MOHAVE COUNTY COURTS

2026

FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL REPORT


MOHAVE COUNTY COURT HOUSE

Mohave County Courts
Annual Report

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026



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2026

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Message from the Presiding Judge

This past year the courts continued to see an increase in civil filings and noted the ever-increasing complexity with court proceedings. Judicial calendars in all areas of the law are busy, jury trial settings remain consistently high, and court revenue continues to increase in both the Justice Court and Superior Court. The court continues to be engaged in projects to expand new technology and find ways to enhance access to justice. The court installed a 'Hush Booth' in the Kingman court to provide a private and easily accessible way for self-represented litigants to connect with judicial officers in other court locations. Expanding 'Hush Booths' to satellite courthouses is in the planning stages. Probation staff were recognized with a State Leadership award for their Mohave County Sex Trafficking Advocacy and Awareness Team (MCSTAAT). Expansion and remodel of court facilities continued during this year with the Kingman/Cerbat Justice court project being completed and the Groundbreaking of the remodel of the Historic Courthouse occurring on March 2, 2026. The remodel of the Historic Courthouse is anticipated to be completed mid-next year. Additional courtroom expansion is being targeted in the Superior Courthouse located in Lake Havasu and expansion of the Justice Court in Bullhead City is being contemplated. These and other efforts are significant projects that will provide enhanced services and facilities for court staff and the citizens of Mohave County for years to come.

The rule of law is foundational to the effective operations of the court and to society. The court participated in ceremonies in February, 2026 to recognize the United States Semiquincentennial, the 250th anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence. A ceremony was held in conjunction with the Supreme Court of Arizona to honor the rule of law and to provide an opportunity for judicial officers and local attorneys to take the oath of office again as part of this celebration. We are honored to be part of this wonderful country that strives to protect the rights of the individuals and to hear and decide cases in a timely and effective manner.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 completed a comprehensive strategic planning effort this past year with the support of the National Center for State Courts. Work now continues on implementing the goals and projects identified in that report. 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 made to improve court processes and procedures. My thanks to the Arizona Supreme Court, the County Board of Supervisors, County Management and the people of Mohave County 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
Presiding Judge

Court Overview

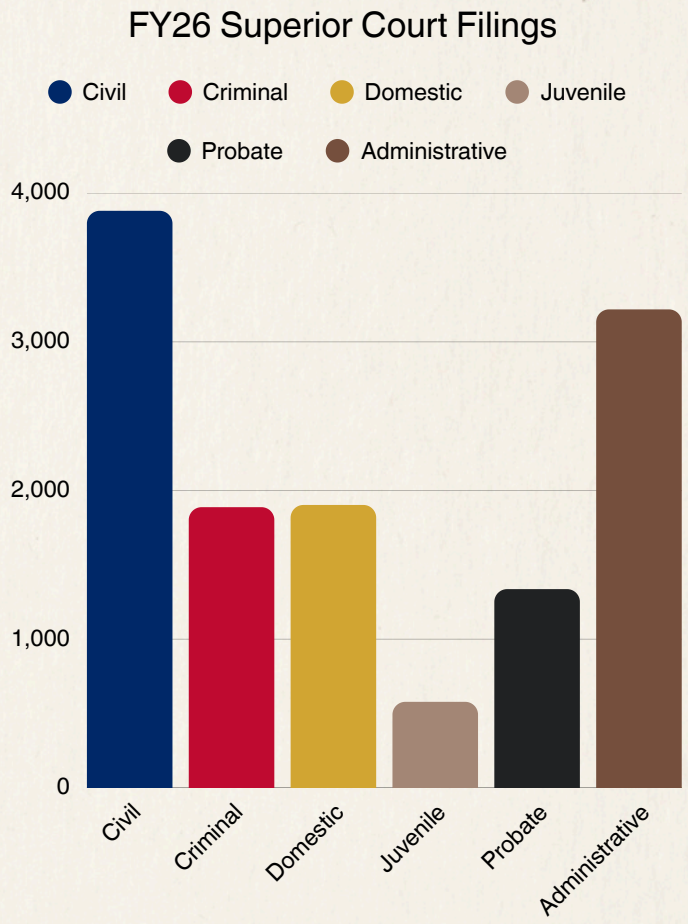


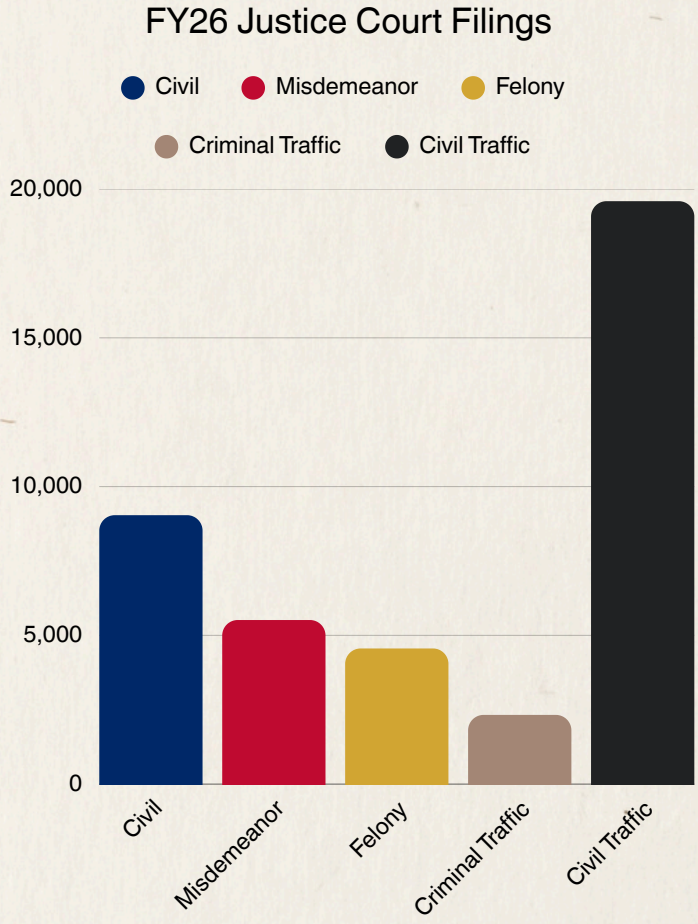
The Mohave County Courts serve residents across one of Arizona's largest geographic regions through the combined efforts of the Superior Court and four Justice Courts located in Bullhead City, Kingman/Cerbat, Lake Havasu City, and North Canyon. The Superior Court is the county's court of general jurisdiction, hearing felony criminal, civil, family, juvenile, and probate matters, while also providing appellate review for cases originating in limited jurisdiction courts and overseeing adult and juvenile probation services. The Justice Courts provide accessible local judicial services and handle misdemeanor criminal cases, civil disputes, landlord-tenant matters, small claims, traffic violations, protective orders, and preliminary felony proceedings.

During Fiscal Year 2026, the Mohave County Courts remained committed to delivering fair, timely, and impartial justice while enhancing access to court services for the public. Throughout the report you will see case statistics and stats. These efforts reflect the courts' ongoing commitment to upholding the rule of law, promoting public trust and confidence, and ensuring equal access to justice for all residents of Mohave County.

FY26 Number of Court Visitors	
Kingman Superior Court	56,972
Kingman Cerbat Justice	28,452
Bullhead Judicial Facility	38,996
Lake Havasu Courts	38,294
North Canyon Courts	2,284

Case Statistics





FY26 Superior Court Revenue	
Criminal	$4,341,403.84
Civil	$670,332.07
Domestic	$351,610.12
Juvenile	$179,858.69
Probate (incl. GC and MH)	$335,501.12
Administrative	$1,247,771.43
Total	$7,126,477.27

FY26 Justice Court Revenue	
BHCJC	$2,008,317
KCJC	$3,011,693
NCJC	$583,057
LHCJC	$1,620,870
Total	7,223,937

Strategic Plan



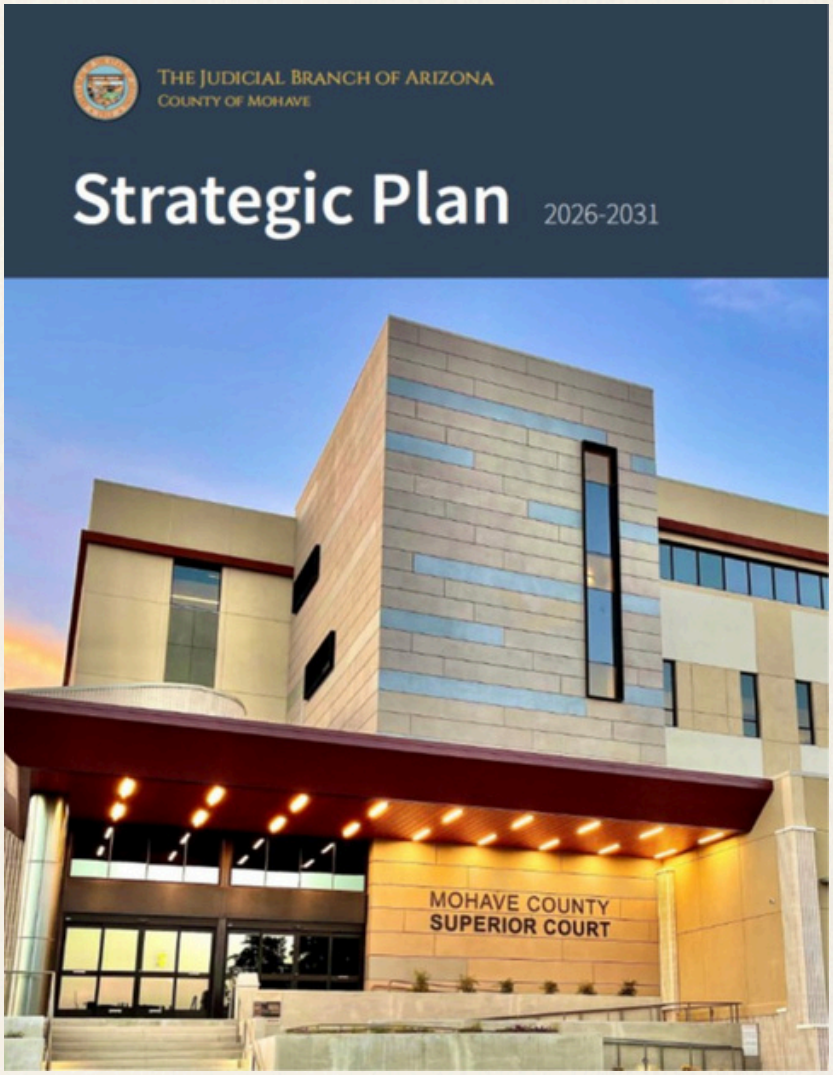
During the fiscal year, the courts, in partnership with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), finalized and adopted the Strategic Agenda for 2026–2031 marking a significant milestone in planning for the future of judicial services across the county. This agenda reflects months of thoughtful discussion, collaborative input, and shared commitment among court leadership, staff, and justice system partners. Designed to guide decision-making over the next five years, the new agenda provides a clear and forward-looking framework for strengthening court operations, enhancing access to justice, and improving service delivery to the public.

The development process centered on broad engagement, drawing contributions from judges, administrators, frontline staff, and partner agencies. Through workshops, committee sessions, and targeted conversations, stakeholders worked together to identify priorities that align with community needs, operational realities, and long-term goals. This collaboration ensured the agenda is both strategic and practical—grounded in real challenges while focused on innovative and sustainable solutions.

The resulting Strategic Agenda emphasizes several key areas crucial to the courts' mission. These include modernizing technology and digital services, improving court user experience, supporting workforce development and well-being, strengthening partnerships across the justice system, and expanding access and fairness for all court participants. Each priority area is supported by actionable objectives intended to promote consistency, transparency, and measurable progress over the agenda's five-year span.

By establishing a unified direction, the 2026–2031 Strategic Agenda serves as an essential tool for coordinating efforts across departments and ensuring resources are used efficiently and effectively. It reinforces the courts' dedication to continuous improvement and demonstrates a proactive approach to meeting the evolving needs of the community. As implementation begins, the agenda will guide both day-to-day decision-making and long-range planning, helping the courts remain adaptable, service-oriented, and deeply connected to those they serve.

Continued



Mission

Serving our community by delivering timely justice in an impartial, innovative, and respectful manner

Vision

Delivering justice to the communities we serve

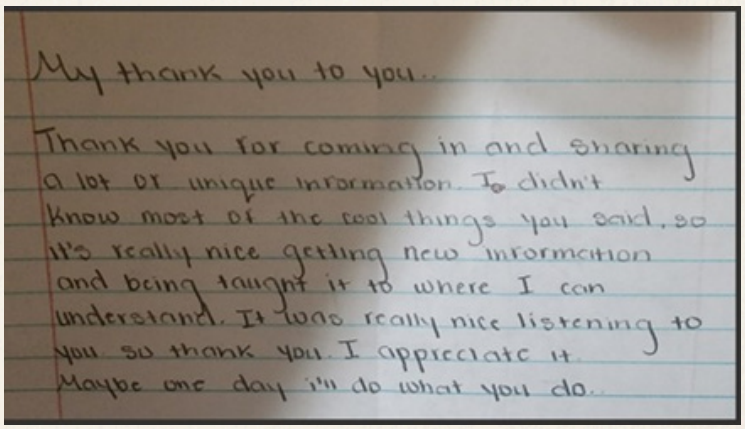
1. **Enhancing and Promoting Access to Justice** –
Removing barriers to access to justice and upholding an impartial application of the law to those who appear before the court.
2. **Maintaining Public Trust and Confidence** –
Building transparency and accountability to strengthen confidence in our courts.
3. **Protecting Children, Families, and Communities** –
Safeguarding the most vulnerable and promoting safety and well-being.
4. **Leveraging Resources and Innovation** –
Using technology and best practices to improve efficiency and service delivery.
5. **Empowering and Investing in Our Workforce** –
Supporting professional growth and fostering a culture of excellence among our team.

Public Outreach & Community Engagement

This fiscal year, the courts continued to prioritize meaningful engagement with the communities we serve, reinforcing our commitment to accessibility, transparency, and public trust. Outreach efforts were expanded across Mohave County, with court staff participating in more than 30 events aimed at fostering education, awareness, and open communication. Through these initiatives, the courts reached over 1,200 individuals, including students, educators, civic groups, and community members.

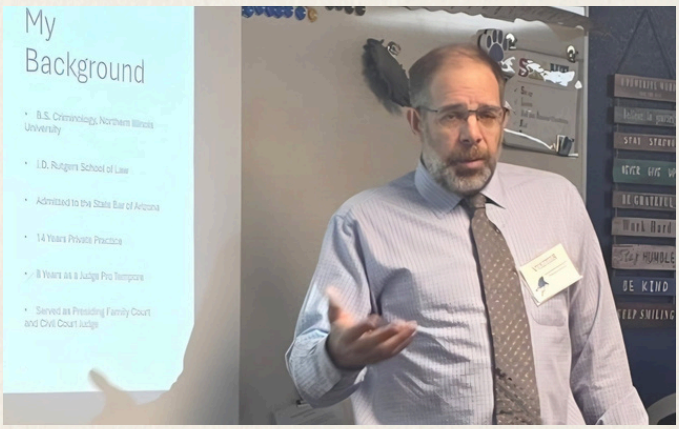
These events covered a wide spectrum of activities—from classroom presentations that introduced students to the role of the judiciary, to informational booths at local community gatherings, to dedicated sessions that helped residents navigate court services and understand legal processes more confidently. Staff members also collaborated with partner agencies and community organizations to strengthen public understanding of the court's role and encourage civic engagement.

The courts' outreach this year demonstrates an ongoing dedication to serving the community beyond the courthouse doors. By proactively engaging with the public, we continue to build stronger relationships, enhance trust in the judicial system, and support a well-informed community. These efforts represent an important investment in strengthening public confidence and ensuring our courts remain accessible, responsive, and connected to the people they serve.


My thank you to you..

Thank you for coming in and sharing a lot of unique information. I didn't know most of the cool things you said, so it's really nice getting new information and being taught it to where I can understand. It was really nice listening to you so thank you. I appreciate it. Maybe one day i'll do what you do.

Letter from a high school student



Judge Kenneth Gregory

Division 4

Governor Hobbs Announces Appointment of Aaron Demke to the 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.



Judge Aaron Demke and Kip Anderson, Court Administrator

New Court Commissioners

Mohave County Superior Court is honored to welcome three new judicial officers whose backgrounds, perspectives, and dedication to service strengthen our bench and our community. Judge Michele Holden, Judge Ryan Esplin and Judge Reed Weisberg. They each bring unique experiences and personal passions to their roles, yet they share a common goal: ensuring fairness, professionalism, and meaningful service to the people of Mohave County.

Judge Michele Holden: Judge Michele Holden's path to the judiciary is far from traditional. Growing up, she excelled in math and the sciences but struggled to see herself in a career rooted in writing or communication. Though she always "secretly wished" she could become a lawyer, she didn't initially view it as attainable. Instead, she pursued a bachelor's degree in mathematics with a computer science minor, followed by a master's degree in mechanical engineering.
She went on to serve six years in the U.S. Air Force, where she discovered she had developed strong communication skills—something she once doubted. That realization inspired her to finally pursue her longtime dream and enter law school.

Now on the bench, Judge Holden describes herself as having an "innate desire to eradicate inefficiencies," but she emphasizes that her first priority is learning the Court's processes. Her advice to aspiring lawyers is rooted in authenticity: study what you truly enjoy, not what you think you're "supposed" to choose and guard your reputation. As she often quotes from Warren Buffett: "It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it."



New Court Commissioners Cont.

Judge Ryan Esplin: Judge Ryan Esplin joins the Mohave County Superior Court with a clear and sincere motivation: he has always enjoyed helping others and serving his community. That simple but powerful mission has guided his legal career and continues to shape his approach as he steps into his new role on the bench.

Judge Esplin hopes to bring professionalism, quality service, and a balanced, thoughtful perspective to the Court. His approach to fairness is grounded in considering each issue from every angle. “I try to do what I think is fair and appropriate,” he explains, reflecting a measured and people-centered judicial philosophy. Ensuring that everyone who appears before him feels respected and heard is at the core of how he manages his courtroom.

For new attorneys or those considering law school, his advice is straightforward and encouraging: “Go for it. There are many wonderful opportunities in the practice of law.” His optimism reflects both his own positive experiences and his belief in the value of serving others through the legal system.

Judge Reed Weisberg: Judge Reed Weisberg was appointed as a Superior Court Commissioner / Judge Pro Tem on April 6, 2026. A long-time resident of the Kingman area, Judge Weisberg has previously worked with the County Attorney’s Office and, most recently, with Hamp Law Offices. His initial assignment is at the Lake Havasu Courthouse where he will preside over Domestic Relations matters and Juvenile Dependency cases.

We are pleased to welcome Judge Weisberg to the bench and look forward to many years of dedicated service to the court. He was sworn into office by Presiding Judge Steve Moss on Monday, April 20, 2026, and began his duties the following day.





Celebrations

250th Anniversary Swearing In

On February 12, 2026 lawyers and judges gathered in the Mohave County Board of Supervisors auditorium to reaffirm a shared civic commitment: the rule of law. This date marks Arizona's Rule of Law Day and it coincides with the 250th birthday of the Declaration of Independence and the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. President Lincoln understood that democracy survives only when laws, not passions or power, rule the day. Presiding Judge Steve Moss conducted the ceremony and shared comments about the importance of the rule of law. Speakers included Associate Presiding Judge Megan McCoy and Mohave County Bar President Heather Wellborn.



National Adoption Day is a national effort to move children from foster care to their forever families. Mohave County held its National Adoption Day on November 19, 2025. Seven children were adopted this day, three from Bullhead City and four from Kingman. It was a joyous day! Each child received a stuffed teddy bear, a gift bag with age-appropriate items, and a handmade quilt. A local photographer donated her time to take pictures of each family and light refreshments were provided. This one-day event was made possible by the Mohave County CASA Council, Kiwanis of Kingman, and the local quilters group.



Presiding Judge Award

For 27 years, Shaleen Bracken has been the steady force behind our department's financial operations. Managing budgets and fiscal processes for both the AOC and the County—across juvenile and adult probation—she keeps complex systems running smoothly and consistently.

Shaleen began her career in 1999 as an Office Assistant Senior, quickly proving herself indispensable in the Juvenile Division. She handled reports, petitions, scheduling, case file creation, juvenile intake processes, and support for the Community Advisory Board. This hands-on experience throughout the department built the deep institutional knowledge that now makes her such an effective Finance Manager.

Today, Shaleen oversees multiple funding streams, prepares financial forecasts and reports, ensures compliance, and tackles tight deadlines with unwavering dedication. She anticipates challenges, navigates changing priorities, and provides solutions that strengthen the department's ability to meet its goals. Her work supports staff at every level, allowing them to focus on their mission with confidence in the department's financial stability.



Shaleen Bracken

Shaleen is more than a Finance Manager—she is the quiet, essential force that keeps everything functioning. Mohave County Probation Department could not fulfill its mission without her. Recognizing her with this honor is not only fitting, it's long overdue.

Retirements



Judge Jantzen Retires

In May, 2009 Judge Lee Jantzen was appointed a Superior Court Judge and was assigned a civil caseload, later taking on probate matters, family law cases, mental health hearings and most recently handling a criminal docket. Judge Jantzen worked diligently to handle his caseload in a timely and professional manner. He was always willing to assist handling orders of protection and to review and sign search warrants. His willingness to share his experiences on the bench and as an attorney with school groups and others helped build respect for the court and enhance the knowledge of the legal system. We wish him well as he moves on to other endeavors and enjoys more time with family.

Celebrating an Extraordinary Career: Della Hiser Retires After 27 Years of Service

The Mohave Clerk's Office is honored to celebrate the remarkable career of Della Hiser, who officially retired on January 16, 2026, after 27 years of dedicated service. Her retirement marks the end of an era—and the beginning of an exciting new chapter for someone who has truly inspired us all.

Della's unwavering commitment, professionalism, and passion have set a gold standard for excellence within the Superior Court Clerk's office and across the Arizona justice system. For nearly three decades, she has been a cornerstone of the Clerk's Office, leaving an indelible mark on every department she touched. Her leadership and vision have guided countless initiatives, from implementing new systems to serving on numerous local and statewide committees—all with the goal of advancing justice and strengthening our courts.

Through every challenge, Della exemplified resilience and integrity. Her "see a need, fill a need" approach ensured that Mohave Courts not only met expectations but thrived. Though she never sought the spotlight, her contributions have shaped the very foundation of our operations and will continue to influence future generations of court professionals.

As we reflect on her extraordinary journey, we extend our deepest gratitude for her years of service, leadership, and friendship. Della's legacy will live on in the values she championed and the countless lives she impacted. Congratulations to Della on her well-earned retirement and celebrating a career that truly made a difference.

Recognition

On November 21, 2025, Juvenile Probation celebrated its newest graduates from the Hope Garden program. Three youth, along with their families, were recognized at a graduation ceremony to mark their successful completion of the program.

Hope Garden is a substance abuse treatment program for juvenile probation youth. It is a 10-week program that takes place in the structured setting of the Mohave County Juvenile Detention Facility. Participants must be recommended by a juvenile probation officer and a licensed evaluator and ordered into the program by a Juvenile Court Judge.

The mission of Hope Garden is to provide trauma informed and evidence-based substance abuse treatment to justice involved youth and families at the local level. Providing these services locally helps to encourage family support, engagement, and participation. It is often difficult for families to fully participate in their child's treatment if placement occurs out of county. Hope Garden teaches essential skills for sobriety, relapse prevention, life skills, improved family communication, and pro-social behaviors.





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.

Strategic Award Winner

On October 21, 2025, the Mohave County Juvenile Court / Probation Department was recognized with a Strategic Agenda Award at the Arizona Court Leadership Conference in Flagstaff. The award is granted to court and probation programs, initiatives, or individuals that best represents the Chief Justice's Strategic Agenda. Probation's Mohave County Sex Trafficking Advocacy and Awareness Team (MCSTAAT) won the award for Goal Three: Protecting Children, Families, and Communities.

MCSTAAT has worked for the past several years to train court staff, community agencies, community members and youth on sex trafficking. The team is made up of staff on a volunteer basis who have a passion for debunking the myth "trafficking does not happen here". They are committed to spreading awareness, providing education and programming, and engaging with the community on many levels. What started as one Minor Victims of Sex Trafficking (MVST) Liaison to the Administrative Office of the Courts has evolved into four point-persons in Mohave County and multiple other committed members. The team consists of juvenile and adult probation staff, juvenile detention staff, youth care workers, IT staff, local law enforcement, Arizona Youth Partnership (AZYP) and community members.

One of MCSTAAT's biggest accomplishments is their ability to provide programming to at-risk youth and adults through their certification in the Sex Trafficking Awareness and Recovery (STAR) curriculum developed by ASU. The team also utilizes a statewide screening tool and local processes to identify youth who may be at-risk or a confirmed victim of sex trafficking. The team is passionate about working with at-risk individuals to provide services.

Last year the department completed 392 assessments leading to interviews, police reports, education, and STAR programming to obtain better outcomes for victims.



Juvenile Probation with Chief Justice Ann Scott Timmer

Community Advisory Board



The Mohave County Juvenile Court's Community Advisory Board (CAB) is an innovative approach to bridging court and community. The Board is comprised of volunteers from multi-disciplinary backgrounds who share a common interest in community development and support for youth programs.Each local board in Bullhead City, Kingman, and Lake Havasu City consists of public members appointed by the Presiding Juvenile Court Judge. Teams also include the local Juvenile Court Judge, a juvenile probation supervisor, youth members, and the Deputy Director of Juvenile Court Services. The local CABs, led by a public member chairperson, work to foster collaborative partnerships, the need of the community and juvenile court through support of pro-social youth programs though out Mohave County.

Each CAB works to support local youth programs by providing financial scholarships to encourage youth involvement in school clubs, extra-curricular activities, youth leadership opportunities, educational programs, and other community service projects.Youth programs receiving CAB awards help serve as protective factors to reduce youth substance abuse, truancy, and other delinquent behaviors while creating a connection between youth, their schools, and the community. Mohave County Juvenile Court CAB has existed since 1997 and was decentralized in 2016 to better serve each community's need and enhanced the court's support for local youth programs and service agencies. In 2018, the Mohave County CAB won an Arizona Supreme Court Strategic Agenda Award for its innovative efforts in community involvement.

Children & Families



Mediation		
Full Agreement	112	32%
Partial Agreement	32	9%
No Agreement	77	22%
Temporary Plan	42	12%
FTA	50	14%
Dismiss/Vacate	40	11%
Total	353	100%

The Juvenile Dependency and Mediation Departments play an important role in supporting children and families served by the Mohave County Superior Court.

The Juvenile Dependency Department focuses on cases involving the safety, permanency, and well-being of children, working with families, attorneys, state agencies, and community partners to ensure that children have safe and stable living environments.

The Mediation Department provides an alternative dispute resolution process that helps parties resolve conflicts collaboratively and efficiently, particularly in family-related matters, reducing the need for contested hearings while promoting agreements that support the best interests of children and families.

Together, these departments help strengthen families, improve access to justice, and support positive outcomes for the communities of Mohave County.

CASA	
Successful Volunteer Recruitments	8
# of Hours CASAs Served	1,838
# of Miles Driven by CASAs	19,691
# of Open Dependency Cases	238
# of Children in Open Dependency Cases	363

Dependency/FTC	
Clients Enrolled	14
Clients Graduated	10
Clients Currently Enrolled	2

Juvenile Probation Stats

The Mohave County Juvenile Probation Department is dedicated to protecting the community while promoting positive outcomes for youth and families. Through evidence-based supervision, intervention services, community partnerships, and rehabilitative programs, Juvenile Probation works to hold youth accountable for their actions while supporting their growth, development, and long-term success. The department collaborates closely with the Juvenile Court, schools, service providers, and families to address underlying needs, reduce recidivism, and help youth develop the skills necessary to become productive and responsible members of the community.

Juvenile Recovery Court	
Juveniles Screened	14
Juveniles Admitted	10
Juveniles Graduated	2
Juveniles Currently Enrolled	11

Juvenile Health and Wellness Court	
Juveniles Screened	11
Juveniles Admitted	10
Juveniles Graduated	1
Juveniles Currently Enrolled	7

Juvenile Probation	
Referrals/Complaints	1,231
Petitions Filed	350
Diversions	297
Dispositions	150
Placed on Standard Probation	127
Placed on JIPS	23
ADJC Commitments	13
Transferred/Direct File to Adult	5
Extended Jurisdiction	7
Admissions to Detention	274

Clerk of Superior Court Stats

The Clerk of the Superior Court of Mohave County serves as the official record keeper for the Superior Court and provides a wide range of essential services to the public, legal community, and justice system partners. The Clerk's Office is responsible for maintaining court records, processing case filings, issuing marriage licenses, facilitating passport applications, managing protective order filings, collecting fines and fees, and supporting courtroom operations. Through a commitment to accuracy, accessibility, and customer service, the Clerk's Office helps ensure the efficient administration of justice and provides vital public access to court information and services.

Tasks	
Cases Initiated	11,483
Events Docketed	291,077
Minute Entries Completed	17,191
Orders Processed	47,970
Charges Dispositioned	4,415
Research Requests Completed	7,111
Restitution Disbursed	$736,421.47

Tasks	
Jury Trial Summoned for	61
Jurors Summoned	4,875
Case Center Cases created	755
Informal Probate cases initiated	370
Protection Orders/Injunctions against harassment processed	564 (473/91)
Temporary Orders - DO	327
Temporary Orders - GC	107
Cases put into FARE	1,017

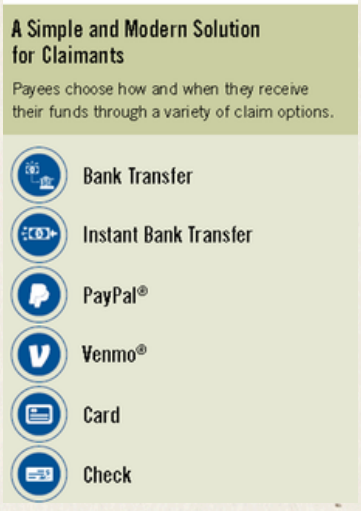


Partnerships

Inaugural AOC Security Assessor Training Program — what an achievement!
Ron McCoy, Court Security Assistant, successfully completed a rigorous, multi-phase training pipeline that prepares them for two mission-critical responsibilities: delivering comprehensive courthouse assessments and performing home assessments to help safeguard the judicial officers and families of the Arizona Judicial Branch.

2026 AOC Defensive Tactics Train the Trainer academy
Damon Kumley, Bailiff, successfully completed all evolution's and are now certified to instruct the following: Defensive tactics, handcuffing, baton and chemical irritants. Once again congratulations to you for all your hard work and dedication this week!





Mohave County Clerk of Superior Court Partners with Tyler Technologies to Improve Restitution Payments
Improving services for the public is always a priority for the Clerk of Superior Court. In November 2025, the Clerk's Office partnered with Tyler Technologies to pilot a new "Check First" restitution payment process through CourtFunds, designed to better meet the needs of crime victims while reducing costs to the County.

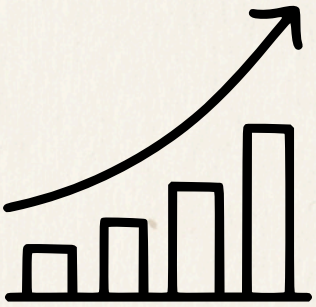
While the existing debit card system has worked well for individual victims, it has presented additional challenges for businesses and insurance companies receiving restitution payments. Recognizing an opportunity for improvement, the court piloted a new approach with Tyler.

Over the following months, Clerk staff worked closely with Tyler Technologies to develop a process that integrated with existing systems while meeting accounting and compliance requirements.

Officially launched in February 2026, the program has already demonstrated significant benefits, including an average cost savings of 68% compared to traditional in-house check processing. The Clerk's Office continues to assist existing debit card recipients who wish to transition to the new process.

This successful collaboration reflects the Clerk's Office's ongoing commitment to innovation, fiscal responsibility, and providing efficient, accessible services to the people we serve.

Adult Probation



3,200 Individuals across active department caseloads	**1,500** Individuals actively supervised in the community
764 Public Safety Assessments completed	**92** Warrant apprehensions
17 Recovery Court graduates	**10,426** Community restitution hours

Modernizing Probation Operations

Adult Probation made significant progress toward a more efficient and paperless operating environment. Physical presentence investigation files were discontinued, completed records are now maintained electronically, scanners were provided to support staff, and tablets were placed in interview rooms throughout the county. The tablets support electronic forms, signatures, document collection, and online check-in processes, reducing paper handling and improving access to information across all offices.

Staff also developed internal technology tools to assist with preparing presentence investigations, assembling electronic court packets, separating confidential records, and compiling supervision information into standardized management reports. Many of these improvements were developed internally using staff knowledge of court processes and probation workflows.

Smarter Supervision

One of the department's most significant initiatives was the implementation of Minimum Administrative Reporting Supervision, known as MARS. MARS provides electronic monthly reporting for eligible low-risk probationers who have demonstrated sustained compliance and do not require the same level of field supervision as higher-risk individuals. 250+ Eligible cases transitioned to MARS, allowing field officers to focus additional attention on higher-risk and higher-need individuals.

Pretrial Services

Adult Probation completed 764 Public Safety Assessments to assist judicial officers in making informed pretrial release decisions. Defendants placed on supervised release accumulated approximately 5,828 days in the community while awaiting resolution of their cases. Using the daily detention-cost rate contained in the department's pretrial reporting workbook, these release periods represented approximately $659,000 in estimated detention costs avoided while defendants remained subject to court-ordered supervision and release conditions.

Adult Probation Continued

Recovery Court

Recovery Court served 74 participants during Fiscal Year 2026 and admitted 36 new participants into the program. The program celebrated 17 successful graduates during the fiscal year. Among participants who exited Recovery Court, approximately 59% successfully completed the program. Recovery Court also administered 3,557 drug tests, with approximately 89% producing negative results. Through collaboration among judicial officers, probation staff, treatment providers, attorneys, and community partners, the program continued supporting recovery, accountability, stability, and successful community supervision.

Fugitive Apprehension Unit

The Fugitive Apprehension Unit was responsible for 92 warrant apprehensions. FAU officers directly completed 41 physical arrests and coordinated an additional 51 apprehensions with other law-enforcement personnel and the U.S. Marshals Service. These efforts returned probation absconders to the Court, promoted accountability, and strengthened collaboration between Adult Probation and its local and federal law-enforcement partners.

Community Impact

Probationers completed approximately 10,426 hours of Community Restitution Service. Based on Arizona's applicable minimum-wage rates during the fiscal year, this work provided an estimated $155,700 in labor value to public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community programs. The department also completed a comprehensive update of its Community Restitution Service policies, participant rules, work logs, site agreements, and worksite information.

Presentence Investigations and Court Services

Adult Probation completed 844 presentence investigation reports during Fiscal Year 2026, providing the Court with detailed information to support informed sentencing decisions. The department also modernized the preparation and electronic distribution of presentence reports. Electronic questionnaires, internal drafting tools, and new document-processing applications reduced repetitive data entry, improved consistency, strengthened the handling of confidential materials, and simplified the assembly of court-ready packets.

Data Quality, Policy, and Staff Development

The department implemented standardized management reporting to provide supervisors with clearer information regarding caseload composition, supervision contacts, residence verification, intensive probation activity, sex offender supervision, financial reviews, and case-management quality. Automated validation processes help identify incomplete or inconsistent records that may affect reporting accuracy.



Specialty Courts

Quality of Life Drug Court

Since 2016, the Kingman Cerbat/Justice Court Quality-of-Life Drug Court Program has continued its mission of supporting participants in building healthier, more stable lives. The program currently has 18 active participants, with 5 preparing to graduate.

The program's goal remains centered on helping participants become productive community members. Among the program's most meaningful impacts is the visible reconnection of participants with their families, which has become a cornerstone of their long-term stability and recovery.

Participants continue to take part in activities such as family outings, hikes in the Hualapai Mountains, participation in the annual Walk Away from Drugs, Reality Day presentations at local schools, and volunteering at First Friday's community events. Staff help individuals use goal setting throughout the program is based on the GROW model—Guided Goal, Reality, Options, and Way Forward—helping individuals develop achievable, meaningful steps toward lasting sobriety and stability. The Lake Havasu Justice Court has partnered with the City Transit Department providing transportation assistance to ensure participants can attend court, treatment, and other necessary appointments that contribute to their successful recovery and well-being. The team has shifted focus on recognizing participant success and compliance by creating an incentives system. Using incentives when participants are completing proximal goals is a motivating factor to reach distal goals such as obtaining employment, earning a GED and graduating the program.

This year the team implemented Reconnect, a case management system that allows the team to monitor a participants' recovery journey and improve trust and communication between the participant and court staff. Graduation procedures have also been enhanced to recognize participants through a variety of meaningful tokens and gestures to create a memorable celebration. This creates a more meaningful celebration of their journey to sobriety and accomplishments.

The Quality-of-Life Drug Court continues to demonstrate that with structured support, community involvement, and strong partnerships, participants can achieve long-term success and contribute positively to the community.

Veteran Treatment Court

On April 24, 2026, a VTC Graduation Ceremony was held with members of Lake Havasu City Council, Mayor Cal Sheehy, Penny Pew from Congressman Gosar's office, Judge Gilleo, Bullhead City Magistrate and Kingman VTC staff members in attendance.

Seven graduates from all branches of service were celebrated. At graduation, Judge Kalauli presented a memorial plaque to Barbara Hanson, who is the surviving spouse of one of our late Mentor's, Larry Hanson. Larry Hanson's dedication and support to our mentoring program and participants is one of the reasons the program remains so successful.

Specialty Courts Continued

On April 25, 2026, the 11th Annual Mark S. Nexsen VTC Family Day was held at the Aquatic Center. 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. Judge Kalauli, 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.

Without the help from the community, and its members, these types of Pro-Social events would not be possible.



Justice Court Traffic QR Codes



The Justice Courts have transitioned from distributing bulky pamphlets and envelopes to providing concise, business-card-sized handouts that direct the public to comprehensive traffic citation information and current fine schedules through an embedded QR code. The QR code links users to a dedicated landing page that includes instructions, required forms, and secure payment portal access.

These compact cards are designed to be user-friendly, compact and informative. By connecting individuals to continuously updated online resources, the courts eliminate the need to reprint materials when fines or information changes, resulting in notable efficiencies in both time and operational cost.

This modernization initiative enhances public outreach by delivering essential court information in a portable, interactive format. The Justice Courts are further evaluating opportunities to expand the use of QR codes across additional functions within the justice system.

