

TWENTY-SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT OVERVIEW

January 2023

The Twenty-Second Judicial District encompasses Montezuma and Dolores counties and serves a population of 30,000 and 1,500 respectively. The largest city in the district is Cortez. The district also serves the towns of Dove Creek, Mancos, Dolores, Rico, Cahone, Lewis Arriola, Pleasant View and Yellow Jacket.

According to the Colorado Judicial Branch Statistical Report for July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, the following are totals for the Twenty-Second Judicial District:

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|------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
| District Court Filings | 1,241 | District Court Terminations | 1,198 |
| County Court Filings | 3,060 | County Court Terminations | 2,738 |

District Court filings increased by 4% and County Court filings decreased by (6%) over 2021 filings.

There are currently two district court judges, two county court judges and one district court magistrate.

The district court judges handle a mixed caseload of domestic relations, felony criminal matters, juvenile delinquent cases, all types of civil cases, probate, adoption and relinquishment cases, mental health and alcohol abuse commitments and dependency and neglect cases.

The county court judges handle traffic and misdemeanor cases, domestic abuse restraining orders and civil matters within their jurisdiction. The County Court Judge in Montezuma County is full-time and the Dolores County Court Judge is part-time.

The Twenty-Second also operates three specialty courts. The district operates an Adult Drug Court and participates in DANSR. Montezuma County Court operates a DUI court.

In addition to the judges, there are approximately 21 support staff positions. These positions include clerk of courts, court judicial assistants, administrative supervisor, collections investigator, problem solving court coordinator, family court facilitator, specialist and legal research attorney.

The District Court Judges are Chief Judge Todd J. Plewe and William Y. Furse. The County Judges are Jennilynn Everett Lawrence (Montezuma) and Matthew Margeson (Dolores). The District Court Magistrate is Kristen Tarrin.

For additional information, please contact Eric Hogue, Court Executive, 865 North Park Street, Suite 100, Cortez, CO 81321.