



# 2024 STATE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT

PRESENTED BY: JUDGE BRIAN BOWEN

02/10/2025

# ANNUAL REPORT

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- 2024 Summary
  - Tickets received – 8,076 (4,817 traffic)
  - Customers served
    - 4,455 (counter)
    - 5,616 (phone)
    - 9,937 (email)
- Attachments:
- 2025 Court Calendar
- 2024 Court Statistics Report
- 2025 Fine Schedule

# PROBATION

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- 2024 Summary
  - ❖ May 2024-Soyla Rodriguez hired as first Commerce City Municipal Probation Officer
  - 440 cases assigned to Probation
  - 295 cases successful
  - 17 cases unsuccessful
  - 128 cases moved to 2025 roster

# COURT TRIALS, JURY TRIALS, APPEALS

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## ➤ Court Trials

- 5 Court Trials Held in 2024

## ➤ Jury Trials

- 0 Jury Trials Held in 2024

## ➤ Appeals

- 0 Appeals in 2024

# FRESH START EVENT

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- Event held on 10/16/24 and provided opportunity for defendants with outstanding warrants, fines, or other compliance issues to get cases back on track.
- To continue to be held annually in the future

# INDIGENT DEFENSE COUNSEL

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- \$32,834.46 paid in 2024
- Grant funds used to pay Court Appointed Attorneys for all qualifying first appearances
  - 82 1<sup>st</sup> appearances in 2024
  - \$4300.00 paid from 1<sup>st</sup> appearance grant funds in 2024
- Conflict free counsel pursuant to SB-203

# INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS

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- North Metro Youth Diversion Program
  - Adams County Juvenile Assessment Center Summit and Task Force formed September 2023 due to closure of The Link; North Metro Youth Diversion Board disbanded October 2024.
  - Juvenile Defendants may still be offered Diversion upon successful completion of classes/useful public service.
- Adams County Detention Facility
  - Video appearances of persons in custody –continued to utilize WebEx and Zoom platforms in 2024.

# COLORADO MUNICIPAL JUDGE'S ASSOCIATION

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- Judicial Conferences –presiding and substitute judge attended in 2024.
- Quarterly meetings with Colorado Supreme Court Justices
- Quarterly meetings for Adams/Broomfield County Municipal Judges



# PENDING LEGISLATION

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- **SB25-062**

- This bill adds the failure to appear and contempt of court for the failure to appear prohibitions to the list of state laws that cannot be superseded by a charter or ordinance enacted by a home rule city.

- **HB 25-1147**

- Concerning measures to ensure that Municipal Court defendants are subject to similar conditions as State Court defendants.

# STAFF/COURT EFFICIENCY

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- Electronic/Paperless case processing
- Text Message Notifications/Reminders
- Virtual hearing options
  - Increased convenience for case parties and reduction in FTA rate
  - Court hearings & business conducted 100% virtually on building closure dates
- Utilization of conducting other court business electronically via email/online payment system
- Implementation of Court Survey
  - Available in paper and online format
  - Positive results

# LANGUAGE TRANSLATION

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- Implementation of LanguageLine for phone/video interpretation
  - Available for 240+ languages
  - Additional convenience & significant cost savings
- Budget approval for increased in-person interpreter availability beginning 1/1/25
  - In-person Spanish interpreters available every court date



# Discussion