

Mohave County Courts

FULL COURT PRESS

Inside this Issue

Probation Leadership
Academy.....Page 2
Lake Havasu Problem
Solving Court.....Page 3
Courthouse Annex
Remodel.....Page 4
High 5.....Page 8
Years of Service.....Page 9



Governor Hobbs Announces Appointment of Aaron Demke to Mohave County Superior Court

On May 21, 2026 Governor Katie Hobbs appointed Judge Aaron Demke to fill the Divion 4 vacancy – appointing him as the newest judge for the Mohave County Superior Court. Judge Demke will fill the remainder of Judge Jantzen’s term following his retirement in April.

Governor Hobbs in announcing the appointment shared the following, “Judge Demke has spent his entire legal career in the service of the people of Mohave County”, noting, “He has established himself as a highly capable lawyer and judicial officer, and I am proud to appoint him to this new role.”

It is noted that Judge Demke is on the ballot for the upcoming election and did win the primary vote.

Probation Staff Graduate from Maricopa County Leadership Academy

In January 2026, 30 leaders from across Arizona came together in downtown Phoenix to begin the six-month 2026 Supervisor Leadership Academy. Among those were Mohave County Probation, Juvenile Department's own Kaitlyn Mattila and Jason Roorda. Over the course of six months, these leaders challenged themselves, expanded their skills, and built tools to bring back and put into practice in Mohave. Throughout the academy, they explored topics such as Leading Change, Crucial Conversations, completed the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) personality assessment, and Cultural Competency, while also developing individualized leadership plans. They also each received 360-degree assessments that provided meaningful feedback from supervisors, peers, and direct reports to help identify leadership strengths and opportunities for growth. They were also given the opportunity to build connections beyond their own departments through peer mentorship. At the conclusion of the program each participant collaborated on a 20-minute presentation delivered to their peers. A graduation ceremony was held on June 25, 2026, at the Downtown Justice Center.

Congratulations to Jason and Kaitlyn. We are proud of you.



Lake Havasu Problem Solving Court

LHC Problem Solving Court (PSC) currently has four (4) court programs:

Veterans Treatment Court (VTC)

Youth Court

Inmate Release Court Program (IRCP)

Building Bridges Court (BBC)

On April 24, 2026, we held our quarterly VTC Graduation Ceremony with members of LHC City Council, Mayor Cal Sheehy, Penny Pew from Congressman Gosar's office, BHC VTC Judge Gilleo, and Kingman VTC staff members in attendance. Seven graduates from all branches of service were celebrated, and following the graduation, LHC VTC Judge Kalauli presented a memorial plaque to Barbara Hanson, who is the surviving spouse of one of our late mentors, Larry Hanson. Larry Hanson's dedication and support to our VTC mentoring program and participants is one of the reasons our VTC program remains so successful.

On April 25, 2026, the day after graduation, we held our 11th Annual Mark S. Nexsen VTC Family Day at the Aquatic Center. VTC graduates, mentors, participants, staffing members, and family members enjoyed an afternoon of free games, swimming, BBQ lunch, live music, and vendors.

Each year the event grows and offers resources and services to veterans and family members.

On May 2, 2026, we held and hosted our annual VTC Softball game against the Kingman VTC at Rotary Park.

The afternoon offered laughs, camaraderie, pro-social networking, and a free BBQ lunch to everyone in attendance.

LHC VTC Judge Kalauli, Kingman VTC Judge Singer, VTC staffing members, Court staff, mentors, participants, graduates, and members of the Echo Band of Brothers made up each team.

Councilman Cameron Moses generously sponsored all the food for BOTH events; Police Chief Troy Stirling handled the barbeque, while VTC staffing members and family volunteered their time for set up, service, and tear down of the event.

LHC VTC won this game 4-3.



Courthouse Annex Remodel

The Historic Courthouse Annex remodel is officially complete. The Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court transitioned into the updated facility on August 21st and began full operations on Monday, August 24, 2026. The Annex now features two modern courtrooms, an expanded public service area, and refreshed office space for staff. Additional office space will be available once renovations to the Historic Courthouse are finalized.

During the week of August 24th, Superior Court CASA and Juvenile Dependency staff settled into their new offices on the second floor. Judge Gregory will begin using the courtroom on this floor the week of September 7th, with Mediation staff moving in the following week. This consolidated space improves public access and brings court services together on a single campus.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, September 3, 2026, celebrated the opening of the newly remodeled courthouse. Presiding Judge Moss, along with Judges Dave Huerta and Dave Wayt, shared their appreciation for the upgraded facility and the expanded resources it provides to the community.



Mohave County Probation Department Celebrated National Pretrial, Probation, Parole Supervision Week

The department started the week with a swearing-in of new officers on Monday July 13, 2026, during which each new Juvenile Detention Officer, Surveillance Officer, or Probation Officer took an individual oath in front of family, friends, and co-workers. The event was also attended by Court Administrator Kip Anderson, Supervisor Martin, and County Manager Strahl. The oath was administered by Presiding Judge Steven Moss, and the signed oaths were presented by Adult Chief Ronnie Walker and Juvenile Deputy Director Natalie Eggers. Congratulations to all our new officers. Taking on the responsibilities that come with being court employees, officers, and life changers is no easy task. We value our employees who put their safety on the line to protect the public, serve justice, and change lives.



From left to right: Steve Ruiz, Michael Selby, Ronnie Walker, Natalie Eggers, Sidney Rascon, Myra Alvarado, Judge Steven Moss, Angelica Rivas, Garth Gardner, Michael MacEwen, Joshua Carrico

The department continued the appreciation week by hosting a BBQ in the Hualapai Mountains for all staff and their families on July 15, 2026. The event was also attended by San Bernadino County Probation Officer, Kenny Dunlop and Juvenile Parole Officer, Thomas Rogers. Both individuals help us meet our mission and collaborate with us throughout the year.

The department presented annual awards to the following winners to recognize their significant contributions throughout the year.

Mohave County Probation Department Celebrated National Pretrial, Probation, Parole Supervision Week cont.



Juvenile Detention Officer of
the Year: Misty Mall



Excellence in Education:
Craig Lee and Joshua Scurti



Adult Line Officer of the Year:
Kevin Eiser



Directors Choice:
Ethan Armendariz

Mohave County Probation Department Celebrated National Pretrial, Probation, Parole Supervision Week



Supervisor of the Year:
Susan Davidson



Chiefs Choice:
James Owens



Mission Possible:
Julie Somma



Employee of the Year:
Sara Juntunen

Mohave County Probation Department Celebrated National Pretrial, Probation, Parole Supervision Week



Juvenile Line Officer of the Year:
Kaylynn Martin



High Five:
Jason Roorda, Kevin Bonilla, Steve Radmanovich, James
Owens, Ethan Armendariz, Jeffrey Lindemann

High Five Recognition

Clerk of Superior Court

Joyce Garcia

Probation

James Owens
Stevan Radmanovich
Jeffrey Lindemann
Ethan Armendariz
Kevin Bonilla
Jason Roorda
Sara Juntunen
DeShae Fangmeyer
Sabrina Bland
Brenda Ellis
Kaylynn Martin
Matthew SeLeague
Patricia Zirkle
Megan DeBaca
Paul Howard
Natalie Orozco
Kathy Bachler

Superior Court

Dawn Duffey
Katie Ruggles
Brian Kelly

New Judicial Employees

Lake Havasu Justice Court

Marissa Cabrera

Clerk of Superior Court

Nicole Mendenhall

Viridiana Castrejon

Superior Court

John Ciofalo

Sharisse Yarborough

Kimberly Williams

Blanca Christian

Elyssa Nunez

Judicial Years of Service

Superior Court

Katrina Carroll - 5 Years

Probation

Ethan Armendariz - 5 Years

Natalie Eggers - 15 Years

Patricia Zirkle - 20 Years

Clerk of Superior Court

Celina Perez - 5 Years

Thank you for your service and dedication to the Mohave County Courts!



ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARDS

Nominations are being accepted for recognition in the following categories:

✱ **Individual Employee Award**-which recognizes an outstanding non-supervisory employee by demonstrating:

- ✓ Outstanding Job Performance;
- ✓ Exemplary Customer Service; and/or
- ✓ Made a noteworthy job-related accomplishment that improved court operations and/or went above and beyond the call of duty in furthering one or more of the Court's strategic areas, including: 1) Enhancing and Promoting Access to Justice; 2) Maintaining Public Trust and Confidence; 3) Protecting Children, Families and Communities; 4) Leveraging Resources and Innovation; and 5) Empowering and Investing in Our Workforce.

✱ **The TEAM (Together Employees Achieve More) Award**-which recognizes a group of two or more employees who worked together in achieving a goal, critical project, or outcome that:

- ✓ Greatly improved court operations;
- ✓ Improved customer service; and/or
- ✓ Went above and beyond in furthering one or more of the Court's strategic areas including 1) Enhancing and Promoting Access to Justice; 2) Maintaining Public Trust and Confidence; 3) Protecting Children, Families and Communities; 4) Leveraging Resources and Innovation; and 5) Empowering and Investing in Our Workforce.

✱ **The Supervisor Award**-which recognizes a supervisory employee who demonstrates exemplary supervisory behaviors such as:

- ✓ Fairness and Respect
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Creates a Supportive Work Environment
- ✓ Is Accountable

Nomination forms are available on SharePoint or contact Superior Court Human Resources at (928) 718-4928.

Submit completed nominations to Superior Court Human Resources,
P.O. Box 7000, Kingman, AZ. 86402
or email to MohaveCountySuperiorCourtHR@courts.az.gov

The deadline to nominate a judicial employee is November 13, 2026.

Canon 1 of the Code of Conduct for Judicial Employees -

A Judicial Employee shall uphold and promote the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety.

Promoting Confidence in the Judiciary

A judicial employee shall act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary, and shall avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety.

Comment

1. The fundamental attitudes and work habits of individual judicial employees reflect on the integrity and independence of the judiciary and are of vital importance in maintaining the confidence of the public in the judiciary. Honesty and truthfulness are paramount.
2. Public confidence in the judiciary is eroded by improper conduct and conduct that creates the appearance of impropriety. This principle applies to both professional conduct and personal conduct that affects the public perception of the court.
3. A judicial employee should expect to be the subject of public scrutiny that might be viewed as burdensome if applied to other citizens, and must accept the restrictions imposed by the code.
4. Conduct that compromises or appears to compromise the independence, integrity, and impartiality of the judiciary or of a judicial employee undermines public confidence in the judiciary. Because it is not practicable to list all such conduct, this rule is necessarily cast in general terms.
5. Actual improprieties include violations of law, court rules or provisions of this code. The test for appearance of impropriety is whether the conduct would create in reasonable minds a perception that the judicial employee violated this code or engaged in other conduct that reflects adversely on the judicial employee's honesty, impartiality, temperament, or fitness. A judicial employee's personal and family circumstances are generally not appropriate considerations on which to presume an appearance of impropriety.
6. Consistent with other requirements and following consultation with a supervisor, an employee may address false, misleading, or unfair allegations or attacks on the employee's actions, character, or reputation in a manner that serves to restore or maintain public confidence in the judiciary. Judicial employees designated by judicial leadership to do so, may respond to or issue statements on behalf of a court or judicial officer, subject to Rule 81, Rules of the Supreme Court, Arizona Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 2, Rule 2.10(E).

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” -

Martin Luther King Jr.

Mohave County Courts

415 East Spring Street, Kingman, Arizona 86401

Phone: (928) 718-4928; Fax (928) 753-8908

Email: mohavecountysuperiorcourthr@courts.az.gov

Webpage: Mohave County Superior Court Website: (mohavecourts.com)