

KING COUNTY **SUPERIOR COURT**



2017

Annual Report

Message from the Presiding Judge and Chief Administrative Officer

On behalf of the judges, commissioners, and staff of the King County Superior Court, we are pleased to present our 2017 Annual Report highlighting the court's accomplishments over the past year. In 2017, Superior Court offered new services and programs, and worked internally and with our community partners to promote access and inclusion.

In 2017, innovative thinking by strategically minded staff resulted in the creation of the First Door program for family law clients. This program makes the often complicated requirements of the family court system easier to understand by providing clients with assistance at the earliest possible moment, that is, upon filing their case in the Clerk's Office. The initial results of the pilot are very promising and suggest that providing this point-of-entry service results in the speedier resolution of cases and a reduction in the need for non-compliance hearings.

The Jury Department also focused on prioritizing service to court clients by introducing a One-Day Jury Term pilot for prospective jurors. This approach effectively halves the previously required time commitment for prospective jurors. Eliminating the need for prospective jurors to return for a second day lessens the financial burden that individuals and employers have to bear. Introducing a one-day term of service is expected to result in an improved response rate to jury summons, increased diversity in the jury pool, and a reduction in the number of individuals requesting to be excused from jury duty.

Juvenile Court's judicial officers and staff worked exceptionally hard in 2017 to promote restorative programs, reduce racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system, and build relationships with community based organizations. A particular highlight was the Family Intervention and Restorative Services (FIRS) program. In its first full year of operating a respite center, the program was able to keep 79 percent of youth arrested for a family violence incident out of secure detention in 2017 (229 of 290 youth).

Since the Global Financial Crisis, doing more with less has become standard operating procedure for the court. The commitment of our judges and staff to identify and eliminate unnecessary expenditures was exemplified in 2017 by the Interpreter Services Department. By bringing a LEAN perspective to their administrative practices, the Interpreter Services Department was able to save the organization significant funds by reducing the charges associated with interpreter cancellations by approximately 42 percent.

In 2017, overall judicial filings increased three percent and matters filed with the Clerk increased 25 percent. The workload across case types remained relatively stable with the exception of involuntary commitment cases. Filings for these cases increased 13 percent year-over-year and have effectively doubled over the past ten years. This unprecedented increase in filings has strained the court's ability to operate within the limited accommodations available at Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) Court. Going forward, the court will continue to press for a much needed expansion of space at ITA Court.

We would like to acknowledge the service of Judges Downing, Eadie, Gain, Heller, Kessler, McDermott, Middaugh and Robinson who retired from our bench in 2017 and also extend a warm welcome to Judges Keenan, McHale, Moore, Phelps, Richardson, Rosen and Williams who joined us during the past year.

Our sincere appreciation goes to the thousands of King County citizens who served as jurors in Superior Court and to the many hundreds of volunteers who served as Community Accountability Board Members, CASAs, and in other capacities. Thanks to the King County Bar Association for its steadfast support of court-based services. Finally, we would like to commend the professionalism of all Superior Court and Department of Judicial Administration employees. Without your commitment to public service, the court could never achieve its mission.

Laura Inveen

Hon. Laura Inveen
Presiding Judge

Paul Sherfey

Paul L. Sherfey
Chief Administrative Officer

Jurisdiction

- Felony and misdemeanor criminal matters
- Civil matters
- Family law, including dissolutions, child support, adoptions, parentage, and domestic violence protection matters
- Probate and guardianship matters
- Mental illness and involuntary commitment matters
- Juvenile offender matters, and juvenile dependencies involving abused and neglected children, children in need of services, at-risk youth, and truancies

Locations

KING COUNTY COURTHOUSE

516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

MALENG REGIONAL JUSTICE CENTER

401 Fourth Avenue North
Kent, WA 98032

YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

Juvenile Court
1211 East Alder Street
Seattle, WA 98122

NINTH AND JEFFERSON BUILDING

ITA Court
908 Jefferson Street
Seattle, WA 98104

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KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT STRATEGIC PLANNING

MISSION

To serve the public by ensuring justice through accessible and effective forums for the fair, understandable, and timely resolution of legal matters.

VISION

Open to All
Trusted by All
Justice for All

CORE VALUES

PROFESSIONAL

CULTURALLY COMPETENT

ACCESSIBLE

SERVICE-ORIENTED

SOLUTION-ORIENTED

FAIR, UNDERSTANDABLE,
TIMELY

SAFE AND SECURE

LEADERSHIP



2017 STRATEGIC INNOVATIONS

Superior Court is continually working to improve our operations. Our efforts align with the Court's five key strategic focus areas. This page highlights our most significant strategic innovations of 2017.

1

Access, services & programs that promote justice

- One-day term for jury service introduced
- First Door program established to serve family law clients at their first point of interaction
- Promoted the recruitment of diverse CASA volunteers by engaging community and faith-based organizations
- Received a \$500,000 Department of Justice grant to add social workers to supervise Dependency CASA volunteers

2

Case management & caseflow

- Introduced eOrders for the Probate and Guardianship review calendars
- Launched an Ex Parte via the Clerk web-based application
- Launched an awareness campaign that dramatically reduced costly interpreter cancellations

3

Public understanding & intergovernmental relations

- Court website redesigned for improved access and usability, including enhancing viewing compatibility with mobile devices
- Implicit bias video introduced as a component of juror orientation
- Hosted diversity and inclusiveness events in honor of Martin Luther King Jr Day, Asian Pacific Heritage Month, Pride Month, Latina Heritage Month, and Native American History Month

4

Operational infrastructure

- Improved safety and security around the King County Courthouse
- Remodeled space at ITA Court to improve functionality
- Broke ground on the Children and Family Justice Center
- Replaced the electrical system of the historic King County Courthouse

5

Work environment & workforce development

- Trauma awareness component embedded in the new employee orientation
- Established peer to peer support and debrief services for employees experiencing secondary trauma
- Equity and Social Justice (ESJ) and implicit bias trainings for court staff
- The Equity and Social Justice Book Club discussed 13 texts delving into issues affecting different ethnic and social groups

JUDGES & COMMISSIONERS OF THE COURT IN 2017

William L. Downing <i>Appointed, 1989</i>	Cheryl B. Carey <i>Elected, 2001</i>	Barbara A. Mack <i>Elected, 2009</i>	John H. Chun <i>Appointed, 2014</i>
LeRoy McCullough <i>Appointed, 1989</i>	John P. Erlick <i>Elected, 2001</i>	Jean Rietschel <i>Appointed, 2010</i>	John Ruhl <i>Appointed, 2014</i>
Laura C. Inveen <i>Appointed, 1992</i>	Laura G. Middaugh <i>Elected, 2001</i>	Beth M. Andrus <i>Appointed, 2010</i>	Tanya Thorp <i>Appointed, 2014</i>
Brian D. Gain <i>Elected, 1993</i>	Mary E. Roberts <i>Appointed, 2003</i>	Patrick H. Oishi <i>Appointed, 2011</i>	A. Chad Allred <i>Appointed, 2014</i>
Richard D. Eadie <i>Appointed, 1995</i>	J. Wesley Saint Clair <i>Appointed, 2004</i>	Lori K. Smith <i>Appointed, 2012</i>	Samuel S. Chung <i>Appointed, 2014</i>
Jeffrey M. Ramsdell <i>Elected, 1996</i>	Andrea A. Darvas <i>Elected, 2005</i>	Barbara Linde <i>Appointed, 2012</i>	Veronica Alicea-Galvan <i>Appointed, 2015</i>
Dean S. Lum <i>Appointed, 1998</i>	Theresa B. Doyle <i>Elected, 2005</i>	Bill A. Bowman <i>Elected/Appointed, 2012</i>	Janet M. Helson <i>Appointed, 2015</i>
Ronald Kessler <i>Appointed, 1999</i>	Jim Rogers <i>Elected, 2005</i>	Judith H. Ramseyer <i>Elected/Appointed, 2012</i>	Johanna Bender <i>Appointed, 2015</i>
Palmer Robinson <i>Appointed, 1999</i>	Susan J. Craighead <i>Appointed, 2007</i>	Elizabeth J. Berns <i>Elected, 2013</i>	David S. Keenan <i>Elected, 2017</i>
Helen L. Halpert <i>Appointed, 1999</i>	Bruce Heller <i>Appointed, 2007</i>	Suzanne R. Parisien <i>Elected, 2013</i>	John F. McHale <i>Elected, 2017</i>
Julie A. Spector <i>Appointed, 1999</i>	Monica J. Benton <i>Appointed, 2008</i>	Sean P. O'Donnell <i>Elected, 2013</i>	Catherine L. Moore <i>Elected, 2017</i>
Richard F. McDermott <i>Appointed, 2000</i>	Regina S. Cahan <i>Elected/Appointed, 2009</i>	Ken Schubert <i>Elected, 2013</i>	Nicole A. Phelps <i>Elected, 2017</i>
James D. Cayce <i>Appointed, 2000</i>	Mariane C. Spearman <i>Elected, 2009</i>	Susan H. Amini <i>Appointed, 2013</i>	Kristin V. Richardson <i>Elected, 2017</i>
Douglass A. North <i>Elected, 2000</i>	Timothy A. Bradshaw <i>Elected, 2009</i>	Julia L. Garratt <i>Appointed, 2013</i>	Steve G. Rosen <i>Elected, 2017</i>
Catherine D. Shaffer <i>Elected, 2000</i>	Hollis R. Hill <i>Elected, 2009</i>	Roger S. Rogoff <i>Appointed, 2014</i>	Matthew W. Williams <i>Elected, 2017</i>

Commissioners

Carlos Y. Velategui, 1986	Hollis Holman, 1996	Mark Hillman, 2007	Melinda Johnson-Taylor, 2014
Bonnie Canada-Thurston, 1993	Leonid Ponomarchuk, 1998	James Kahan, 2013	Henry Judson, 2014

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

FAMILY COURT

FAMILY COURT SERVICES (FCS)

FCS helps resolve conflicts between parents and provides information to the court in family law cases. Professional social work staff provide mediation and evaluation services for parenting plans (PPs), conduct domestic violence (DV) assessments, help finalize adoptions, and teach the mandatory parenting seminar. The program seeks to protect the best interests of children affected by family law actions.

4387 parents attended the parenting seminar in 2017



810 children were represented by 318 CASA's in 2017

DEPENDENCY CASA PROGRAM

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) – specially-trained citizen volunteers – represent children in dependency cases and make recommendations to the court regarding their care. The court's Dependency CASA Program recruits, trains, supervises, and provides legal support for these volunteers.

FAMILY TREATMENT COURT

FTC is a "drug court" for parents with dependency cases pending. Parents join FTC to receive help in achieving and maintaining sobriety. Additional services, such as mental health treatment, are provided as needed. The goal is to ensure that children live in safe and drug-free homes.

81 adults and **95** children were served by FTC in 2017

206 parents attended Dependency 101 & 201 classes in 2017

PARENTS FOR PARENTS (P4P)

P4P supports parents with dependency cases pending. Parents who have successfully navigated the dependency system meet with incoming parents at their first court appearance. Program staff provide an orientation class called Dependency 101 and a set of follow-up classes called Dependency 201. Parents who receive support from P4P are more likely to attend court hearings and comply with court orders.

FAMILY LAW INFORMATION CENTER (FLIC)

The FLIC provides assistance to family law litigants who do not have attorneys. Family Law Facilitators help litigants find the correct court forms for their cases, explain court processes, and ensure that family law courtrooms run smoothly. Early Resolution Case Managers teach the Family Law Orientation (FLO) class and help finalize documents for certain family law cases.

7659 case files were reviewed by facilitators
2955 clients attended the orientation class in 2017



Family Court offers programs that support the court's dependency and family law litigants and cases. Twelve judges, five commissioners, and approximately 80 staff are assigned to this area.

DEPENDENCY MEDIATION

Mediation provides a non-confrontational environment for resolving issues related to dependency cases. Parents in mediation often reach agreement on allegations, recommended services, child placement, visitation, and other matters through the support of program staff. This allows parents a larger role in determining what will happen with their children and their cases and to understand more fully the orders issued by the court.

80% of mediated cases reached full or partial agreement in 2017

BECCA PROGRAMS

The court can provide assistance if a child is beyond a parent's control or is not attending school. Parents may file an At-Risk Youth (ARY) or Child in Need of Services (CHINS) petition when their families are in crisis. School districts are required to file truancy petitions when students fail to attend their assigned school. "Becca programs" recognize Becca Hedman, a 13-year-old runaway found murdered in Spokane in 1993.

180 ARY/CHINS families were referred to crisis intervention services in 2017

1545 truancy petitions were filed by 22 school districts

First Door Pilot Assists Unrepresented Clients with Family Law Filings

In April 2017, the court launched the First Door pilot program. The goal of the program was to provide the best service, at the earliest possible moment, to unrepresented (pro se) family law clients to facilitate the timely resolution of their cases. To achieve this goal, staff connected with clients at the time of filing, by locating the program inside the Clerk's Office where the initial filing occurs.

The program was staffed by the court's Early Resolution Case Managers (ERCMs). During the first month, ERCMs were able to provide over 300 consultations to unrepresented clients, review initial pleadings for 141 cases, draft agreed final orders for 78 cases and arrange to present those proposed final orders on behalf of the parties to a judicial officer.

The ERCM's were able to eliminate some of the obstacles that pro se clients experience in the court process by helping clients to:

- Correct any deficiencies in the initial court documents;
- Register for the Family Law Orientation and the "What About the Children" Parent Seminar;
- Comprehend case schedule deadlines, including highlighting the need to appear at the Status Conference;
- Connect with appropriate Family Court Operations programs, such as mediation or the Simple Dissolution program; and
- Understand the next steps in their case.

Since April, the court has tracked the impact of the program. Preliminary results suggest that, when compared to a similar control group, clients of the First Door program experience:

- Earlier resolution of cases: 62% of cases were resolved within 120 days versus 49% in the control group;
- Increased compliance with case requirements: double the number of parties attended the Parent Seminar by the deadline on the case schedule, thereby avoiding the \$35 late fee;
- Fewer status conference and noncompliance hearings.

ERCM Gretchen Neale described the success of the First Door pilot: "It was clear from every interaction I had while I was in the Clerk's Office that people were glad that we were there. They were happy to have found help where and when they needed it." Going forward, the court will continue to evaluate the results of the program and explore how to duplicate the success of the program on a larger scale.

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

JUVENILE COURT

FAMILY INTERVENTION AND RESTORATIVE SERVICES (FIRS)

FIRS offers youth arrested for family violence incidents space at an overnight respite center instead of secure detention. FIRS staff offer de-escalation counseling to safely reunite youth with their family. At no cost to them, families are offered in-home family counseling, mental health services, drug and alcohol services, and the Step-Up Program, which specifically addresses adolescent family violence.

79% of youth arrested for a family violence incident in 2017 avoided secure detention due to the FIRS Respite Center. (229/290 youth)



26 youth were referred to the drug court program in 2017

JUVENILE DRUG COURT

Juvenile Drug Court allows juveniles charged with an offense who have alcohol or drug problems to participate in a 9-to-24 month program that includes early, continuous and intensive court-monitored treatment. This approach motivates participants to finish their mandatory treatment, maintain school or employment, complete community service and other court-ordered conditions. If a juvenile successfully completes the Drug Court program, their charges are dismissed.

STEP-UP

Step-Up is a nationally recognized adolescent family violence intervention program designed to address youth violence toward family members. Step-Up believes respect is at the heart of all healthy family relationships. Step-Up offers a 20-week intervention program that focuses on youth, parents/caretakers, and families. The court employs a team of four social workers who provide this service in the community.

47 families engaged in Step Up's services in 2017



COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY BOARDS (CAB)

King County operates 13 volunteer-led Community Accountability Boards. CABs interview youth and their caretakers in order to create an individualized diversion agreement. The objectives of the CAB and diversion agreement are to: provide accountability for the youth's

1038 youth completed a diversion agreement with a CAB in 2017

behavior through effectively communicating the correlation between the crimes committed and individuals harmed by those actions; identify and help resolve

issues that may be inhibiting the young person from achieving their potential; and connect youth to their community through local resources.

Juvenile Court handles all cases where a juvenile is accused of committing an offense. The court offers programs that focus on equity and therapeutic responses. Three judges and approximately 115 staff are assigned to this area.

Focusing on Youth: Juvenile Court partnering with Community

In 2017, Juvenile Court Services built partnerships with non-profit organizations and community members to connect youth and families to a network of supportive events, interventions, and mentors. Three new and unique programs are changing the way Juvenile Court is supporting youth in the community.

Mentoring through the Credible Messenger Initiative

The Credible Messenger Initiative represents one component of King County's new approach to mentorship for our youth. Credible Messengers serve young people whose needs go far beyond the traditional mentoring approach of companionship, confidence-building and academic, social or career guidance. The initiative stems from a core belief that individuals from the same communities, with the same lived experience as those they serve, are uniquely positioned to engage young people often considered the hardest to reach. Credible Messenger mentors are not volunteers, they are trained professionals who receive relevant training on multiple topics including facilitation, positive youth development, cognitive behavioral therapy, and restorative practices.

Youth Leadership, Intervention and Change (Youth LINC)

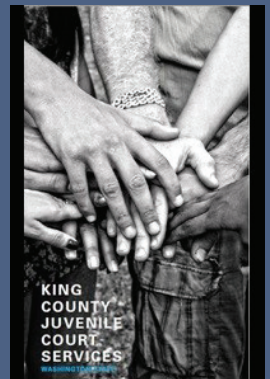
King County Juvenile Court supports the efforts of Youth LINC, a program that strengthens agency coordination to reduce gang involvement, and connects gang or group involved youth to a network of support. A multidisciplinary team, facilitated by the Center for Children and Youth Justice (CCYJ), helps ensure that all agencies working with a shared client have common goals and strategies to support the youth. The multidisciplinary team includes school/education staff, outreach workers, social service providers, probation counselors, law enforcement, and job training/education service providers.



Federal Way Youth Action Team (FWYAT)

The FWYAT is a collaboration of community members and organizations that provide youth and families with pro-social programming, development opportunities, and connection to services. The team was formed to help address an increase in school and police referrals and incidents of community violence in the Federal Way area. Currently, the FWYAT supports three programs that serve youth who are at risk of involvement with the justice system:

1. Helping Youth Achieve Excellence (HYPE) is a weekend program that reconnects youth to opportunity through developing relationships with positive adults from their community and pro-social skill building workshops.
2. Game of Life (GOL) operates two nights per week and is designed to engage young men through basketball. Through a "Health and Wellness" framework, GOL aims to develop deeper relationships with young men while assessing their needs and connecting them to services and supports. GOL is facilitated by community leaders and professionals who have valuable, relative life experience to the young men attending GOL.
3. The Positive Outcomes Program (POP) provides advocacy and mentorship to youth who are often underserved and at risk for interaction with the juvenile justice system.



Learn more about King County Superior Court's vision for juvenile justice in our [Juvenile Court Services Community Report](#)

COURT OPERATIONS

Increasing Juror Participation: One-Day Jury Term Pilot

Superior Court's judges and staff understand that receiving a jury summons in the mail may not be the highlight of everyone's day. Fulfilling one's civic duty can create a host of hardships such as securing childcare, rescheduling appointments, and getting coverage at work or putting work on hold if you are self-employed. In 2017, in an attempt to lessen the burden on potential jurors while also addressing a backlog of trial cases, Superior Court introduced a one-day jury term pilot.

Launched at the Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent in March of 2017, the pilot effectively halved the reporting time for jury candidates from two days to one. Prior to the pilot, jury candidates often found themselves excused from serving by one court for reasons of hardship on their first day of service, only to be required to report for a second day to repeat the process in another courtroom. Now, instead of being called upon to attend court on Monday and Tuesday, or Wednesday and Thursday, under the pilot, prospective jurors are called for a single day: Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday. Unless an individual is selected to serve on a jury, they are excused from service at the end of their first day rather than being required to report to the jury room the following morning.

Eliminating the need for prospective jurors to return for a second day lessens the financial burden that individuals and employers have to bear. The introduction of a one-day term is expected to result in an improved response rate to jury summons, increased diversity in the jury pool, and a reduction in requests for excusal. After several successful months in Kent the pilot was expanded to the King County Courthouse where again the one-day term proved to be effective.

34,502 jurors reported for duty in 2017. We appreciate your service!

Children and Family Justice Center Mural Highlights Successful Partnership



©2017, Brian Sanchez, in collaboration with Urban ArtWorks and King County Education Employment Training (EET) program, *Youth Mural at Children and Family Justice Center*, design rendering (detail) courtesy of the artist and 4Culture.

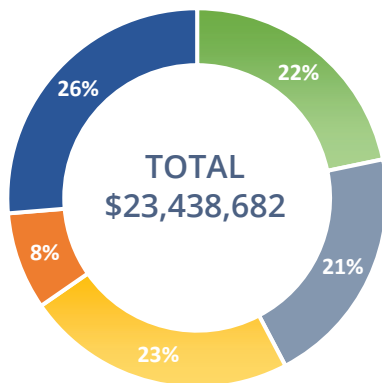
Construction proceeded at a lively pace on the Children and Family Justice Center in 2017. Soils were excavated, underground utilities installed, foundations poured, and steel erected. By year's end, the four-story frame of the courthouse was almost complete. Juvenile Court employees made us proud by proving their adaptability and openness to change as construction brought disruptions to well-established parking routines and formerly quiet court and office environments.

One of the most inspiring parts of the project in 2017 involved the creation of a mural on a temporary construction fence that borders the main entry of the Youth Services Center. The mural was the result of a successful partnership between 4Culture, Urban Artworks, and Superior Court's Education and Employment Training (EET) program. Lead artist Brian Sanchez worked with youth from the court's EET program to design and paint the mural.

Sanchez said designing the concept for the work was a collaborative creative process. "Together, the youth, Urban ArtWorks, and myself set out to create a design that best represented the mission of the CFJC," said Sanchez. "We talked about the range of support offered through the programs and some of the hardships they were working to overcome. We were aiming to articulate the diverse community that circulates through the facility and compose a mural that felt active, hopeful, and uplifting without overlooking the hurdles present in this journey."

DEPARTMENT OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

DJA 2017 Budget Breakdown

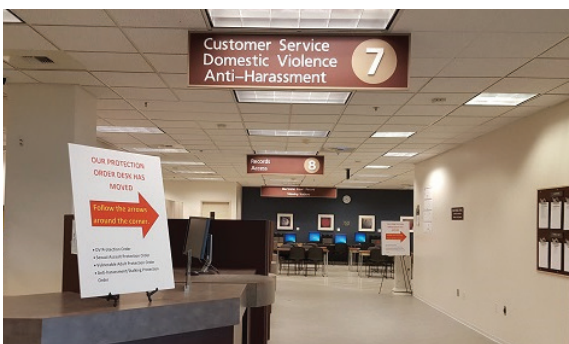


- Caseflow & Court Clerk Services, \$5,094,136
- Customer & Financial Services, \$4,821,293
- Satellites, \$5,404,943
- Drug Court, \$1,954,155
- Administration, \$6,164,165

* DJA's budget is 100% County funded

New Protection Order Office in Kent

In 2017 the Clerk's Office at the Maleng Regional Justice Center (MRJC) in Kent welcomed the opening of the Clerk's Protection Order (PO) office. Similar to the office at the Seattle Courthouse, the new Protection Order space at the MRJC will help to address privacy concerns on behalf of our customers. In the past, customers had to share details of their situation at the public counter. Now they are able to sit and have a one-on-one conversation with the clerk.



Drug Diversion Court: Preventing Opiate Overdose Deaths

Drug overdoses are rising nationally and locally. In Washington, more than one person dies each day of a drug overdose, surpassing the number that die in car accidents.

King County Adult Drug Diversion Court, managed by DJA, is making a difference.

In King County, opiates/opioids (including heroin) comprise the majority of overdose deaths. Fentanyl is a fast acting synthetic opioid that is 30-50 times more potent than heroin. It is impossible to know if fentanyl has been mixed into heroin, greatly increasing the risk of a fatal overdose.

Heroin is the most common drug mentioned during calls to the Washington State Recovery Helpline among young adults, and second most common, after alcohol, for calls from people age 26 and older. Syringe exchanges in King County distributed more than 7 million syringes in 2016.

Heroin is now the most common drug used by King County Drug Diversion Court participants: Of those who identify either heroin or opiates as their first choice of drug, 64% are on Medication Assisted Treatment or MAT (methadone or buprenorphine). Of those heroin/opiate users whose means of transmission is intravenous (IV), 74% are on MAT.

According to the Washington Department of Health, use of MAT such as methadone maintenance or buprenorphine is the best long-term opiate overdose prevention, reducing overdose fatalities by 50%.

Despite best efforts, drug overdoses do occur among drug court participants. In an effort to prevent deaths from opiate overdose, King County Drug Diversion Court now distributes Naloxone aka Narcan.

Narcan is a medication that temporarily blocks the effects of opiates in the body, temporarily reversing an overdose and preventing death. Narcan is safe – if a person does not have opiates in their system, the medication will have no effect. However, even after the overdose has been reversed, the person must go to an Emergency Room since Narcan only lasts 30-90 minutes when the victim is at risk of re-entering overdose.

King County Drug Diversion Court is providing Narcan to drug court participants, and housing and treatment providers. Drug Court staff is also working with the Sheriff's Court Protection Unit (CPU) to distribute kits to the CPU deputies who have a presence at all three Superior Court locations.

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

BUDGET, CASELOAD AND PERFORMANCE

2017 Expenditures by Program Area

Civil and Criminal Operations

Includes judges, bailiffs, court reporters, court coordinators, guardianship and probate staff, jury, interpreters, and mandatory arbitration. (40%)

\$22,405,813

Juvenile Court

Includes judges, bailiffs, court coordinators, probation and treatment services, intervention & prevention programs, Juvenile Drug Court, and Juvenile Diversion. (23%)

\$12,609,620

Family Court Operations

Includes commissioners, court coordinators, and the Family Court Services, Family Law Facilitator, Family Treatment Court, Dependency, Dependency CASA, Truancy and At-Risk Youth, and Early Resolution Case Management programs. (20%)

\$11,448,656

Court Administration

Includes executive staff, human resources, technology services, finance, facilities, and clerical services. (17%)

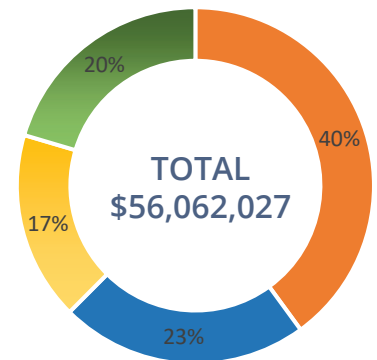
\$9,597,938

Total

\$56,062,027

King County funds 92% of the court's budget, the remaining 8% comes from federal, state and local grants

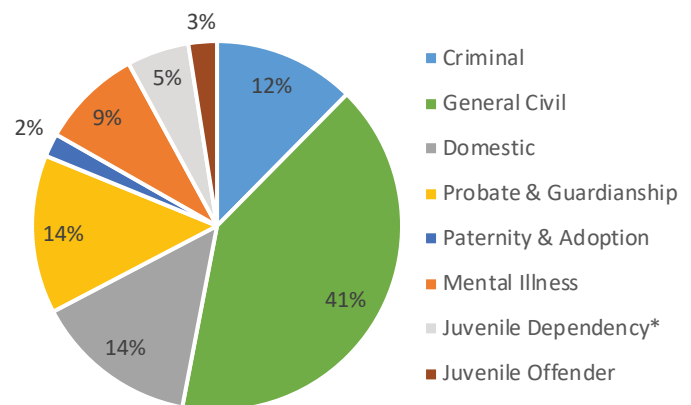
Superior Court 2017 Budget Breakdown



- Civil & Criminal Operations
- Juvenile Court
- Administration
- Family Court Operations

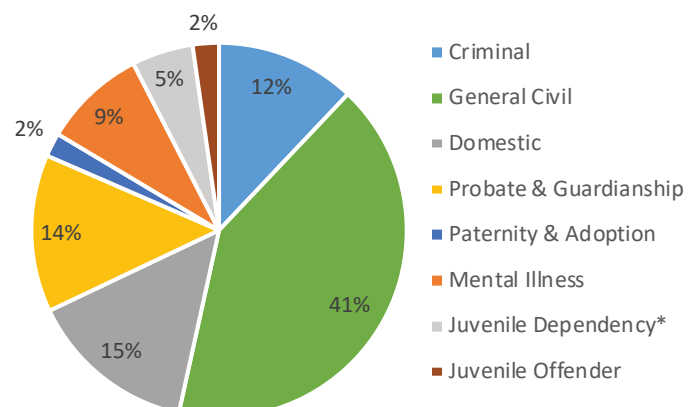
Case Filings

Case Type	2017	Change from 2016
Criminal	6,577	-2.5%
General Civil	21,582	+1.4%
Domestic	7,597	+1.1%
Probate and Guardianship	7,367	+4.0%
Paternity and Adoption	1,085	+10.0%
Mental Illness	4,694	+13.1%
Juvenile Dependency*	2,889	+19.6%
Juvenile Offender	1,324	+2.2%
Total	53,115	3.2%



Case Resolutions

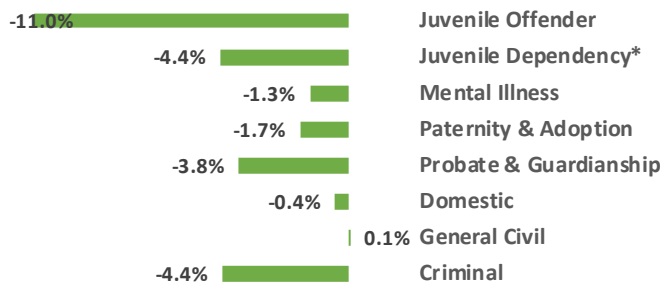
Case Type	2017	Change from 2016
Criminal	6,290	+3.6%
General Civil	21,602	+1.4%
Domestic	7,564	+1.1%
Probate and Guardianship	7,088	+2.2%
Paternity and Adoption	1,067	+2.1%
Mental Illness	4,632	+10.9%
Juvenile Dependency*	2,761	-2.2%
Juvenile Offender	1,179	-15.8%
Total	52,183	1.9%



BUDGET, CASELOAD AND PERFORMANCE

Clearance Rate

The clearance rate describes the relationship between case filings and case resolutions. A positive rate means more cases were resolved in a particular category than were filed.



Trial Activity

1,801 trials were conducted in 2017 representing a 5.8% decrease from the number of trials conducted in 2016.

Trial Category	2017
Jury Trials	352
Non-Jury Trials	564
Juvenile Adjudications	628
Trials by Affidavit	257
Total	1,801

Pending Caseload

Case Type	2017	Change from 2016
Criminal	3,304	+0.1%
General Civil	7,244	-7.5%
Domestic	4,366	+0.7%
Probate and Guardianship	1,285	+26.9%
Paternity and Adoption	400	+3.1%
Mental Illness	126	+110.0%
Juvenile Dependency*	2,076	+18.6%
Juvenile Offender	504	+14.3%
Total	19,305	1.0%

A case is considered pending if it is unresolved and active. At the end of 2017, 19,305 cases were pending - a 1% increase from 2016.

At the end of 2017, a significant increase in pending caseload was observed in juvenile offender (14.3%), probate and guardianship (26.9%), and juvenile dependency (18.6%) cases. A decrease in the year-end pending caseload was noticed in general civil cases (-7.5%).

Age of Pending Caseload (in days)

Case Type	2017	Change from 2016
Criminal	123	+7.0%
General Civil	133	-10.7%
Domestic	136	+5.4%
Probate and Guardianship	291	+28.8%
Paternity and Adoption	122	+23.2%
Mental Illness	14	+16.7%
Juvenile Dependency	181	-25.2%
Juvenile Offender	96	-2.0%
Median for active pending caseload	136	4.9%

The age of pending caseload is measured as the median age of pending cases (in days) at the end of 2017.

The overall age of all pending cases changed little from previous years, though changes occurred within some case types. Probate and guardianship and paternity and adoption cases had the most significant increases (28.8% and 23.2% respectively), while juvenile dependency cases witnessed the largest reduction (25.2%).

* Juvenile Dependency includes dependencies, terminations, at-risk-youth, child in need of services and truancy.

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT RETIRED JUDGES



From left to right: Judges Heller, Robinson, Eadie, Gain, Downing, Middaugh, and Kessler (Judge McDermott absent)

Judge William Downing

Judge Downing was appointed to the Superior Court bench in 1989 and served for almost 28 years. In 2005, he was named Judge of the Year by the Washington State Bar Association and received KCBA's Outstanding Judge award in 2006. Judge Downing was a champion of the annual YMCA mock trials and also served as chair of the Bench Bar Press Liaison Committee.

Judge Brian Gain

Judge Gain joined the Superior Court bench in 1993. During his 24-year tenure, he served as the court's Presiding Judge, on the Board of Trustees of the Superior Court Judges Association, and for many years on the Sentencing Guidelines Commission.

Judge Ronald Kessler

Judge Kessler joined the Superior Court bench in 1999, having previously served as a Seattle Municipal Court judge for 15 years. Author of the Criminal Caselaw Notebook, he lectured extensively on court rules, recent cases, prosecution misconduct, and ineffective assistance of counsel. Judge Kessler was awarded the 2017 APEX Award for Outstanding Judge in 2017.

Judge Richard McDermott

During his 17 years on Superior Court's bench, Judge McDermott served as President of the Washington State Superior Court Judges Association, Chair of the Washington State Board for Court Education, and Presiding Judge. In 2010 Judge McDermott was named "Co-Judge of the Year" by the Washington State Bar Association. He was also named "Judge of the Year" in 2011 by the Washington State Association for Justice and in 2013 by the Washington State Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Judge Richard Eadie

Judge Eadie was appointed to the Superior Court bench in 1995. During his more than 21 years on the bench, Judge Eadie served as Chief Civil Judge, Presiding Judge, and on the court's Executive Committee. He also served as president of the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts.

Judge Bruce Heller

Judge Heller was appointed to the Superior Court bench in 2007. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Heller was the Chair of the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission and a Commissioner on the Seattle Human Rights Commission. During his time on the bench, Judge Heller served on the court's Executive Committee.

Judge Laura Middaugh

Judge Middaugh was elected to the Superior Court bench in 2000, after previously serving as a Superior Court Commissioner. During her tenure, she played important roles as chair of the State Pattern Forms Committee, member of the State Plain Language Committee, and member of the court's Strategic Planning Committee. She also served on the Board of Trustees of the Superior Court Judges Association.

Judge Palmer Robinson

Judge Robinson was appointed to the Superior Court bench in 1999. Over the course of her almost 17 years on the bench, Judge Robinson served as Chief Criminal Judge, Chief Judge at the Maleng Regional Justice Center, Chief of Unified Family Court, Assistant Presiding Judge, and as a member of the Executive Committee. She was honored as Judge of the Year by the Washington Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates in 2015.

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT NEW JUDGES



Judge David Keenan

Judge Keenan joined the Court after being elected in 2016. He previously worked in complex civil litigation at the global law firm Orrick, Herrington, & Sutcliffe. As a high school dropout who grew up in poverty and cycled through the juvenile justice system, Judge Keenan brings a unique perspective to the bench. He previously served as president of the boards of Northwest Justice Project and the Federal Bar Association, and currently serves on the Access to Justice Board and the Board of Choose 180, which works to transform the lives of youth. Judge Keenan spent 15 years working as a Senior Special Agent investigating money laundering and human trafficking, earning his JD from Seattle University School of Law at night.



Judge John McHale

Judge McHale joined the bench in January 2017, having been elected to serve. Originally from Louisiana, Judge McHale began his legal career in King County in 1990 as a law clerk/bailiff for retired Superior Court Judge Terrence Carroll. After clerking for Judge Carroll, he served as a Public Defender, as a Deputy Prosecutor in the Criminal and Civil Divisions of the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and as a private practice civil litigator. Since 2009, he also has served on the board of Plymouth Housing Group, a nonprofit organization dedicated to eliminating homelessness.



Judge Catherine Moore

Judge Moore joined the King County Superior Court bench in January 2017, having been elected to serve. She began her legal career as a public defender in Brooklyn, New York, and continued her public defense work with The Defender Association (TDA) here in Seattle. Judge Moore left TDA to open her own practice specializing in family law. Over the years, Judge Moore has served as an administrative law judge, a tribal court judge, and a judge/commissioner pro tem. Judge Moore previously served on the Washington State Bar Association Board of Governors and as Chair of the Seattle Human Rights Commission.



Judge Nicole Phelps

Judge Phelps joined the bench in January 2017, as the first African-American woman to win a contested election for an open seat. Judge Phelps began her legal career at a small Seattle-based family law firm, later moving to the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. As a deputy prosecuting attorney she prosecuted cases from misdemeanors and juvenile crimes to high-profile felonies. She later moved on to a small civil practice, worked as a contract public defense attorney, ran a solo practice, and served nine years as an administrative law judge in the Washington State Office of Administrative Hearings.



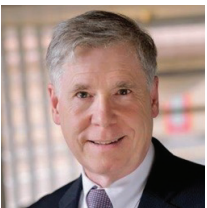
Judge Kristin Richardson

Judge Richardson joined the bench in January 2017. Prior to her election, Judge Richardson spent 27 years at the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, serving on both criminal and civil rotations. She tried more than 100 jury trials, including 25 murder prosecutions. She also headed the office's Cold Case Homicide Unit, and handled thousands of cases involving domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and financial and physical exploitation of elders. Judge Richardson serves on the Judicial Ethics Committee and Criminal Law and Rules Committee for the state Superior Court Judges Association.



Judge Steve Rosen

Judge Rosen joined the bench in January 2017. Judge Rosen began his legal career in the Pierce County Prosecutor's Office, later moving to the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, followed by the Attorney General's Office. In 2003, Judge Rosen opened his own law firm and focused on misdemeanor and felony defense as well as civil class actions. In 2008, he was named the part-time judge for the City of Black Diamond, and in 2010, he was elected to the Seattle Municipal Court bench, where he served until joining the Superior Court bench.



Judge Matthew Williams

Judge Williams joined the bench in January 2017. Prior to his election, he served six years as a King County District Court Judge. Judge Williams began his legal career with the Attorneys General of Nebraska, Iowa, and Washington State, handling death penalty/criminal appeals and complex commercial litigation. He then served as trial counsel and managing attorney of both public sector and private sector law offices handling high value tort and complex civil litigation. Since 1991 he has taught trial advocacy and served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Seattle University School of Law. Almost all of his time off the bench continues to be devoted to Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Initiatives around the world.

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT EMPLOYEES

COURT ADMINISTRATION

Chief Administrative Officer	Paul Sherfey
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer	Linda Ridge
Project/Program Manager	Michelle Garvey
Facilities and Security Manager	Paul Manolopoulos
Facilities Specialist	Kirby Pierce
Facilities Technician	Rodrigo Jacinto
Executive Specialist	Angelina Jimeno
Administrative Support Technicians	Rose Bridenstine
	Malinda You
Receptionist	Karissa Zeno

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Director	Steve Davis
Business & Finance Officer	Terri Bayless
Project/Program Manager	Pat Ford-Campbell
Purchasing Fiscal Specialist	Gary Cutler
Business & Finance Specialist	Rob Bradstreet
Finance Technician	Guy Brook
Payroll & Accounts Payable Tech.	Jose Ramos
Mail Service Assistant	Kristan Johnson

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

Director	Barbara Miner
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HUMAN RESOURCES

Director	Minerva Villarreal
Senior Human Resources Consultant	Kathryn Schipper
Human Resources Analyst	Gertrude Fuentes
Human Resources Technician	Cynthia Williams

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Director	Andy Hill
IT Applications Supervisor	Hugh Kim
Senior Database Developer	Rita Napitupulu
Web/Application Developer	Doug Buckmeier
Business Analyst	Sathia Vann
Senior Systems Engineers	Chair-Li Chang
	Kevin Daggett
Senior Systems Specialist	Ted Shaw
IT Systems Specialists	Jerry Ito
	Michael Kim
Senior Desktop Support Technician	Michelle Croy
Desktop Support Technician	Kawai Tang

JUVENILE COURT SERVICES

Director	Lea Ennis
Managers	Paul Daniels
	Ryan Pinto
Equity & Justice Advocate	Jason Clark
Project/Program Manager	Catherine Pickard
Assistant to the Director	Kimberley Rosenstock

JUVENILE COURT OPERATIONS

Supervisor	Jacqui Arrington
Case Setting Coordinator	Katie Davidson
Court Program Specialists	Christina Ly
	Shannon Raymond

JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSESSMENT TEAM

Program Coordinator	William Schipp
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DRUG COURT

Supervisor	Josalyn Conley
Juvenile Probation Counselors	Yvette Gaston
	Lisa Gistarb
	Anttimo Bennett
Administrative Specialist	Stephanie Jones

RESTORATIVE PROGRAMS

Acting Supervisor	Dawn Nannini
Low-Level Supervision Lead	Rosemary Fraine
Diversion Program Manager	Shirley Noble
FIRS Juvenile Probation Counselors	Cecilia Camino
	Jeremy Crowe
	DeDe Gartrell

COMMERCIALLY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN

CSEC Taskforce Coordinator	Kelly Mangiaracina
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JUVENILE COURT SERVICES (continued)

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Supervisor	Diane Korf
Education/Employment Specialists	Demetrius Devers
	Leslie Horton
	John Leers
	Leonor Soliz
	Riley Todd
	Guy McWhorter
Review Monitor	Dorcas Olegario

CITY UNIT

Lead	Karen Austin
Juvenile Probation Counselors	Dan Baxter
	Bill Bodick
	Jason Canfield
	Daryl Cerdinio
	Kiersten Knutson
Sex Offender Intake	Bruce Gourley

SCREENING UNIT

Juvenile Probation Counselors	Deshanna Brown
	Lisa Higgins
	Geri Horrobin
	Lisaa Lewis-Lucas
	Lee Lim
	Diana Quall
	Williette Venkataya
WACIC Data Coordinator	Dominick Beck

NORTHEAST UNIT—BELLEVUE

Supervisor	Melissa Sprague
Lead	Kris McKinney
Juvenile Probation Counselors	Norm Charouhas
	Dawn Closs
	Dan Higgins
	Randy Kok
	Gideon Oyeleke
	Pat Pepoy
Administrative Specialist	Sheila Singleton

CONSOLIDATED INTAKE UNIT

Supervisor	Todd Foster
Lead	Karla Powelson
Juvenile Probation Counselors	Michael Bowles
	Yvonne Clement-Smith
	Christy Cochran
	Tracy Dixon
	Yoko Maeshiro
	Shelley Moore
	Gabrielle Pagano

SOUTH I UNIT—RENTON

Supervisor	JoeAnne Taylor
Lead	Nikki Burr
Juvenile Probation Counselors	Fred Aulava
	Darlin Johnson
	Michelle Mihail
	Ron Tarnow
	Mai Tran
Administrative Specialist	Lameania Bridges

STEP-UP

Social Workers	Lily Anderson
	Anna Doolittle
	Francesca Peila-Phariss
	Claudia Pineda

SOUTH UNIT - FEDERAL WAY

Supervisor	Kelli Lauritzen
Lead	Diane Rayburn
Juvenile Probation Counselors	Michelle Higa
	Rachael Hubert
	Brandon Lyons
	Francisca Madera
	Gwen Spears
	Kelli Sullivan
Administrative Specialist	Danielle Kidd

ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT UNIT

Supervisor	Joanne Moore-Miller
Administrative Specialists	Julie Allen
	Joyce Chan
	Chris Hong
	Lita Kovacs

KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT EMPLOYEES

COURT OPERATIONS

Director	Rachael DelVillar
Manager, MRJC	Sandy Ogilvie
Manager, KCCH	John Salamony

ARBITRATION & EX PARTE DEPARTMENT

Supervisor	Nadia Simpson
Judicial Technician—Arbitration	Brian Ivanich
Judicial Technician—Ex Parte	Patricia Pizzuto
GAL Specialist	Keith Thomson

CIVIL DEPARTMENT

Supervisors	Heiti Milnor-Lewis Nikki Riley
Judicial Technicians—Floaters	Jonathan Bussey Karen Igo Catherine Kuvac Joseph Mansor
Civil Case Scheduling Technician	Alice Gilliam
Receptionist	Julie Espinoza

CRIMINAL DEPARTMENT

Supervisors	Erica Conway TJ Keogh
Criminal Calendar Technician	Carla Gaber Jackie Snodgrass
Criminal Department Technician	Julie Warfield
Criminal Info Processing Technician	Tress Heckler

INTERPRETER SERVICES

Manager	Martha Cohen
Supervisor	Irene Anulacion
Interpreter Services Technicians	Dara Chiem Hakim Lakhali Charlotte Taylor
Interpreter	Amy Andrews

ITA COURT

Manager	Charlotte Daugherty
Court Coordinator	April Ramirez-Chavez

JURY DEPARTMENT

Supervisor	Greg Wheeler
Jury Services Technicians	Janice Young Katherine Glenn Irene Szczerba Santiago Viola Villanueva

COURT REPORTERS

Marci Chatelain	Bridget O'Donnell
Kim Girus	Dolores Rawlins
Joanne Leatiota	Joseph Richling
Kevin Moll	Michael Townsend Jr. Michelle Vitrano

BAILIFFS

Elizza Alford	Charlotte Lunday
Angela Ashley	Lisa MacMillan
Teri Bush	Lena Madden
Robert Byrne	Jennifer McBeth
Chase Craig	Linda Nguyen
Lati Culverson	Kelli Northrop
Cheryl Cunningham	Jonathan Palmer
Katheryne Davis	Marci Parducci
Nhu Dinh	Tikecha Pearson
Laura Dorris	Ricki Reese
Kathryn Evans	Ashleigh Rhodes
Jill Gerontis	Pam Roark
Monica Gillum	Christine Robinson
Kirstin Grant	Rianne Rubright
Kenya Hart	Janie Smoter
Phillip Hennings	Spencer Thorson
Rebecca Hibbs	Linda Tran
Salina Hill	Lisa Tran
Theodore Hong	Andrew Ulmer
Greg Howard	Wendy Vickery
Nicole Huppert	Jacqueline Ware
Renee Janes	Laurie Watson
Annie Johnson	Paige Weir
Sung Kim	Kiese Wilburn
Emmanuel LaGuardia	Peggy Wu
Bonnie Larson	Lisa Zimnisky

FAMILY COURT OPERATIONS

Director Jorene Reiber

FAMILY LAW/UFC OPERATIONS

Manager	Jamie Perry
Supervisor	Rosalia Henley
Early Resolution Case Managers	Najja Bullock
	Christina Luera
	Heather Muwero
	Gretchen Neale
	Kevin Rowles
Family Law Facilitators	Jeanna Bento
	Shoshana Ellis
	Kristen Gabel
	Laura Blair-Gano
Program Fiscal Technicians	Korey Knuth
	Kassie Smith
Intake Specialist	Paula Moses
Civil Case Specialists	Nishi Shankar
	Tiffany Klein

FAMILY COURT SERVICES

Manager	Connor Lenz
Supervisors	Jennifer Bercot
	Tracey White
Social Workers	Angela Battisti
	Daryl Buckendahl
	Nicole Bynum
	Desiree Canter
	Debra Hunter
	Marilyn Liepelt
	Julie McDonald
	Kara Michael
	Larkspur Van Stone
Dependency Mediator	Kendy Rossi
	Joshua Henderson
Becca Program Specialists	Melody Edmiston
	Laura Willett
Becca Case Managers	Amy Andree
	Karen Chapman
Adoption Paralegal	Gina Reyes
Customer Service Specialists	Brooklyn Adams
	Taryn McCormack
	Darien Riffe
	Vanessa Snelson

DEPENDENCY OPERATIONS

FJCIP Specialist Stacy Keen

DEPENDENCY CASA

Manager	Lisa Petersen
Supervisors	Wai-Ping Li-Landis
	Kathy McCormack
Program Attorneys	Kathryn Barnhouse
	Elizabeth Berris
	Lori Irwin
	Kathleen Martin
	April Rivera
	Andrea Carter
Staff GAL Specialist	Pauline Duke
	Carolyn Frimpter
CASA Specialists	Rashida Ballard
	Luis Galvan
	Janet Horton
	Peggy Larson
	Rie Takeuchi
	Reyana Ugas
	Deanna Watson
Paralegals	Laura Chunyk
	Vickey Wilson
Customer Service Specialists	Stephanie Richardson
	Joyce Stockman
	Jessica White

FAMILY LAW & DEPENDENCY COMMISSIONER SUPPORT

Family Law Supervisor	Laura Contreras
Family Court Operations Lead	Hannah Service
Dependency Coordinator	Sheila Rogers
	Brandon Soltero
Family Law Coordinators	Jacqueline Gerardi
	Wolfey Gerhardt
	Caroline Leung
	Yen Phung
	Regine Tugublimas

FAMILY TREATMENT COURT

Supervisor	Jill Murphy
Parents for Parents Coordinator	Dana Dildine
Family Treatment Specialists	Cathy Lehmann
	Michelle Szozda
	April Wilson
Court Program Specialists	Dajani Winzer
	Kandice Trenary
Family Recovery Support Specialists	Teresa Anderson-Harper
	Michelle Thomas

CONTACT US

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