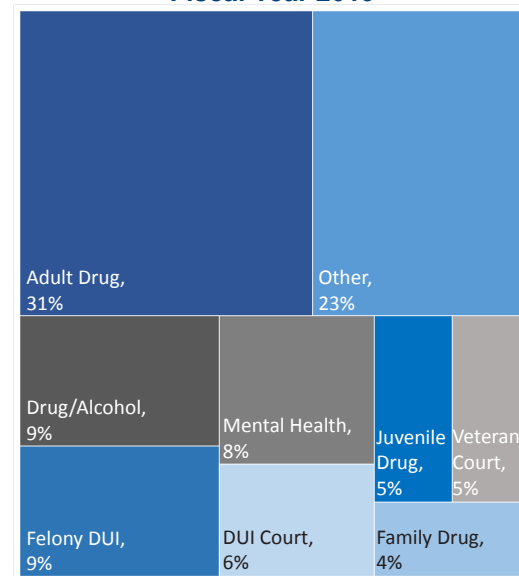
**NEW CLIENTS AND GRADUATES**  
Fiscal Years 2015-19



**NEW CLIENTS (N=3,351)**  
Fiscal Year 2019



**GRADUATES (N=1,727)**  
Fiscal Year 2019



# Fiscal Year 2019 Specialty Court Distributions <sup>1</sup>

## THE FUNDING PROCESS

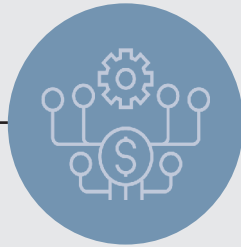
The Nevada Supreme Court has two revenue streams that support the treatment courts throughout the designated regions: fee funding, including administrative assessments (NRS 176.059 and 176.0613), and the State General Fund. The 80th Legislature Session provided General Fund appropriations of \$3 million to be distributed over each year of the 2019-20 biennium with the goal of increasing availability of specialty courts throughout Nevada.



**\$8,439,293**

### TOTAL SPENT ON SPECIALTY COURT PROGRAMS

Received \$10,888,628 in revenue and spent \$8,439,293. Carried forward \$2,449,335 to fund the first quarterly distributions of fiscal year 2020.



**\$699,486**

### MONIES RETURNED TO THE GENERAL FUND

The Nevada Judiciary is focused on stewardship of public monies and ensuring cost remain within budget. This year specialty courts reverted \$699,486 to the General Fund, including some monies from the prior funding year.



**\$5,417,545**

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSMENTS EXPENDED BY SPECIALTY COURTS

Administrative Assessment (AA) revenue is received through payment of fines and fees on misdemeanor offenses and goes to assist our 85 specialty court programs throughout the State.

<sup>1</sup> The detailed reporting of specialty court financial distributions and caseload statistics can be found in the appendix tables of the 2019 Annual Report of the Nevada Judiciary on the Supreme Court website at [www.nvcourts.gov](http://www.nvcourts.gov).

**THE SUPREME COURT WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING  
FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS ANNUAL REPORT**

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**THE NEVADA JUDICIARY**

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**ALL APPENDIX TABLES ARE AVAILABLE  
ONLINE AT THE SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA WEBSITE**

**WWW.NVCOURTS.GOV**

**Click on About the Judiciary,  
and then Annual Report.**



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