

2023

MOHAVE COUNTY COURTS

# ANNUAL REPORT

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES IN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE.



FY 2023

(JULY, 2022 - JUNE, 2023)





# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDING JUDGE

## STEVEN C. MOSS

This past year the courts have seen an increase in filings and work across most all case types. Judicial calendars have been busy, jury trial settings are at an all-time high and court revenue has increased in most of the justice courts. The court has continued to be engaged in projects to expand new technology and the Superior Court completed a remote Civil Jury Trial pilot program that has helped set standards for the State. Probation staff continue to support the Health and Wellness court programs that operate in all three Superior Court locations as well as the Quality of Life court that is held in both the Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court and the Lake Havasu City Justice Court. These programs provide support to many individuals who are working to make significant changes in their life. I also note that the Municipal Courts have well established Veteran Courts that are helping many individuals make significant changes and receive the necessary support to re-engage within the community. The efforts of all judges and staff during this past year has been outstanding. The rule of law is foundational to the effective operations of the court and to society. The ability of the court to hear and decide cases in a timely and effective manner is critical. The courts are multipurpose institutions who rely on the hard work of other government agencies including the local county attorney office, the public defense agencies, local private attorneys and law enforcement. We appreciate the good working relationship we have with these agencies and the fact that we continue to work closely with them to ensure an independent judiciary. The court continues to look for ways to improve services and ensure the public and those appearing in court each day receive the services they need. The court is supported by the efforts of people working together to ensure matters are heard in a timely and professional manner. I note the ongoing excellent work of court IT staff, administrative and office staff and the work done by all judicial officers in making the system run efficiently and helping to enhance confidence and trust in the judicial branch.



Please take a few minutes to review this report as it highlights the many efforts that are being done to improve court processes and procedures. My thanks to the Arizona Supreme Court, the County Board of Supervisors and County Management for their continued support of the courts and our efforts to accomplish the mission of the Court. We strive to make a difference in people's lives in the communities we serve each day.

Steven C. Moss



## COUNTY & COURT INFORMATION

### MOHAVE COUNTY INFORMATION



Mohave County is the 5th largest county geographically in the United States with a population of 221,000

### SUPERIOR COURT INFORMATION

#### 11 Judicial Officers:

- 7 elected constitutional judges
- 4 appointed commissioners/judge pro tems

3 Courthouses located in Kingman, Bullhead City, and Lake Havasu City  
103 court staff

### JUSTICE COURT INFORMATION

#### 5 Judges/Justices of the Peace:

- 44 court staff
- Kingman/Cerbat - 2JPs
  - Bullhead -1JP
  - Lake Havasu -1JP
  - North Canyon -1JP

### JUSTICE COURT INFORMATION

#### 3 Judges/Magistrates:

-Kingman, Bullhead, and Lake Havasu

### PROBATION DEPT. INFORMATION

Adult Probation: 54 staff

Juvenile Probation: 53 staff (including a Juvenile Detention facility)

### STATE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

#### Judge Rick Williams

- Committee on Juvenile Court
- Committee on Leadership and Workforce Excellence

#### Judge Megan McCoy

- Committee on Superior Court
- Judicial Conference Planning Subcommittee

#### Judge Barbara Brown

- Co-Chair and Instructor Limited Jurisdiction Judges Orientation group
- Co-Chair Annual Traffic Conference
- Committee on Judicial Education and Training
- Arizona Commission on Judicial Conduct
- Board for the Arizona Justice of the Peace Association

#### Christina Spurlock

- Commission on Victims in the Court
- Court Automation Coordinating Committee

#### Kyle Rimel

- Technical Advisory Council

#### Kip Anderson

- Arizona Commission on Access to Justice
- Committee on Judicial Education and Training

#### Kim Chappellear

- Family Court Improvement Committee

#### Laurie Allen

- Court Interpreter Program Advisory Committee
- AZ Supreme Court Data Standardization Advisory Committee

#### Alan Palomino

- Committee on Probation
- Safety Advisory Committee
- Committee on Probation Education
- Committee on Leadership and Workforce Excellence

#### Josh Frisby

- Committee on Probation
- Committee on Judicial Education and Training
- Juvenile Strategic Agenda Planning

#### Della Hiser

- General Jurisdiction User Group



# ACCESS TO SERVICES

## EXTENDING REMOTE AND ONLINE SERVICES

As the 5th largest geographical county in the United States, we are faced with many challenges to ensure our citizens receive the court services they need. Our efforts in this area have been extensive and during the past year, Mohave County Court Technology has built in new services, extended programs and enhanced our online presence to assist in meeting our ever growing remote needs.



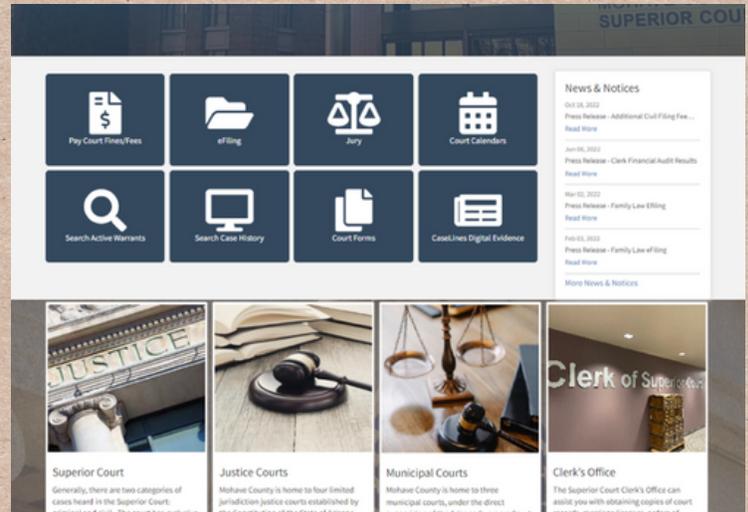
Our main focus this year was due in part to being awarded a project by the National Center of State Courts to determine the validity of conducting Civil Jury Trials in a 100% remote forum, from Voir Dire to Verdict. This project was a great success as we have conducted 3 jury trials in this fashion during FY23 and fully documented the process and procedures for other courts to follow in our path. Additional remote services Court IT has implemented over the past year include a newly redesigned IVR system for the Jurors in Mohave County, and increasing the mobility of the Probation Officers by installing hardened laptops in each of the Probation vehicles allowing the officers to be fully mobile. We look to continue to explore new ways to improve our services and meet the needs of our citizens.

## FAMILY LAW ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Community Legal Services (CLS) is a non-profit law firm committed to increase fairness in the civil justice system by providing legal assistance, advice, or representation, self-help materials and legal education so people can know their rights. CLS has reinstated their Family Law Assistance Program (FLAP) within the Superior Court to make their service more available to patrons of the court. This program is designed to provide legal services for eligible applicants in Mohave County. They will focus on family and children services such as divorce, child custody, and domestic violence. CLS provides this service on a weekly basis in the Law Library Conference Room in the Kingman Courthouse. The Court hopes to help them expand to Bullhead City and Lake Havasu City in the future.

## NEW MOHAVE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT WEBSITE

On September 26, 2022 the court rolled out a new public website. This was a year long project that involved converting the entire site over to a new platform.



Some of the features of the new web site include:

- Realtime language translation of the entire site.
- Search bar that will allow the users to easily search for any word, form or phrase on the site from a single location.
- Notice bar that can easily be turned on and off for special circumstances that may impact our services.
- A dynamic “Most Popular” menu bar that automatically changes based upon the pages users access most.
- Service centric elements to allow users to easily find the service they need without having to understand which court provides that service.
- Department specific links that allow the users to quickly navigate to the department they wish to deal with.
- GPS map that pinpoints all Court and Probation offices within Mohave County for easy access.
- Provides departments with the ability to assign “editors” to modify content on their individual pages without the involvement of Court IT.
- Provides easy access to our Digital Evidence platform and guides the users through appearing into our courts remotely using a series of step-by-step videos.



## REMOTE CIVIL JURY TRIAL PILOT

Following the adoption of remote jury selection, Administrative Order 2021-50 was issued on April 14, 2021, authorizing Mohave County Superior Court to continue and advance its remote services by becoming a pilot court to implement a fully remote civil jury trial.

On July 14, 2022, the first non-contested single day civil jury trial was held, with the Honorable Kenneth L. Gregory presiding.

On February 13, 2023 the first contested four day civil jury trial was held, with the Honorable Steven C. Moss presiding. Unlike the first civil jury trial, this trial was fully contested with opposing counsel and multiple witnesses. Jury selection began the morning of February 13 and ended by 11:30am on the same day. The trial then began with opening statements immediately following jury selection. The trial continued for 4 days with a great deal of success. The verdict being delivered on the fourth day after the jury completed remote deliberation.

The jurors noted they were able to participate effectively and both counsel and the judge felt the trial was completed in an effective and efficient manner.

## JUROR APPRECIATION WEEK

It can be hard to get excited when we receive a jury summons. It can be an inconvenience to our daily schedule, however, our judicial system depends upon citizens to serve as jurors, and this service is indispensable. The week of May 1st through May 5th, we celebrated our jurors and their commitment to serve. This is what some Jurors had to say:

"I am a stay at home mom and wife with 4 children. Two teens and two 6 year old twins. My husband and I work very hard at directing and teaching them good ways so that they will be productive citizens in life so that they may never find themselves in trouble with the law."

"It was a pleasure serving on a jury so much so that I asked that my name be put back in the jury pool so that I may hopefully serve again."

"Your staff are awesome, and I appreciate the experience and courtesy they gave me, and I thank you for your letter. I showed it to my husband with a big smile on my face."

"Thank you for the work you do and have a blessed weekend!"

## DIGITAL EVIDENCE PORTAL

To assist all parties, the Clerk's Office in Kingman has installed a CaseLines Kiosk so that all users can come to the Court with their evidence. Parties that do not have easy access to scan and upload their exhibits can set up an appointment to meet with the Clerk's Office to receive assistance with converting their evidence into a digital format for upload into the portal. They are also able to bring in their external drives and cellular devices so that their evidence can be uploaded with assistance from a staff member. The Bullhead City and Lake Havasu City Offices are also equipped with scanners so that parties can submit their exhibits to the Clerk for upload to the portal in the remote offices.

It is important to note that although CaseLines is mandatory in every case type, litigants that are not able to utilize the portal will still be allowed to provide their exhibits to the Clerk for marking. Typically, the Clerk will scan and upload the exhibits on their behalf and then return their exhibits at the time of their hearing. The Clerk's Office is working hard to ensure that litigants still have easy access to justice as we move forward with the portal. Questions have been asked about how a member of the public can access exhibits. The Clerk's Office will still allow members of the public to view admitted evidence using the new kiosk. Of course, the Clerk still reviews the evidence to make sure that sensitive information is not provided to any member of the public, just as we would with physical exhibits, pursuant to A.R.S. Supreme Court Rules, Rule 123 (i)(2).

Since July 1, 2022, Mohave County Superior Court has been using CaseLines for every case type. This means that anyone who would like to present evidence to the court for their hearing will be able to use the portal. Any party that would like access to the evidence portal must correspond with the Clerk's Office by emailing [MohaveDE@courts.az.gov](mailto:MohaveDE@courts.az.gov) prior to their hearing.





## TIMELY RESOLUTION/CASE OUTCOMES

### STRATEGIC AGENDA AWARD

On October 26, 2022, the Court received a 2022 Strategic Agenda Award during the annual Leadership Conference. The award was received in the category of 'Advancements in Technology' and recognized the excellent work that was done in establishing procedures for and completing the first fully remote jury trial. The success of this project included the work of many individuals but in particular recognized the efforts of Heather Yarbrough-Puett, Cassie Oberlin, Kyle Rimel and the Honorable Ken Gregory who presided over the initial trial.



Certainly the work done on this project was a collaborative effort between court IT, the clerk's office, and judicial staff. On Monday, February 13, 2023, Presiding Judge Steve Moss conducted the 2nd remote civil jury trial. This trial lasted 4 days and involved several witnesses and exhibits. All aspects of the trial went very smoothly with limited interruptions and problems. The remote trial process continues to be fine-tuned and a full report was completed and provided to the Supreme Court in June, 2023.

### REUNIFICATION DAY

When children are removed from their homes and become subject to a juvenile dependency matter, parents must invest significant effort and commitment to regain custody and restore their family's unity. Reunification Day honors the accomplishment of parents who have taken these steps and successfully reunited with their children. With the help of community partners like Powerhouse Kiwanis, the Court Appointed Special Advocates Council, Department of Child Safety, and Mentally Ill Kids In Distress, together we held our first annual Reunification Day on June 9, 2023. Along with approximately 100 parents and their children who were safely returned home over the past year, the Juvenile Bench, including Presiding Juvenile Judge R. Williams, Judge M. McCoy, Judge A. Demke, and retired Judge R. Weiss were on hand to congratulate the parents.





### ONE-STEP JURY REVIEW

In August of 2022, Mohave Superior Court participated in a workshop to explore the possibility of converting our current jury process from two-step to one-step. After the workshop, with some reservations, in true Mohave fashion, we were determined to explore the process. We devised a plan to implement with one criminal division and then set a timeline to roll it out to all other trial divisions. In September of 2022, we received our new one-step jury pool. The Honorable Derek Carlisle, Division II, was able to conduct three one-step jury trials between November 2022 and December 2022. By February 2023, all four criminal trial divisions were on the one-step summoning. From September 2022 to June, 2023, we have managed two different jury pools: a two-step pool and a one-step pool, in order to evaluate the benefits of a one-step process. Analysis will continue for the next few months before a final decision is made toward the end of 2023. However, this time the additional time demands on staff and the additional costs are outweighing some of the positive benefits. The "Jury" is still out!



### MOHAVE COUNTY ADULT RECOVERY COURT

The Mohave County Adult Recovery Court ("ARC") is a post-conviction treatment court whose participants are evaluated as a moderate-to-high risk of recidivism, and in moderate-to-high need of therapeutic services. ARC connects its participants with appropriate treatment services, taking into account the severity of the participant's substance use disorder and mental and behavioral health needs. ARC promotes therapeutic interventions while holding participants accountable for their behaviors.

ARC started as a pilot program in Kingman in January 2012. Over time, the ARC program has expanded and now operates in Kingman, Bullhead City, and Lake Havasu City. The program is presided over by Judge Williams. ARC can accommodate up to 60-75 participants total, and averages approximately 45-55 clients at any given time. Currently, ARC has 48 participants.

Since January 2012, ARC has worked with 542 participants. During this time, 145 participants have successfully completed the program, resulting in a 27% graduation rate.

The primary metric to determine the success of a treatment court is the recidivism rate. Of 145 graduates, 30 have reoffended resulting in a subsequent misdemeanor or felony conviction. The data reveals that 79% of ARC participants have remained crime free since program completion. Put another way, ARC has an overall recidivism rate of 23%, which is significantly lower than the national average of 38%.

Maintaining and analyzing data on a regular basis will ensure that Mohave County's ARC continues to address the substance use disorders of criminal justice-involved people, promote public safety, and strengthen our communities as effectively and efficiently as possible.



## FACILITIES & TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

### COURTROOM AND SECURITY TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENTS

Mohave County Superior Court has implemented a digital evidence portal that enhances the efficiency and accessibility of the judicial process. The portal enables attorneys and parties to upload evidence before the hearing, which the judge can review and approve prior to trial. The courtroom equipment can then display the evidence to the judge, jurors, witnesses, and the public, either in person or remotely. In addition, court security is a vital concern for all courtrooms and courthouses in Mohave County. In FY23, grant funding was leveraged to upgrade legacy security camera systems in various court buildings. The new systems provide higher video resolution and better viewing capabilities for court security and department administrators, ensuring a safer environment for all.

### TECHNOLOGY SERVICES



As new services and technology are introduced into the Mohave County Court system, so are the needs for qualified technical resources to maintain these specialized systems. During FY23, Mohave County Superior Court IT Department expanded to include a Courtroom Technologist. This individual specializes as a first line of technical resources for all technology in the courtrooms. In addition, this position is key to the success of the remote Jury Trial process as they act as a digital liaison between the Judge and the remote participants, including the Jurors.

### COURT SPACE INNOVATION WORKSHOP

Earlier this year, the National Center for State Courts invited nominations from courts across the country to showcase innovative courtroom technology and conceptual designs for reallocating court space to provide modern services to the communities they serve. Mohave County Superior Court was honored to be one of the 13 selected courts nationwide, and the only court chosen for two design concepts: courtroom technology innovation and rethinking existing court space.

In June, 2023 the selected courts congregated in Indianapolis to exchange ideas and collaborate on improving court services. Representing Mohave County Superior Court in this endeavor were Kyle Rimel and Heather Yarbrough-Puett.



"This challenge presented us with an exciting opportunity to gain insight into the experiences of our counterparts across the country and the challenges they are encountering," stated Mohave County Superior Court IT Director Kyle Rimel. "It is reassuring to discover that we are not alone in the daily obstacles we face. Moreover, it is gratifying to acknowledge that our small court has not only kept pace with, but in some cases even outpaced other courts in technological advancements."





### LIVESCAN

The Clerk of Superior Court was awarded \$65,000 in Federal monies from a National Criminal History Improvement Grant to purchase a Live Scan machine. Mohave County Superior Court has been a leader in the State of Arizona in electronic disposition reporting, with up to 97% of all disposition being electronically reported versus sending a paper disposition report to the Department of Public Safety (DPS). The purchase of this equipment will improve the process of reporting criminal histories.

Currently, most defendants with felony cases in Mohave County are analyzed using 2 Factor Identification Devices (2FID) which reports back to our court whether a defendant has been previously fingerprinted in the State of Arizona. Unfortunately, repeat criminal offenders or defendants who have been previously printed for other reasons can slip through the cracks as there is no current way to identify if the fingerprint record on file with DPS belongs to the case for which the defendant is being seen. It is not until after the time of the sentencing hearing that the Court learns that there is no current PCN on file for the defendant.

The purchase of the LiveScan machine will allow the Court to capture the fingerprint of these individuals while they are in the courthouse. This will help improve court records and ensure individuals are properly matched to their criminal case.



### COURTHOUSE PHASE 2

Court and county staff have recently completed work with staff from DFDG Architecture to finalize updates to the Phase 2 plans of the Historic Courthouse remodel. The plans include remodeled courtrooms and office space for the Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court and a new jury assembly room for the Superior Court. The new space for the Justice Court is critical as it will allow them to move out of the 'trailer' they have occupied for the last 20 years. A new jury assembly area will be created in the historic courthouse and this room will be accessed through the new courthouse. This will improve the juror experience and enhance the operations of the court. Additionally, work will be completed to refurbish the historic courtroom on the 3rd floor. This will ensure the beauty of the historic courtroom lasts for many years to come and will provide the court with a working courtroom for visiting judges and for future growth in the county. A tentative budget for the work has been approved, although final Board approval will be needed once the project goes out to bid.

### RECOGNITION OF IT STAFF

This past year the Mohave County Court IT Department has received some attention. The work with with Remote Jury Trials, technology advancements made within the courtrooms and the remote connectivity services that are now offered to our community has placed Mohave County Courts in the spotlight for our innovation, vision and local technical skill sets.

Mohave County Court IT was invited and participated as a panelist at the Western Regional Court Administration conference in Lake Tahoe as well as the Arizona Leadership conference. Both presentations were received well by many others Courts around the nation and have resulted in design consultations of similar systems in Alaska, Texas and New York.

In addition, the National Center for State Courts accepted submittal of a visionary court space redesign that would allow for greater services while reducing the physical footprint of the courtrooms. This recognition resulted in an invitation to attend a three-day work group to help design courtrooms and court spaces of the future.



## PROFESSIONAL & ENGAGED WORKFORCE

### JUDGE AND COMMISSIONER

#### SWEARING-IN CEREMONY JAN 3, 2023

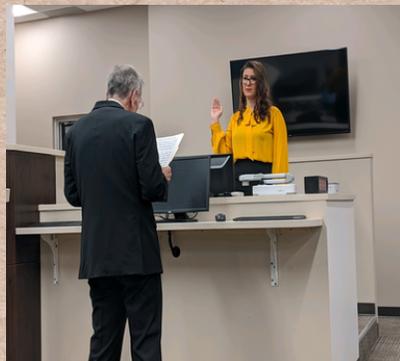


On January 3, 2023 scores of spectators and participants packed a courtroom in Kingman for a Tuesday morning swearing in ceremony. Retired Judge Sheldon Weisberg swore in the new judges. The event was conducted by Presiding Superior Court Judge Steve Moss, who stated “area communities and their residents can be proud and confident in the judicial officers who were sworn into office and began new terms on the bench.” He also noted “I’ve worked with these folks for many years. These are members of our communities who we can truly trust with our life, liberty and property.” Also Sworn in were newly elected Justice of The Peace David Wayt and Clerk of The Court Christina Spurlock



*Former Kingman City Council member and County Prosecutor David Wayt was sworn in as Kingman Cerbat Justice Court Justice of the Peace.*

*Elected in the August primary and unopposed in the November General Election, Christina Spurlock was sworn in to begin her first term as Clerk of Superior Court*



### ALLRISE.ORG FACULTY

Judge Rick Williams was approved by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs at the U.S. Department of Justice, to serve as faculty for AllRise.org (formerly National Association of Drug Court Professionals) and the Treatment Court Institute. Judge Williams will have the opportunity to share his experience and insights at trainings across the country.



### SECURITY OPERATIONS

County Security staff have been actively involved in several training programs to improve their knowledge and skills. The court bailiffs and court security assistant (CSA) attended the security officer academy offered by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) during this past year. Additionally, the CSA successfully completed the CSO firearms academy and CSO firearms trainer academy.

The Clerk of Court purchased a live scan fingerprinting machine and security staff are now able to fingerprint criminal defendants, job applicants, CASA volunteers, and others onsite. This service provides improved results and faster service. Court security staff have also been trained on Naloxone and provide active shooter response classes. The court has also upgraded the security cameras in the Kingman Courthouse by installing 14 additional cameras.

### ADULT PROBATION AWARDS

On July 19, 2023, while celebrating National Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week, the Probation Department recognized award winners chosen as their nominations for the Arizona Chief Probation Officer’s Association Statewide Awards. These included:

#### AZCPO AWARDS

- Joshua Scurti - Juvenile Detention Officer of the Year
- James Owens - Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year
- Brittini Guzman - Adult Probation Officer of the Year
- Heidi Schmidt - Employee of the Year
- Ed Prell - Supervisor of the Year



### ADULT PROBATION

The Adult Probation Department began the post-covid year working with the jail to increase the ability for short-term jail sanctions (48 hours) for our recovery courts. The department was also able to establish jail sanctions for all felony offenders and also worked to reinstitute work-release for defendants serving court ordered jail sentences. New Arizona State Terms and Conditions of Probation were implemented and probation worked with the criminal bench to create Mohave County Special Terms and Conditions to allow the sentencing judge to order unique terms.

The Pre-conviction Health and Wellness Court (HAWC) program operating in Kingman and Lake Havasu City began its third year and we currently have 6 participants. The Post-conviction HAWC program began in September 2021. However, because it did not technically meet the criteria of a diversion program, the program was dissolved.

The Quality of Life program, is a drug diversion program that focuses on drug recovery for lower risk drug defendants offered in lieu of a felony conviction with dismissal of all charges upon completion of the program. The Kingman/Cerbat Justice Court has operated their program for a couple years and this year, Lake Havasu City Justice Court began their program. Both Courts utilize Adult Probation Services for case management and supervision of QOL participants.

The Fugitive Apprehension Unit operated with the U.S. Marshal Service, Arizona DPS, GIITEM Task Force, State, and Local Law enforcement on more than sixteen joint operations, several of which involved high profile suspects with serious violent offenses.

### LINE OFFICER OF THE YEAR 2023 JAMES OWENS - MOHAVE COUNTY JUVENILE

James Owens sets the bar for how a probation officer should advocate for juveniles. James started with Mohave County as a Youth Care Worker in the AIM evening reporting center. As one of our first staff to attend the Kid's at Hope Master's Program, he truly believes and lives that "All kids are capable of success. No exceptions."



Over the last 4 years James has served the community in standard and JIPS caseloads, as well as serves as the specialty court officer overseeing Juvenile Recovery Court, and Juvenile Health and Wellness Court. James also raises fentanyl awareness within our county by training stakeholders, community members, and detained and non-detained youth on the dangers of this deadly drug. James is a phenomenal officer safety instructor who is passionate about improving precision and tactical skills in all our staff on the range, in the field, and through Simunition training.

James has gone above and beyond his scope of work including his coordination with employees throughout the department to staff the Mohave County Fair. This has even led to the capture of dangerous offenders. Most notably, is the outcome achieved through James' immediate response to a runaway juvenile. While minimum effort probation work would have allowed simply for the filing of a warrant that standard was not acceptable to him. James went above and beyond to ultimately investigate this case where he tracked the runaway as far as West Jordan, Utah where she was rescued from an adult sex offender's basement in just two days. While James credits the work to multiple agencies without his relentless and committed approach, she may have never been able to start a journey of healing.

### CASA VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

Each year, the Mohave County CASA program staff organize and host a Volunteer Appreciation Event in collaboration with the CASA Council of Mohave County. This event is to highlight and celebrate all the hard work that CASA Volunteers put into each of the dependency cases that they work on. This year our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held at the London Bridge Resort, in Lake Havasu City on April 25, 2023.



The CASA volunteers were joined by Presiding Judge Moss, Judge Williams, Judge McCoy, Judge Demke, and Lake Havasu City Mayor Cal Sheehy. Mayor Sheehy presented Judge Moss with a proclamation, naming April "Volunteer Appreciation Month", and recognizing CASA Volunteers' dedication to serving the foster children in Mohave County. In addition to the proclamation, the lights on the London Bridge were changed to red, white, and blue, for the night, in honor of the CASAs.



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIP

### IITH ANNUAL NORTHWEST ARIZONA SYMPOSIUM

The Mohave County Superior Court Team held their 11th Annual Northwest Arizona Symposium on Infant and Toddler Mental Health in April, 2023. The informative and interactive event is free to all attendees through funding provided by Arizona's First Things First. More than two-hundred professionals from Mohave and La Paz Counties, and across Arizona, gathered at the London Bridge Resort in Lake Havasu City for two days of workshops, keynotes, and networking opportunities.

The Infant and Toddler Mental Health Symposium focuses on the importance of issues concerning children ages birth to three, and their families. The Symposium brings together multi-disciplinary evidenced-based practices to aid in the prevention, recognition, assessment, and treatment of traumatic experiences in young children and their families. The goal of this event is to provide an opportunity to enhance professional, investigative, and legal skills when dealing with all forms of maltreatment including those related to family violence.

There were three plenary sessions for all attendees to take part in and twelve workshops with nationally and state recognized presenters that attendees could choose from in breakout sessions.



### PROBATION HOSTS GIRL'S DAY OUT

The Lake Havasu City office of the Mohave County Juvenile Probation Department hosted a "Girl's Day Out" on February 11, 2023 at the Arizona State University Lake Havasu Campus. Presenters from the Mohave County Health Department provided information about healthy relationships, self-esteem, life goals, personal values, self-awareness, critical thinking skills and emotional health. All participants were provided backpacks with hygiene items and other fun and interesting necessities. Participants also were treated to lunch, a raffle with awesome prizes, and a softball home run derby. This event provided an opportunity for probation staff to interact with these youth in a fun and positive environment that exposed them to pro-social activities to help them make better choices.

### PROBATION HOSTS BOY'S DAY OUT

On March 4th, 2023 youth on probation from Mohave and La Paz Counties as well as the Harbor House attended Probation Department's "Boy's Day Out". The Day started with a motivational speech from Shawn Harper. Mr. Harper is a successful business owner and former NFL player and spoke about tackling the hard things in life.

Attendees were broken into groups, one toured the Mohave Community College campus and heard information from campus recruiters. In this session they discussed attending MCC as well as information on how to apply. The other group attended a session from Mohave County Probation Officers Zirkle and Mattila where they discussed goal setting. Arizona Youth Partnership (AzYP) conducted an escape room where each group of youths had to use teamwork to complete challenges and reach their goal.

At the end of the day the boys were provided one last motivational speech by Zion from notMYkid. During this discussion Zion talked about where he came from and how he needed to make positive change in his life as a youth to be successful today.



### KIDS AT HOPE DAY

On June 13, 2023, the Kingman and Bullhead City Juvenile Probation offices came together with their male youth on probation for a Kids at Hope Event, because ALL children are capable of success, No Exceptions.

Youth and staff participated in a morning of basketball. Afterwards, the youth enjoyed a BBQ lunch and learned about the benefits of positive recreation and community. They played activities and games as well to practice being pro-social in a positive environment.

Events and activities such as this also provide opportunities for open and positive conversation that reinforces effective communication between youth and their probation officers.





### VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

Members of the Kingman and Lake Havasu City Court teams attended the NADCP RISE22 Conference in July of 2022. The team presented to a packed room of Veterans Treatment Court professionals at the conference on the importance of a Veterans Resource Team and Alumni Group for long term recovery management. The Kingman Municipal Court had 11 graduates this last year bringing the total number of graduates since the inception of the Kingman program on 12/9/15 to 89 graduates.

The Kingman and Lake Havasu City Veterans Treatment Courts are scheduled to play in their first Veteran Court softball game against one another. The winner will be awarded the VTC trophy (pictured). The hope is to use this event to build camaraderie within the two programs.



### QUALITY OF LIFE COURT

The Kingman/Cerbat Quality of Life Court began several years ago as a pilot program geared towards individuals suffering from Opioid or substance use disorder. The program was made possible through several grants that are administered by the Mohave Substance Treatment Education Prevention Partnership (MSTEPP). The Program involves case management that is handled by staff, peer support, probation, and area service providers. The Program recently expanded to the Lake Havasu Justice Court; they currently have six participants.

Representatives from Washington, D.C., Florida and Georgia attended the Quality of Life Court graduation in June that was held at the Board of Supervisors Auditorium in Kingman. The representatives stated the Quality of Life Court has superseded expectations and accomplished goals within two years that usually takes five years.

Each participant engages in counseling, housing, and employment to achieve sobriety. Peer support has been instrumental in assisting individuals as they begin their journey on the road to recovery.

The Kingman/Cerbat Quality of Life Court has graduated 17 participants. Of the 17 graduates none have reoffended. Six of the graduates have received their certification in Peer Support and several are currently working in the Peer Support field.

### STREET SWEEP



On January 18, 2023, Sara Colbert and Natalie Eggers went to Phoenix, AZ to help provide services and meet needs of sex trafficking victims. They participated in an event with ASU -STIR (Sex Trafficking Intervention and Research) called "Street Sweep". During this event, victims of trafficking made a deal with undercover officers and then were brought into the help center by law enforcement. Victims were checked for warrants and their age was verified. If they were found to be juveniles, they were interviewed and taken to a safe place. If they were adults, they were given the option to come inside where their basic needs could be met (food, water, clothes, hygiene supplies, backpacks, jackets, etc.) and they were paired with service providers and a sex trafficking survivor. Many women accepted leggings, flip flops, and a snack and returned to the street. However, a few victims accepted on the spot services and were taken directly to detox and shelters. Regarding the event, Sara Colbert stated, "So much of what we do is awareness and education, which is definitely needed. However, to be able to actually help someone right then and there, even if it was just a bottle of water and a smile, was very impactful. It was refreshing to see the law enforcement community and the advocacy community come together for a common goal, and I'm hopeful we can work to achieve the same outcomes here locally."





# ANNUAL REPORT

2023

MOHAVE COUNTY COURTS

www.mohavecourts.az.gov

## COURT STATISTICS

### SUPERIOR COURT REVENUE & STATS

Case Type	Revenue	Filings
Admin	\$751,911.57	2,769
Civil	\$ 322,874.66	2,197
Criminal	\$ 5,691,246.35	2,012
Divorce	\$334,720.45	1,210
Juvenile	\$ 378,647.11	1,140
Probate	\$ 330,320.89	1,460
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 7,809,721.03</b>	<b>10,788</b>

### MEDIATION

Outcome	Amount	Percentage
Full Agreement	154	40.31%
Partial Agreement	32	8.38%
No Agreement	125	32.72%
Temporary Plan	27	7.07%
Dismiss/Vacate	35	9.16%
FTA	9	2.36%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>100%</b>

### JUSTICE COURT REVENUE & STATS

City	Revenue	Case Type	Filings
Lake Havasu	\$1,312,058	Civil	6,175
Kingman	\$2,181,627	Misdemeanor	5,022
Bullhead	\$1,144,106	Felony	5,128
North Canyon	\$674,856	Criminal Traffic	1,162
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,312,647</b>	Civil traffic	11,622

### SECURITY OPERATIONS INDIVIDUALS

#### SCREENED

Location	Individuals
Kingman Superior	59,283
Kingman/Cerbat Justice	29,113
North Canyon Consolidated	2,247
Bullhead Judicial Facility	34,725
Lake Havasu Courts	51,963
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>177,331</b>



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## ADULT PROBATION STATS

Population Average	1,220
Intense Probation Supervision Average	28
Indirect Services Population Average	343
Pre-Sentence Investigations (PSI)	990
PSI Combined With Violations	36
Full Term Disposition	390
Early Term Dispositions	85
Earned Time Credit (ETC)	6
Revoked to Prison	225
Judicial Terminations	37
Community Restitution Hours Completed	20,696
Standard Probation Absconders	129
Drug-Related Probation Absconders	86

	Screened	Accepted	Granted	Enrolled
HAWC Pre-Conviction	4	4	4	6
HAWC Post Conviction	1	1	2	2
Recovery Court	53	40	11	44

## CASA STATS

Successful Volunteer Recruitments	16
# of Hours Served on Cases	1,217
# of Miles Driven by CASAs	14,782
# of Open Dependency Cases	305
# of Children in Open Dependency Cases	480

## JUVENILE PROBATION STATS

Referrals/Complaints	1,329
Petitions Filed	415
Diversions	203
Dispositions	142
ADJC Commitments	11
Placed on standard Probation	123
Placed on JIPS	20
Transferred to Adult/Criminal	3
Extended Jurisdiction	26
Admissions to Detention	284

### Recovery Court

- 17 screened
- 16 accepted
- 2 graduated
- 17 currently enrolled

### Health & Wellness

- 10 screened
- 8 accepted
- 1 graduated
- 10 currently enrolled

### Truancy Court

- 12 total participants
- 6 successful completion
- 3 cases pending

