

THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF ARIZONA

# MOHAVE COUNTY



*Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to produce uncommon results*  
—author unknown

# COURTS

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



SERVING THE PUBLIC

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND OUTREACH

DELIVERING TIMELY JUSTICE

I  
II  
III  
IV  
V

ENGAGED STAFF

COURT ACCESS, FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE

# STRATEGIC PILLARS



# Plan your route....



# MESSAGE

*from the Presiding Judge*

Greetings:

This past year we have seen some exciting changes within the Courts and the Probation Department. Work continues on several programs that will enhance services to the public and staff continue to explore new ways to improve access to information for the public and customers doing business with the court. Organizational changes were made within the Probation Department and new judicial officers and staff have joined the Courts. This annual report details many of the new and ongoing projects that are enhancing the services of the court and helping to improve the services that are available to the citizens of Mohave County.



I am very excited to note that after much work by both judges and staff the Board of Supervisors approved a contract for architectural services for the Courthouse Expansion and Remodel Project with the firm of Dick & Fritsche Design Group (DFDG). Funding for the project will be coming from the quarter cent sales tax. The contract with DFDG provides for the following work: Pre-design & Investigations, Schematic Design, Design Development, Construction Document Development, Construction Administration, Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment Design, Court Technology and Audio Visual Design, and Cost Estimating. This is an important step forward in the court's efforts to build a new courthouse for the Superior Court and re-model the existing building so the Kingman/Cerbat Justice court can move into a new larger space. Ultimately this new building will result in increased access for the public, provide improved security and allow the court to better manage the workload and provide greater services to individuals within the community.

Another important change for the court was the reorganization of the Probation department into an Adult Probation department and a Juvenile Court Services department. Alan Palomino was appointed as the new Chief of the Adult division and Elaine Maestas was appointed as the Director of the Juvenile Court Services division. This change has helped to create opportunities for advancement within the departments and will help to focus staff development and strengthen the services being provided to the citizens within Mohave County.

We were pleased to again host the Court of Appeals when they conducted oral arguments at the Kingman High School in April of this year. Their visit provided opportunities for local students and staff to view oral arguments, ask questions of the Judges and visit with members of the judicial community. Many other positive programs continue to be developed and expanded within the court so I encourage you to read through this report to learn of the many efforts that are being done to improve court processes and procedures.

I express appreciation for the continued support of the Arizona Supreme Court, the County Board of Supervisors and County Management in our efforts to accomplish the mission of the Court. I am grateful for the judicial officers and court staff who work diligently each and every day to help keep the courts working in an efficient and productive manner.

# TOPOCK GORGE to the PAINTED DESERT

**R**oute 66 starting in Santa Monica, California, enters Arizona near Needles, California via the Trails Arch Bridge across the Topock Gorge, within the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge. Between the state line and Kingman, the original alignment known as Oatman Road passes through Oatman and the numerous hairpin turns in the Black Mountains. From the County Seat of Kingman, the road serves the Mohave County communities of Valentine, Hackberry, and Peach Springs. Route 66 then enters the northern portion of Yavapai County in Seligman. Seligman is the birthplace of the first Route 66 association, established in 1987. This group advocated for the segment between Kingman and Seligman to be designated as “Historic Route 66” and the State obliged. From Seligman the route continues into Coconino County through Williams then into the County Seat of Flagstaff. While in Coconino County Route 66 passes through Winona, a small unincorporated community made famous in the song “(Get Your Kicks on) Route 66”. Then passing through Navajo County’s Seat of Holbrook. Finally Route 66 runs through Apache County’s Chambers, Houck, and Lupton. The road continues through New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Missouri before ending in Chicago, Illinois.



Serving the Public



### *Regional Veterans Treatment Court*

The Lake Havasu Veterans Treatment Court partnered with the City of Kingman to establish a Regional Veterans Treatment Court, collaborating services and processes together as a team. Kingman opened their Veterans Treatment Court in December of 2015 and currently have 10 veterans in the program with one veteran scheduled to graduate.

Participants in the Veterans Treatment Court can expect to remain in the program between 6-18 months depending on their particular needs. Each Veteran is assessed at the onset of the program and their needs are prioritized based on that assessment with the participants being given access to such resources including counseling, PTSD treatment, employment, housing, transportation, education and any other needs that may arise. While participants will often have their criminal charges reduced or dismissed upon successful completion of the Veterans Treatment Court, the bigger goal is when the Veteran graduates from the program that they are in a much better place in their lives than when they started. The national recidivism rate for Veteran Treatment Courts is 10%-25% compared to the national Justice System recidivism rate of 75%. The Lake Havasu Veterans Treatment Court has a recidivism rate of 2%. In almost three years, only one of the 51 graduates has reoffended upon completion of the program.



### *E-Payments*

Mohave County Courts e-payment program continues to be a successful project as over 4,000 people visit this page each month to pay for traffic tickets or make monthly payments to the courts.

### *Customer Surveys*

Customer surveys are an important part of customer service; therefore, the Courts in Mohave County are continuing to use surveys to ensure they understand the concerns of the citizens and optimize their website to ensure ease of access and functionality.

### *Self-Help Videos*

Additional self-help videos have been created to provide help to the public on specific court related areas, such as Divorce with Children and Divorce without Children. The videos show Pro Per parties step-by-step how to fill out court documents. These videos will assist the public by reducing the need to redo paperwork submitted to the court.



### *Family Law Assistance Program*

In January 2016, the Family Law Assistance Program (FLAP) was launched. Assistance is provided on a case by case basis to self-represented clients who may not qualify for free legal aid. This is a one-time service for self-represented clients to meet with an attorney to help with their case, such as modifying an order or reviewing and completing court forms. The program provides assistance to low income residents of Mohave County with certain Family Law issues. This is a collaborative program made possible through the efforts of the Community Legal Services Volunteer Lawyers Program, the Mohave County Bar Association, and the Mohave County Superior Court.

### *5<sup>th</sup> Annual Northwest Arizona Infant and Toddler Mental Health Symposium*

The Mohave County Superior Court Team hosted their 5th Annual Northwest Arizona Infant and Toddler Mental Health Symposium on April 26-27, 2016. Over 230 professionals from across Arizona gathered at the London Bridge Resort in Lake Havasu City for two instruction filled days of networking and learning from one another.

There were several notable keynote presenters: Derek Clark, also known to many on social media as “Rapping Dad” and author of six books including I Will Never Give Up; Robin Karr Morse, author of the books Ghosts in the Nursery and Scared Sick; and David Mandel, founder and managing member of David Mandel & Associates. In addition to the keynotes there were 16 different workshops to choose from with over 15 nationally and state recognized presenters. The event was free to all attendees and funded by Arizona’s First Things First.



### *1st Annual Superhero 5K Run/Walk & Kids Dash*

On April 16, 2016 the Mohave County Superior Court Team held the 1st Annual Superhero 5K in collaboration with Mohave County Court Appointed Special Advocates and the CASA Council of Mohave County. The event took place at the Kingman Regional Medical Center Hualapai Campus. One hundred sixty-seven community members including children registered for the event, many of them dressing up as superheroes. This was the largest turnout for a first annual race Kingman has ever seen. The proceeds benefitted the foster children of Mohave County through the CASA Council of Mohave County. The monies help the unexpected and unfunded needs of foster children in Mohave County. We look forward to continuing this tradition for years to come.





### *Fail to Comply Warrant Program*

The Lake Havasu Consolidated Court partnered with the Lake Havasu City Police Department in an effort to put together a program with goals to benefit the public, the jail, and the court to save time and money while maintaining efficiency. The Warrant Program is designed for individuals that have a warrant for failing to comply with a court order. The Warrant Program allows law enforcement to bring the individual directly to the court to be seen by a Judge immediately instead of being arrested and booked into the jail. The Program was implemented in September 2015 and has resulted in reduced jail population and jail costs along with giving the individual the opportunity to take care of the matter without being incarcerated.

### *Collections Application*

Local applications have been designed and built for the Mohave County Limited Courts to allow tracking of contract payments as well as automated notification processes notifying parties of when upcoming payments are due.

### *Jury Pull*

Mohave County has implemented a process that automates the Jury Summons and Seating charts for all Limited Courts in Mohave County. The process has streamlined a task that was taking up to two days to complete down to now just a few minutes of processing time.

### *Remote Interpreter Programs*

Remote Interpreter Programs are continuing to be enhanced in the Mohave County Court System. Further expansion of our interpreter system focuses on providing interpretation services to our customers at the front counter. This is done by the deployment of multiple iPads to the front counters of our Limited and Superior Court offices. This service allows the clerk to connect into a video interpreter within a matter of seconds for all unplanned interpretation needs.



### *Swift, Accountable, Fair Enforcement (SAFE)*

Administrative Order 2013-02 implemented the SAFE Program in the Probation Department. The stated goal of Arizona's Project SAFE (Swift, Accountable, Fair Enforcement) is to quickly and proportionally address illegal behavior, primarily drug use, so that clients will ultimately reduce their criminal behavior and successfully complete probation. Probation staff have all been trained on the principles of this program and are actively using the techniques to help their clients.







### *Probation Tablets*

To continue moving forward with advancing technology, Court IT replaced 22 aging desktop systems with 22 new Microsoft Surface Tablets for the student classroom. Along with these systems additional secure wireless access points were also installed to ensure adequate coverage for the new portable devices.



### *OnBase Administration Certification*

Continuing education of staff is extremely important to ensure staff has the most advanced training available for the systems we support. During FY16, two IT staff members have been certified as OnBase Administrators.

### *TurboCourt Online Forms*

After tailoring the TurboCourt Forms already in use in Maricopa County, Mohave County adopted TurboCourt Online Forms. TurboCourt walks Pro Per parties through a series of questions and depending on the answers given creates the applicable forms to submit for a new Family Court Case Initiation. This service automatically repeats fields of data and only requires a nominal fee to print the forms. The service is available at [www.azturbocourt.gov](http://www.azturbocourt.gov)

### *Windows 10 Upgrade*

As with many statewide initiatives Mohave County was selected as the first Court to upgrade all desktop PC's to a new Operating System. This upgrade was pushed out remotely and was a huge success. Over 200 machines were upgraded within a period of 4 days with minimal impact to the user community.

### *Replace Older Video Equipment*

Mohave County recognizes the need to keep technology current and refreshed. As a result of this direction, several video systems as well as audio systems have been pulled out of service and replaced with new, more advanced systems during the past fiscal year.

### *Upgraded Courtroom Audio System*

Audio systems in selected Superior Courtrooms were upgraded to allow for a fully immersive audio system allowing all parties in a hearing to speak and hear one another clearly regardless if the party is participating via a video feed or teleconference.





### *New Judicial Officers*

The Mohave County Courts welcomed two new Judicial Officers during Fiscal Year 2016.



July 2015, the Honorable Douglas R. Camacho was sworn into office as a Court Commissioner for the Superior Court. Judge Camacho said “Working for the courts makes me feel very humble to be entrusted to make decisions that affect people’s lives and makes me feel a great sense of responsibility to render a just outcome in the cases I am assigned”. Judge Camacho was appointed to fill the vacancy from the retirement of Superior Court Commissioner Julie S. Roth.

### *Leadership Training*

To develop current and future court leadership recommended court division heads have staff attend the Arizona Supreme Court Leadership Institute. The Arizona Supreme Court Leadership Institute provides three different certifications: The Arizona Court Supervisor program, is for frontline court and probation supervisors; the Arizona Court Management Program which is for second level or senior supervisors; and the Arizona Court Executive Program which is for senior level managers. To date, nine employees from the Mohave County Court System have graduated from one of the leadership programs. Kyle Rimel (Court IT), Heather Muhle (Clerks Office), and Kim Chappelle (Mental Health Team) are currently completing this training.



Judge Singer was ceremonially sworn into office as the Kingman City Magistrate on June 16, 2015; however, he officially took the bench on June 29, 2015. Judge Singer said he is very fortunate to have the magistrate position for the Kingman Municipal Court, “It is a great job and I love what I do and the people I get to work with.” Judge Singer was appointed to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Judge Kathy McCoy.

### *Salary Survey*

The Mohave County Courts understand the importance of attracting, motivating and retaining an efficient and knowledgeable workforce. Superior Court Human Resources completed a Salary Survey for positions with the Superior Court. The survey was provided to court leadership to advocate for equitable and adequate compensation for court employees.





### *Probation Officers attend the Arizona Court Leadership Programs*

The probation department is preparing a new generation of officers for leadership positions within the organization. Four officers from the Mohave County Probation Department currently enrolled in the Arizona Court Supervisor (ACS) Program are Kyle Smith, Emily Snay, Nancy Tharpe and Patty Zirkle.

These classes are a combination of on-line courses as well as all day classroom instruction. Some of the classes cover Transitioning to Role of Supervisor, Supervisory Ethics, Conflict Resolution, Problem Solving and Decision Making, Team Building, Employee Motivation, and Change Management. Two more officers, Amber Freed and Josh Frisby, are continuing their studies at the institute and have been accepted into the second level, Arizona Court Managers (ACM) Program. These courses include: Purpose and Responsibilities of Courts, Court Performance Standards, Human Resource Management, Budget and Financial Management, Technology Management, and Managing Diversity.

### *Employee Satisfaction Survey*

The Mohave County Courts recognize the importance of an engaged workforce in promoting public trust and confidence in the court system. In response to the 2015 Employee Satisfaction Survey it was recommended that court leadership focus on communication, employee feedback, appreciation and recognition. Court division heads were provided with sample questions to ask employees along with articles with ideas to recognize and re-energize employees. Also, it was recommended division heads send birthday and employment anniversary cards or e-cards to employees. An employee recommended the courts hold a Court Picnic and the first Mohave County Court's Picnic will be held in the coming spring.

### *Probation Department Restructure*

Administrative Order 2016-14 went into effect July 11, 2016 reorganizing the Mohave County Probation Department into an Adult Probation Department and a Juvenile Court Services Department. Alan Palomino was appointed as the Chief of the Adult Division and Elaine Maestas was appointed as the Director of Juvenile Court Services. This change allows for independent policy development providing efficiency by focused staff development, strengthened coordination of service, and delivery of services in the best economical manner.



### *Youth Court Services Program*

The Lake Havasu Consolidated Court established a Youth Court Services Program. The goal is to improve resources to the youth and their family. The Youth Court Program (YCP) Team meets on a regular basis to share information regarding each youth involved in the program. Team members include the LHC Police Department, local counseling agencies, School Counselors, Principals and members of Probation. The Program is based on a progressive tier system. The YCP Team collaborates and looks for the best resources to facilitate success in the youth's educational programming and personal life. All youth undergo assessments, counseling that is appropriately recommended and community restitution. Of the status offenses included, Truancy accounts for 48% and Minor Consumption is 38.4%. Since the inception, the Youth Court Program has serviced 91 youth, with 76 currently in the program and 15 having successfully completed the program. All cases are post adjudication. The Program runs on average from 3 to 12 months, depending upon the contribution and commitment of the youth and their family. Currently, the recidivism rate for the youth who have graduated the program is 26.67%, which is well within the recidivism standards of Specialty Courts.



### *Community Clean-up Program*

The Kingman Area Meth Coalition adopted a section of Stockton Hill Road between Airway and Keno, agreeing it would be maintained by the members of the Coalition. The Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court and the Kingman Area Meth Coalition saw this as an opportunity to help out the youth first time offenders by creating the Community Clean-Up Program. This Program gives the youth who has been charged with Truancy, Minor Consumption or Tobacco offense an opportunity to complete court ordered Community Restitution. It is difficult for youths to complete Community Restitution with local organizations since they are under 18 years of age. This Program also gives the youth exposure to positive interaction since they work alongside of community leaders, Judges, Law Enforcement, School Staff, Court Staff, etc. The clean-ups are held once a month on a Saturday. Adult offenders that struggle with completing their community restitution hours may be assigned to this program as well. In July 2016 the Kingman Area Meth Coalition and the Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court were recognized by the Kingman City Clean Commission for their efforts.





### *Charity Contributions*

The Superior Court Clerk's Office chose "HELP US KILL BREAST CANCER ONE TARGET AT A TIME" as the theme for the 5<sup>th</sup> annual recognition of October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month. During the drive \$479 was generated and donated to the local Kingman Cancer Care Unit.

For the first time ever the Justice Court participated in the holiday food drive sponsored by the Superior Court Clerk and employees. A competition was sparked and the Justice Court ended up in the lead and was treated to pizza. The food collected in Kingman was donated to the Kingman Area Food Bank, collections in Lake Havasu City were donated to the Inter Agency Food Bank, and collections from Bullhead City were donated to the St. Vincent De Paul Society Food Bank. In all, court employees collected and donated 1,912 items of food.



### *Courthouse Centennial Time Capsule*

On September 18, 2015 a Centennial time capsule compiled by the Superior Court Clerk's Office was sealed in a sarcophagus built by the County Facilities Department. The time capsule to be opened in the year 2115, was filled with items donated by the Mohave County Museum, multiple county high schools, key public officials, county employees, local businesses, and members of the public.



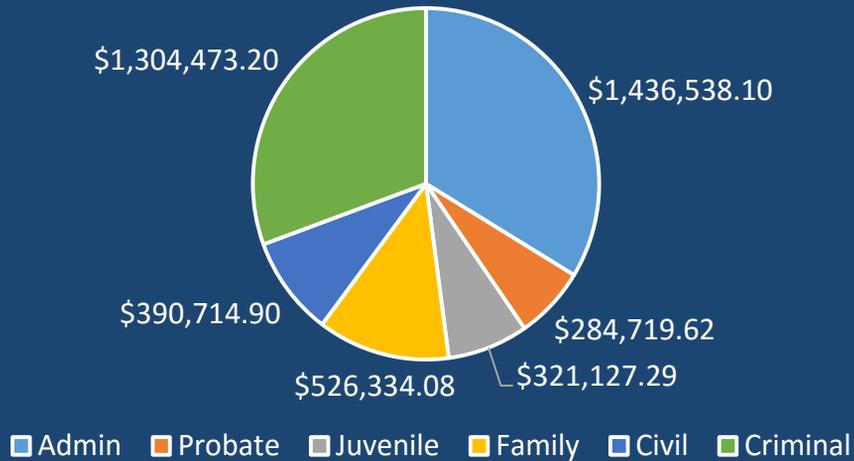
### *Annual Tri-State Veterans Stand Down*

Organized by the Jerry Ambrose Veterans Council (JAVC) the 2-day event assisted 384 Veterans in need all across Mohave County. Veterans Court Judicial Officers, Honorable Jeffrey Singer and Honorable Mitch Kalauli were present to provide assistance when needed. Staff members from the Mohave County Courts were available to answer questions, provide resources, and update visitors on case statuses. This event has grown rapidly in the past couple years, even surpassing the Veterans Stand Down held in Maricopa County.



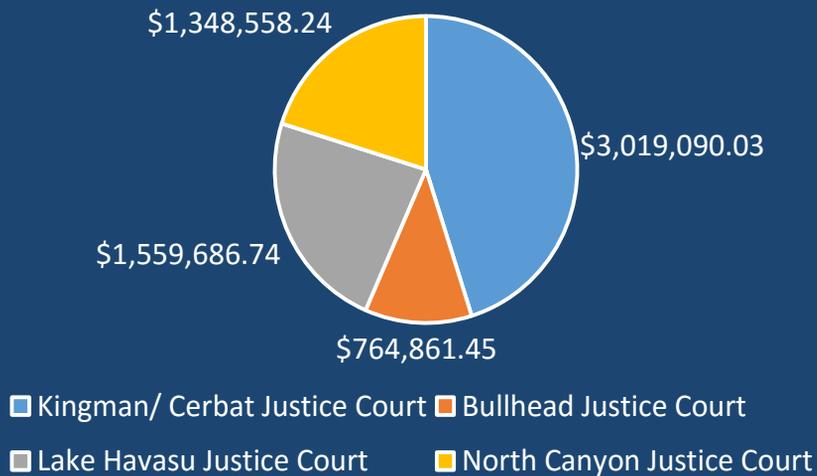
# Revenue Collections

## Superior Court Revenue Collected for FY 2016 \$4,263,907.19



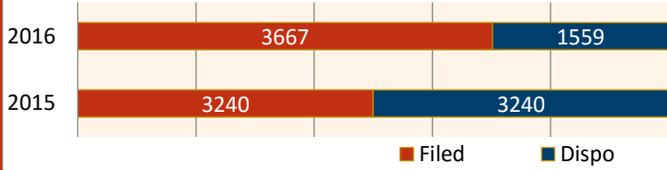
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## Justice Court Revenue Collected for FY 2016 \$6,692,196.46

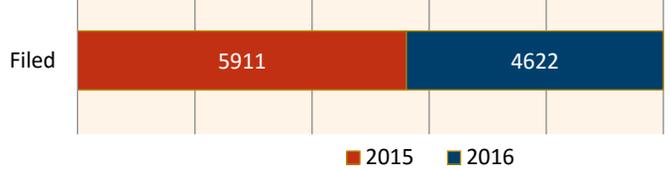


# Fiscal Year Filing Statistics

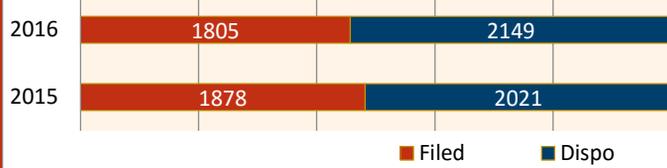
## Superior Court Administrative Case Type



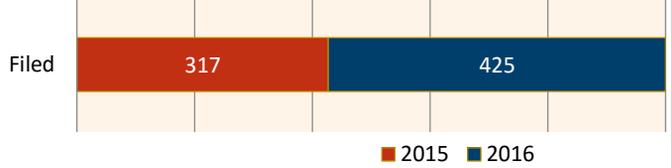
## Justice Court Civil Case Type



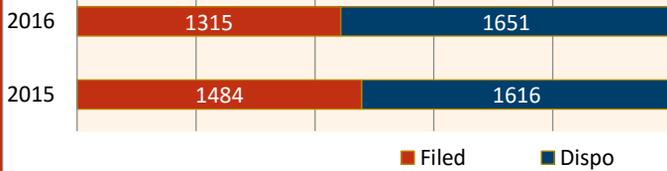
## Superior Court Family Law Case Type



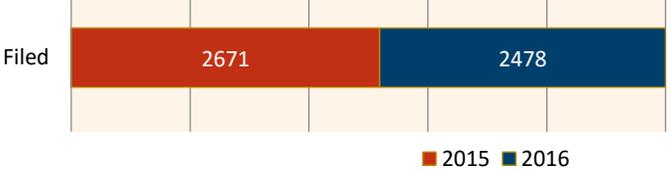
## Justice Court Search Warrant Case Type



## Superior Court Civil Case Type



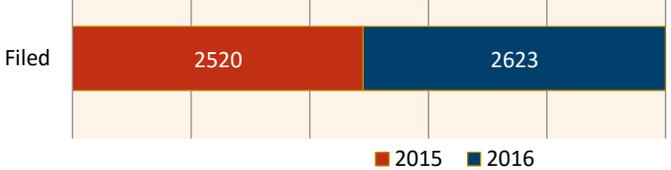
## Justice Court Misdemeanor Case Type



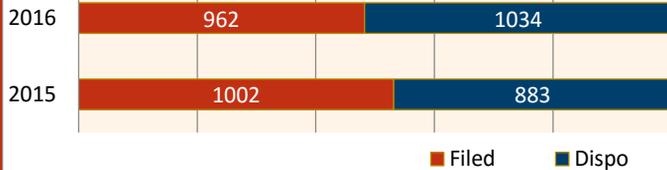
## Superior Court Criminal Case Type



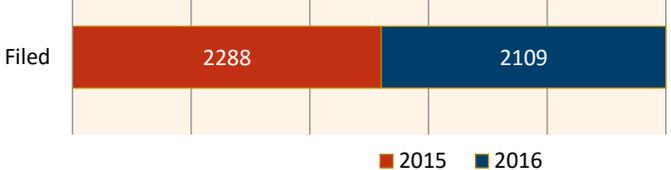
## Justice Court Felony Case Type



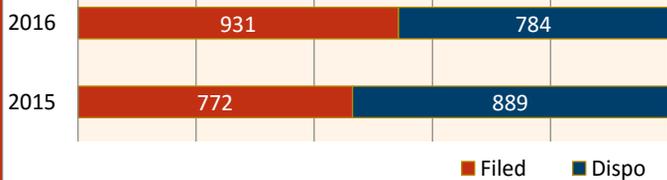
## Superior Court Juvenile Case Type



## Justice Court Criminal Traffic Case Type



## Superior Court Probate Case Type



## Justice Court Civil Traffic Case Type



# Probation Statistics

## JUVENILE PROBATION

Juvenile Referrals.....	1431
Completed Diversions.....	278

## AVERAGE ADULT PROBATION POPULATION

Standard Supervision.....	1285
Indirect Services.....	316
Intensive Probation Services.....	28

## JUVENILE DELINQUENCY PETITIONS

Filed.....	253
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### DISPOSITIONS

Standard Probation.....	175
Intensive Probation.....	48
Committed to ADJC.....	12
Direct Transfer Adult Ct.....	3

## ADULT NEW CASES GRANTED

Standard Probation.....	759
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## JUVENILE DRUG COURT

Juveniles screened.....	45
Juveniles accepted.....	36
Graduates.....	8

## ADULT DISPOSITIONS

Completed Full term.....	236
Early Termination.....	117
Judicial Termination.....	37
Earned Time Credit.....	11

## JUVENILE COMMUNITY RESTITUTION

### S E R V I C E

Hours Completed.....	5770
Value @ \$8.25 per hour.....	\$ 47,603.00

## ADULT DRUG COURT

Adults Screened.....	89
Adults Accepted.....	54
Graduates.....	37

## ADULT COMMUNITY RESTITUTION SERVICE

Hours Completed.....	18,499
Value @ \$8.25 per hour.....	\$ 148,916.95

## ADULT COMMUNITY RESTITUTION SERVICE

Hours Completed.....	18,499
Value @ \$8.25 per hour.....	\$ 148,916.95

## ADULT PRESENCE INVESTIGATIONS:

Completed.....	1039
Combo Reports Completed.....	131



# The Mohave County Courts Resources

## Bullhead City Court Locations-

### Mohave County Superior Court

2225 Trane Road  
Bullhead City, AZ 86442  
(928)758-0730

### Bullhead City Justice Court

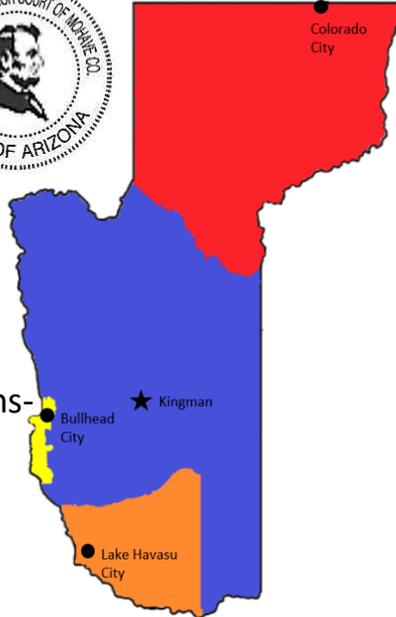
2225 Trane Road  
Bullhead City, AZ 86442  
(928)758-0709

### Bullhead City Municipal Court

1255 Marina Blvd.  
Bullhead City, AZ 86442  
(928)763-0130

### Bullhead City Probation Office

5287 Hwy 95 South  
Bullhead City, AZ 86426  
(928)768-7081



## Arizona Strip Court Locations-

### North Canyon Consolidated Court

2100 South Highway 389  
PO Box 3160  
Colorado City, AZ 86021  
(928)875-8700

### North Canyon Probation Office

435 E. Tabernacle Suite 200  
St. George, UT 84770  
(453)673-2630

## Kingman Court Locations-

### Mohave County Superior Court

401 E. Spring Street  
PO Box 7000  
Kingman, AZ 86402  
(928)753-0713

### Kingman/ Cerbat Justice Court

524 W. Beale Street  
PO Box 29  
Kingman, AZ 86402  
(928)753-7840

### Kingman Municipal Court

219 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kingman, AZ 86401  
(928)753-8193

### Kingman Probation Office

809 E. Beale Street  
Kingman, AZ 86401  
(928)753-0741

## Lake Havasu City Court Locations-

### Mohave County Superior Court

2001 College Drive  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404  
(928)453-0701

### Lake Havasu Consolidated Court

2001 College Drive Suite 148  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404  
(928)453-0705  
Civil Div (928)453-0733

### Lake Havasu City Probation Office

2001 College Drive Suite 129  
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404  
(928)453-0707



## Other Resources

### Arizona Attorney General Office

Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) 1-800-882-4151

### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

Kingman (928)753-0790 ext. 4229  
Lake Havasu (928)453-0705 ext. 3730  
State 1-800-732-8193

### Infant and Toddler Mental Health (First Things First)

(928)753-0744 ext. 4143

### Veterans Court

Kingman (928)753-8193  
Lake Havasu (928)453-0705 ext. 3010

### Victim/ Witness Program

(928)718-4967



azturbocourt.gov



Click for eServices



#mohavecourts



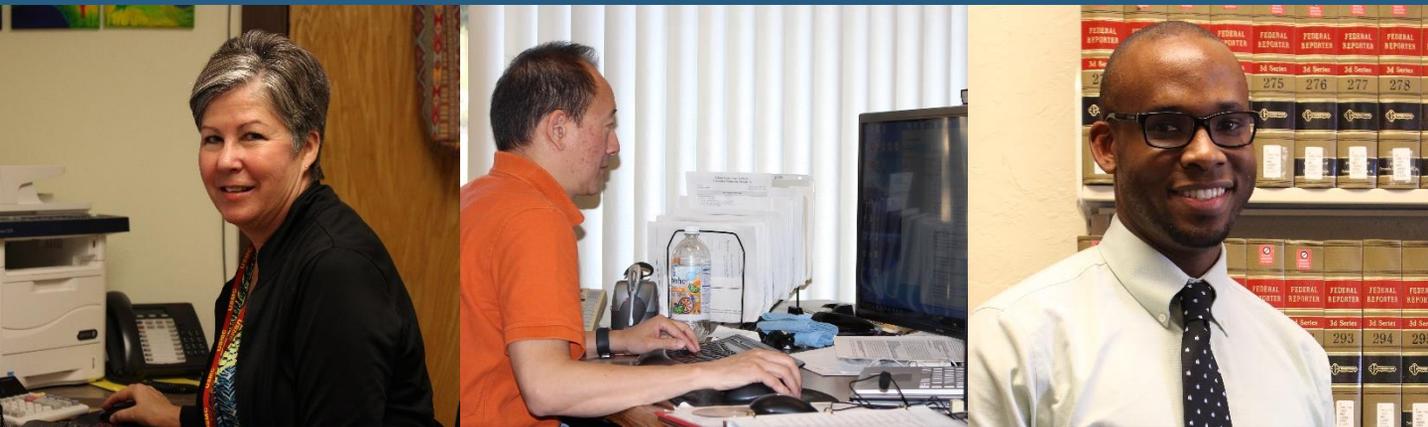
Mohave County Superior and Limited Courts

# Vision Statement

As a high performing court, we are committed to providing the highest quality of justice services and achieving excellence by:

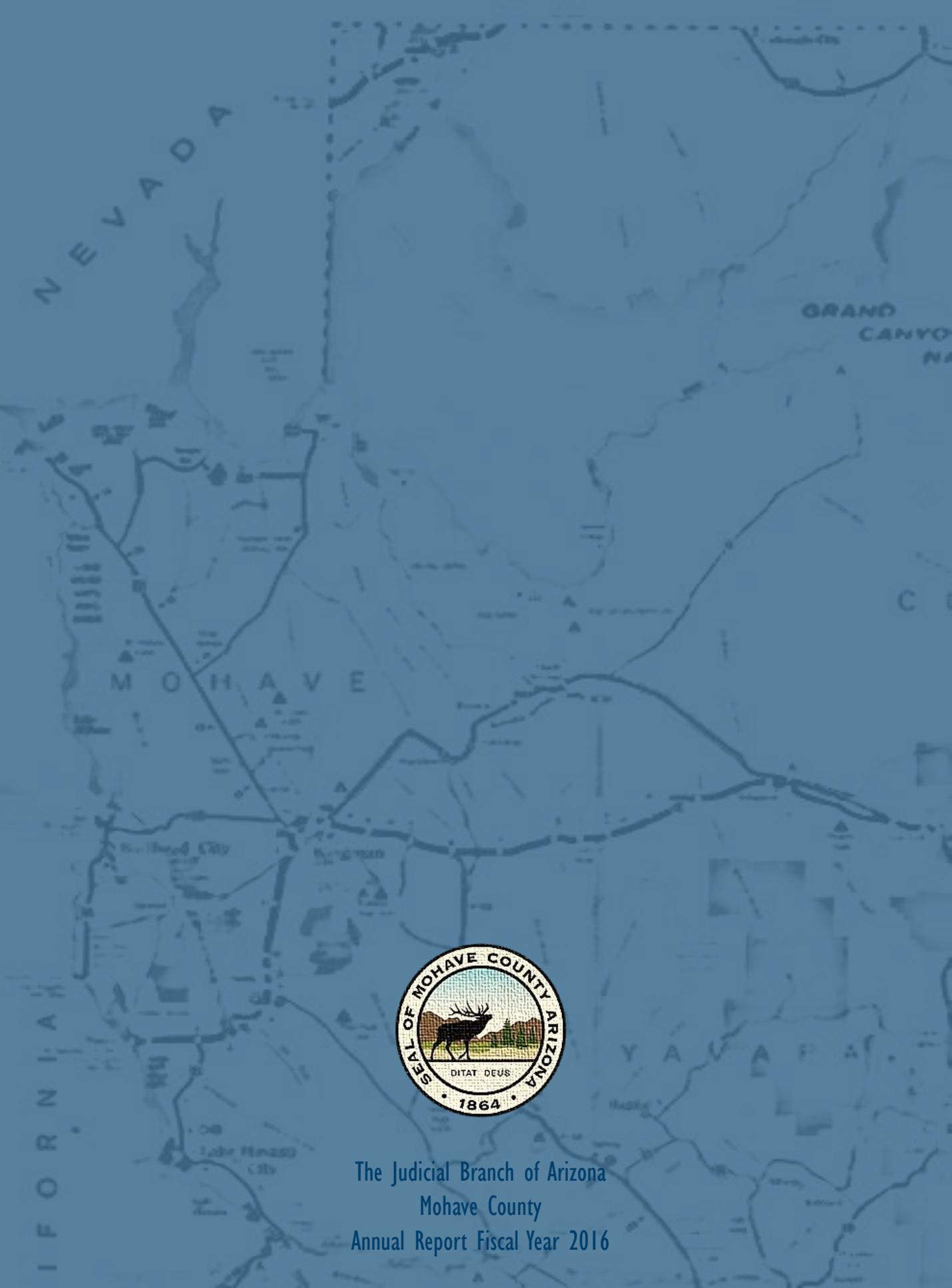
Being fair, accessible, and responsive to the needs of the community.

Providing innovative, collaborative, and technically advanced service to our community and judicial partners.



Recruiting and maintaining motivated, competent, and professional judges and staff.

Acquiring safe, functional, and quality facilities and work environments.



The Judicial Branch of Arizona  
Mohave County  
Annual Report Fiscal Year 2016