

Hashkééjí Nahat'á Bahane'

NÍLCH'ITS'ÓSI
2018



Quarterly message of the Chief Justice



Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne

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Yá'át'ééh, Shí Díné Doo Shíghéí, Ado Nihíí Naq hatajíí Nataani Honorable Navajo Nation Council Delegates, Doo Aláájí Hózhóójí Nahat'á Russell Begay, Doo Jonathan Nez Aká dó Dájizdahyígí, Adóó Aláájí Naat'ájí Nahat'á Lorenzo Bates, Doo distinguished guests. I respectfully present you the Hashkééjí Nahat'á (Judicial Branch) Fourth Quarterly Report for Fiscal Year 2018.

First of all, I would like to express my sincere condolences to the family, friends, colleagues and communities of the late Steven Begay, Navajo Nation Council Delegate for District 14. May you all find comfort in the legacy that he has left as a naat'áanii for our people as someone who embodied Diné sovereignty by using our own language, teachings and values in his leadership. Let us all honor his memory by doing the same in our homes and our workplaces.

As Hashkééjí Nahat'á, we are committed to upholding the sovereignty of the Navajo Nation. To do so, it is imperative that the branch has a fully seated

judiciary. The branch has consistently had vacancies for district court judges and one associate justice through the past eight years. As our caseloads increase due to lack of judges, the need for jurists also continues to rise and we are now at a crisis level.

This challenge is not ours alone. Each of the branches of our Navajo Nation government is involved in the selection process through appointment and confirmation and each of us is affected by the lack of judges on the bench. I humbly ask each of you, shi naat'áanii, to join us in recruiting for more judges and an associate justice.

While our needs for judges are immediate, we must also address the long term issues. I urge our leadership to prioritize the education of our youth particularly in the legal field and in our Diné language and Diné Bi Beehaz'áanii so that our future jurists will have the knowledge to take on these critical roles for our people.

Quarterly message of the Chief Justice

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With the projected decline in our revenue stream, economic development is a priority for the entire Navajo Nation to replace the loss of revenue. Our great Diné scholars agree that for a strong economy, a tribal government requires a strong and independent judiciary. It will be to the benefit of the entire Navajo Nation's future to prioritize development of a strong Judicial Branch. This requires our full leadership to work together to ensure that the needs of our justice system are met to reach our full potential as a self-sustaining nation.

We must ensure that our justice system has the resources to accomplish our tasks. While there are many initiatives that our great leaders would like to accomplish, these are not possible without the resources. Our people who come through our justice system are often in need of services in the realms of behavioral and mental health, rehabilitation, prevention and intervention. These are not resources that are readily available.

The manifestations of our justice system through our court buildings must also convey the importance of justice within our nation and our communities. There is a very crucial need for our facilities to communicate that importance to our people. However, we continue to have problems with temporary buildings. Our Window Rock Judicial District Court is crowded into

our Administrative Office of the Courts with hearings being held at the Supreme Court and our former Supreme Court office. In the meantime, the court waits for the repair of its temporary building for the safety of our employees and the public. Dził Yijiin Judicial District Court is still housed at the Pinon Chapter House and is awaiting completion of construction of a modular building.

While we work hard to address the issues with the facilities, these solutions too are only temporary. Planning is ongoing for permanent facilities but funding for such facilities is not secured and costs to build only increase as time goes on. I urge our leaders to consider this dire need as planning and funding for facilities are considered.

The safety of our Nation is an issue that our people are crying for. It is the job of each of us as leaders of the nation to look forward 150 years, as our ancestors did when they signed the Naaltsoos Saní, the Treaty of 1868, safeguarding nihikeyah and ensuring our survival as a people. In 150 years, I envision that our sovereignty will still be upheld, that our language will still be spoken, and that our people will be self-sustaining. This vision obliges me to speak out at this critical juncture in time and to beseech of you to prioritize a strong and independent justice system for our people and our Nation. ●



Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley, Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne and Associate Justice by designation William J.J. Platero following a Supreme Court hearing.

Judicial District FY 18 4th Quarterly Highlights

TUBA CITY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Three pro se trainings were held this quarter: two by Judge Victoria Yazzie and the other by Kayenta staff attorney Letitia Stover. Training topics included validation of common law marriage, recognition of traditional marriage, dissolution of marriage, paternity, child support, custody of visitation, modifications, name change, correction of record, declaration of a name, probate, and how to answer a petition. Individuals who represent themselves are required to attend pro se training so they are aware of what the law requires and their duties and responsibilities in court prior to filing their packets with the court. The total number of attendees during this reporting period was 32 participants.

The Tuba City Judicial District judge, court administrator, and office technician hosted a Criminal Justice Summit meeting on August 24, 2018. Groups in attendance included Department of Law Enforcement, Department of Corrections, Probation/Parole Services, Peacemaking Program, Division of Social Services, the courts, and other local service providers that have an interest in delivery of services by the justice system. With collaborative efforts, the group hopes to continue work on identifying ways to share and streamline existing processes to better serve the community.

On August 21, 2018, information data technician Teresa Chee provided hands-on training for two new employees on how to scan closed court cases and using the archiving/scanning equipment. Staff Development.

On September 13-14, 2018, court administrator Alice Huskie attended a two-day training on PowerPoint offered by the Navajo Nation Staff Development Training Program. Day 1 focused on introductory level instructions. Day 2 was more advanced level of instructions. Each activity was challenging and had scenarios where students were given instructions to perform the tasks using the different functions of PowerPoint.

On July 20, 2018, Human Resources Director Ralph Roanhorse reviewed the Judicial Branch Employee Policies and Procedures (JB EPP) manual with the staff, provided clarifications in specific areas of the manual, and answered questions raised by the staff.

On July 25-26, 2018, court clerks Kandi Robbins and Geraldine Sakiestewa and court bailiff Carl Nez participated in the 2018 Navajo Nation Human Resources Summit in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Participants attended breakout sessions and gained valuable information in customer service, communication, health and wellness, ethics in the workplace, and Navajo language.

On July 27, 2018, court administrator Alice Huskie attended Supervising Successfully with Confidence training in Ganado, Arizona. Refresher topics included learning to manage and lead proactively, importance of documentation, effective delegation, communication and motivation, and leadership styles. Other Judicial Branch program managers and management attended the training. Ms. Ann Crossman was the instructor.

Throughout the quarter, the Tuba City Judicial District collaborated with and performed outreach with other programs and/or departments in the Tuba City area. Based on availability, the court shares use of the courtrooms for important meetings, work sessions, etc. The following meetings and or work sessions were held in the court building:

- On August 29-30, 2018, Lisa Sloan, elder adult caseworker with the Department of Family Services, and 40 social workers and key personnel from across the Navajo Nation met to review the DORIS Act of 2012, made recommendations for changes, and completed business mapping.
- On September 11-12, 2018, Elsie Elthie, foster home licensing specialist with Department of Family Services, provided foster parent training to 20 potential candidates. The group covered Title 4E, drug and alcohol awareness, reasonable and prudent parenting, and the Foster Parent Handbook. The training went well and the group expressed appreciation for utilizing the facility.
- The Navajo Nation Child Support Enforcement (CSE) held administrative hearings for clients on July 16, August 13, and September 10, 2018. The CSE holds administrative hearings at the court where it is more structured and secure for their clients. The court and CSE collaborated information in hopes of locating and serving absent parents.

On August 10, 2018, Judge Howard Grodman with the Flagstaff Justice Court and Judge Gerald McCafferty with the Flagstaff Municipal Court held court proceedings at the Tuba City court building for individuals with open criminal or traffic cases including outstanding warrants. Defendants also review their cases with the judges without fear of being arrested. This effort was made possible by the Flagstaff Justice Court, Flagstaff Municipal Court, Coconino County District 5 Supervisor Lena Fowler, and the Tuba City Judicial District.

On August 1, 2018, in Kayenta and on August 2, 2018, in Chinle, Tuba City court staff attended the Beyond the Lockdown - Active Shooter safety training provided by Joe Deedon with Tac*One Consulting of Denver, Colora-

Judicial District quarterly highlights

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do. The training consisted of classroom instruction, actual individual and reality-based simulations within a court building setting, and empowering staff to learn the physical skills necessary to act quickly under critical stress situations. Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne mandated the training for all Judicial Branch employees.

On August 17, 2018, the Tuba City Judicial District went live with accepting credit/debit card payments electronically. This initiative has been in the works for some time and finally it is possible for customers to make on-line payments. Information technology manager Ben Mariano and program support specialist Melanie Price provided training on the card reader for the court staff.

On September 17-19, 2018, Judge Victoria Yazzie attended the Financial Management Information System 6B Rollout training at Twin Arrows Casino/Resort. Implementation of the FMIS 6B purchasing and procurement rollout is a requirement by the Navajo Nation Office of the Controller. The 6B rollout is to eliminate the paperwork process and automate the purchasing and travel processes. The government programs and departments are required to begin entering information in FMIS beginning October 1, 2018. Some staff will continue to work on completing the required modules and will receive their certification when all modules are completed.

On September 18, 2018, Jeanette Quintero and Cheryl Curley reviewed files and toured the file rooms during the annual tribal courts monitoring site visit at the Tuba City Judicial District. Ms. Quintero and Ms. Curley asked questions regarding the court's operations under the BIA grant. Court administrator Alice Huskie, senior budget analyst Robert Sam, and bi-culture training specialist Elaine Henderson responded to the questions. All went well.

On July 3, 2018, and September 21, 2018, Judge Victoria Yazzie and court administrator Alice Huskie of the Tuba City Judicial District facilitated work sessions to complete the truancy work flow chart for local schools. From prior Criminal Justice Summit meetings, local school officials expressed the need to address truancy issues and convey the issues to the involved parties. The primary message is educating parents about the importance of having their children being in school every day. Other programs/departments in attendance were the Office of the Prosecutor, Navajo Nation Probation Services, and the Navajo Nation Peacemaking Program. •

KAYENTA JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court clerk Valentina Smith completed a 20-week Southwest Center for Law and Policy intensive online study and coursework entitled, "Tribal Court Legal Advocacy Course." Ms. Smith attained her certification upon complet-

ing a final one week in-person, interactive, skill building session at the University of Wisconsin Law School in Madison, Wisconsin, on July 9-13, 2018. She will be utilizing her certification and court clerk experience to challenge the Navajo Nation Bar Association bar examination in the near future.

Office technicians Regina Jones and Thomasine James learned effective communication skills, customer service, ethics in the workplace, health and wellness, team planning and project management during the 2018 Navajo Nation Human Resources Summit on July 25-26, 2018, in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie and bailiff Brandy Benallie coordinated a Beyond the Lockdown - Active Shooter safety training for all Judicial Branch employees on August 1-3, 2018. Three on-site trainings provided staff an understanding of active shooter incidents, mainstream practices and shortfalls, and action plan to increase chances of survival.

The Kayenta Judicial District facilitated a Kayenta District Criminal Justice Summit in Kayenta, Arizona. Local court, law enforcement, prosecutor, public defender, corrections, criminal investigations, and probation representatives meet on collaborative efforts to share and streamline existing processes to better serve the communities.

Court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie participated in a National Center for State Courts training entitled, "Accountability and Court Performance," on September 11-13, 2018, in Sparks, Nevada. The training provided valuable tools to analyze court performance, implement improvements, and achieve performance goals. The information gathered will be used locally to write an action plan for court improvements.

Court clerk Valentina Smith participated in the 26th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference sponsored by the United States Attorneys' Office in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on September 18-20, 2018. The conference focused on learning new and important skills that can be applied to working with victims of violent crimes. It also provided an opportunity to network with colleagues to share best practices and address issues of concern in Indian Country in the states of Colorado, Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico.

Court clerks Michelle Dennison and Linda M. James completed the How to Manage Conflict and Confrontation training on September 21, 2018, in Flagstaff, Arizona. The training was beneficial in learning efficient ways to deal and manage crisis communication with positive outcomes.

In efforts to complete the Navajo Nation Office of the Controller initiated Expense Management Project to all Legislative and Judicial Branch employees, Judge Tina Tsiginigine participated in the Navajo Nation FMIS Common



Kayenta Staff Attorney Letitia Stover presents a pro se clinic on August 1, 2018, at the Kayenta Probation and Parole Services office.

Foundations and 6B Agency Rollout of Procurement training on September 18-19, 2018, in Twin Arrows, Arizona. The goal of the project is to eliminate duplications of services, time, and travel costs by using technology in the Nation's procurement process.

Court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie participated in several strategic budget planning meetings and presented the district's proposed FY2019 General Fund Budget before the Navajo Nation Council Law & Order Committee. The Committee was supportive of the district's proposed portion of the Judicial Branch's overall budget despite a shortfall in funding.

Staff attorney Letitia Stover and court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie participated in the Kayenta Township-hosted community stakeholders meeting on July 27, 2018, in Kayenta, Arizona. The meeting of public safety agencies, tribal/state/federal community programs, local schools, merchants, churches, and community members focused on concerns regarding public safety, impact of crime, capacity building and housing. Quarterly work plan development updates were established to address concerns by examining current public safety measures and identifying improvements.

In efforts to address a Navajo Nation Judicial Branch Strategic Plan goal, court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie facilitated a Case Management Committee work session on August 24, 2018, in Chinle, Arizona. The initial work session provided opportunity to evaluate the court's use of technology to best serve the public and the Navajo Nation.

Staff attorney Letitia Stover and court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie provided an orientation on Navajo Nation Court Practices to Kayenta District Navajo Nation Department of Corrections staff on September 26, 2018, in Kayenta, Arizona. The orientation provided valuable information on the role of the Navajo Nation courts and procedures and forms/orders used by the courts.

Bailiffs Brandyn Benallie and Chaston Yazzie participated in a work session to review recommendations to the Judicial Branch Court Security Policy revision on September 28, 2018, in Window Rock, Arizona.

In addition to facilitating two service provider meetings, staff attorney Letitia Stover conducted three district Pro Se Legal Clinics for 62 individuals. The clinics were held for individuals who wished to represent themselves and file Pro Se packets with the court. In addition to its own district clientele, the district was delighted to receive participation

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from Forrest Lake, Tuba City, Tonalea, Rough Rock, LeChee, and Kaibeto chapter members. •

ANETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

New court administrator Bryan Parrish was hired on September 10, 2018. Probation officer Bettina Norton, staff attorney Glen Renner, and Judge Irene Black have been providing brief orientations on Aneth Judicial District with Mr. Parrish. Mr. Parrish is coming from the Executive Branch where he has been in management for more than 10 years.

On July 9, 2018, Judge Irene Black presented the proposed Aneth Judicial District's FY2019 General Funds budget to the Law and Order Committee in Window Rock, Arizona. The committee accepted and approved the FY 2019 budget.

Judge Irene S. Black continued to be temporarily assigned to assist Shiprock Judicial District due to shortage of district judges. The temporary assignment began on December 1, 2014, by then Chief Justice Herb Yazzie who issued Administrative Order 68-2014. Judge Black conducted hearings for Shiprock Judicial Districts on Mondays via telehearings and traveled to Shiprock on Thursdays and Fridays. This leaves Aneth Judicial District to pack all Aneth cases on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This on-going assignment has been a demanding assignment of Judge Black for four years now. Judge Black travels over 260 miles between Shiprock and Aneth Judicial Districts weekly.

Staff attorney Glen Renner completed one pro se clinic at the Aneth Judicial District Court on August 10, 2018, for seven attendees. Ms. Renner also provided court-related information to 20 individuals. Staff attorney Glen Renner and traditional program specialist Stanley Nez presented on filing probate and quiet title actions pro se in Navajo Nation courts for 35 permittees from the Cove/Red Valley Chapter on July 26, 2018, and 51 permittees from the Toadlena/Two Grey Hills Chapter on August 22, 2018.

Staff attorney Glen Renner assisted Judge Irene Black with advice, research and drafting orders for the Aneth Judicial District, Chinle District Court, Window Rock Family Court, Navajo Nation Supreme Court, and the Spe-

cial Division of the Window Rock District Court. Ms. Renner assisted other Navajo Nation judges, staff attorneys, court administrators, and program managers upon request.

Staff attorney Glen Renner represented the Window Rock Family Court in two writ proceedings before the Navajo Nation Supreme Court in July 2018; assisted the Chinle District Court with a motion hearing on July 24, 2018; assisted the Kayenta District Court with several motion hearings on August 30, 2018; and assisted Window Rock Family Court, Dilkon District Court, Crownpoint Family Court, Tuba City District Court, and several probation officers with guidance and drafting orders upon request.

Aneth Judicial District court employees completed the Beyond the Lockdown - Active Shooter training in Kayenta, Arizona, on August 1, 2018.

Aneth Judicial District employees attended Employee Policies and Procedures training on July 2, 2018. The training was provided by Judicial Branch Human Resources Director Ralph Roanhorse.

The United States District Court Tribal Reentry Court (TCRC) for the District of Utah held three hearings on July 12, August 3, and September 6, 2018, in Aneth, Utah. The TCRC holds monthly review hearings for participants who are released from federal incarceration to assist them with re-entry into the Aneth Judicial District communities.

Planning continued for Aneth Judicial District Bench Warrant Amnesty Day. The September 27 and 28, 2018, planned event was canceled because the Navajo Nation Office of the Prosecutor needed additional time to plan.

Judge Irene Black and court clerk Darlena Mustache attended the 2018 Four Corners Indian Country Conference September 18-20, 2018, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The conference focused on working with victim of crimes and identifying appropriate resources •

CHINLE JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Mr. Brian Joe was hired as resource coordinator for the newly implemented Chinle Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court. Mr. Joe, Judge Cynthia Thompson, grants administrator Raquel Chee, court administrator Vanessa Mescal,





Chinle Judicial District Court staff at the Chinle justice center facility.

and other key personnel will be involved in implementing the components of the grant. Meetings with stakeholders have occurred and their input has been invaluable. Surveys were completed by youth using Survey Monkey (online survey). Information obtained from the survey will help determine the needs of the youth. The resource coordinator attended the Navajo Nation Youth Advisory Council work session at the Twin Arrows Resort and obtained valuable input from the youth who were in attendance. Work with the Chinle Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court is continuing.

Judicial hearing officer Victor Clyde assisted the Chinle Judicial District by hearing domestic violence cases on Monday of each week. He also assisted with drafting proposed orders for the presiding judge to review and sign. His services have been valuable to meet the needs of the people.

Judge Rudy Bedonie assigned staff attorney Chris Beal to facilitate monthly resource meetings. Resource meetings benefit and help the courts and local service providers address issues of mutual concern. Participating departments and/or programs are allotted time to present their needs and issues, and, if necessary, recommend ways to resolve the issue(s) if it involves another department/program. Lately, it has been difficult to get key people

involved with the meeting. Prosecutors and Law Enforcement seldom attend the meetings.

The district staff attorney facilitated pro se clinics on Wednesdays for community education. He provided basic information on court processes in general and answered questions from attendees. These weekly pro se clinics have been helpful to pro se petitioners.

The court administrator, office technician, and one court clerk completed the FMIS 6B Agency Rollout of Procurement and Accounts Payable training and obtained certification. The district completed two purchase orders using the 6B process. Some issues with the process include receiving the OR from Financial Services, too much time delay from the time documents are submitted to the time information and/or documents are received from Financial Services, and paying the vendors as soon as possible. The turnaround time seems to be about two to three weeks. The district recommends keeping p-card purchases as an option.

The Chinle Judicial District benefited greatly from four temporary employees: two court clerks, one document technician, and one bailiff. The court clerks assisted with updating and entering information in Justware, filing court documents into case files, preparing court documents

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(notice of hearings, criminal summons, etc.), and helping with customer service. The document technician prepared and filed archived cases and scanned final orders in family court cases into Justware. The bailiff helped with security in the courtroom and around the court premises, and covered the security station while other bailiffs covered other areas of the court. The Chinle Judicial District appreciates the services and dedication these temporary employees provided to the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch.

Judge Rudy Bedonie continued to assist the Dził Yijiin Judicial District. He presided over and reviewed cases in the Dził Yijiin Judicial District on Wednesdays and Thursdays of each week. The court administrators worked together to coordinate Judge Bedonie's schedule. ●

DZÍL YIJIIN JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court administrator Arlene Lee has been actively involved in the procurement of a modular building to serve as the Dził Yijiin Judicial District court building. On August 10, 2018, a teleconference was held with the general contractor and NTUA to obtain updates on delivery and set up of the modular units and the right-of-way agreement approvals for the utilities. On September 11, 2018, she met with civil engineer Jerry Silago at the project site to conduct an infrastructure inspection so excavation for waterline installation can begin. On September 19, 2018, Ms. Lee and Judge Rudy Bedonie attended an on-site construction meeting with Capital Projects Management Department project manager Andy Thomas. At this meeting, general contractor Stephen Scarcello and NTUA representatives from the water and electrical sections coordinated plans to complete the excavations for the utilities tap and connections by October 5, 2018. The modular units arrived onsite on September 10, 2018. The next meeting is to discuss design, builders, and sub-contractors to complete the project infrastructure.

On July 12, 2018, Judge Rudy Bedonie and court administrator Arlene Lee gave an update on the modular court building during a Dził Yijiin Regional Council meeting at Pinon Chapter. Judge Bedonie reported on the court operations and answered questions on court processes.

Pro Se clinics were hosted by DNA Legal Services, Inc., on July 25, August 21, and September 25, 2018. The clinics offered legal advice and assistance to individuals seeking legal aid in family civil domestic proceedings, i.e., divorce, name change, correction of record, paternity/child support, guardianship of minor(s), and validation of marriage. The workshops were successful whereby individuals attending the clinics filed pro se packets with the court for further proceedings.

On July 18, 2018, the Dził Yijiin court administrator met with Andy Thomas, project manager with CPMD, regarding Modular Solution's change order and additional expenses to be incurred for construction of the modular building. Peacemaking coordinator Roman Bitsuie and bi-culture training specialist Elaine Henderson with the Navajo Nation Peacemaking Program also attended the meeting.

On August 1, 2018, Dził Yijiin Judicial District staff, Marita Lee, Myron Begay, Shelly Lee, Richard Claw, Savanna Benally, and Arlene Lee, participated in the Beyond the Lockdown - Active Shooter safety training at the Kayenta District Court in Kayenta, Arizona.

On August 24, 2018, court clerk Myron Begay participated in the case management work session at the Chinle District Court.

On August 28, 2018, the Dził Yijiin Judicial District personnel attended training on Judicial Branch Employee Policies and Procedures in Chinle, Arizona. The training was conducted by Judicial Branch Human Resources Director Ralph Roanhorse.

On August 31, 2018, bailiff Richard Claw successfully completed an eight-hour defensive tactics course. He learned about pressure points, use of an expandable baton, and certification of using an oleoresin capsicum (pepper spray). The training was conducted by Sgt. Emmett Yazzie and Sgt. Stanley Ashley with the Chinle Navajo Department of Law Enforcement.

On September 6, 2018, IT manager Ben Mariano installed the credit card reader so the Dził Yijiin Judicial District can begin accepting credit card and online payments for traffic citations.

On September 20 and 21, 2018, bailiff Richard Claw and court clerks Myron T. Begay and Marita Lee attended an orientation on proposed premium rates and benefit changes for employee medical/dental/vision insurance for Plan Year 2019 sponsored by the Navajo Nation Benefits Department in Window Rock, Arizona. ●

DILKON JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Dilkon Court conducted monthly resource meetings every third Friday of the month. These meetings are held with local resources/departments to discuss and address interoffice concerns. Recent meetings have been successful and participation by local resources/departments have improved. Resource meetings were held on July 20, August 17, and September 21, 2018.

Two staff in-service trainings were conducted this quarter to help staff be more productive and effective in the workplace and to better serve the community:

- August 23, 2018, nCourt Credit Card Reader by Judicial Branch IT manager Ben Mariano and program support specialist Melanie Price.
- September 13 2018, 401K and retirement information by Navajo Nation Retirement Office.

To provide education to the public, Louise Grant with DNA People's Legal Services and staff attorney Jordan Hale with the Dilkon Judicial District conducted pro se classes the last two days of each month. These sessions have been very informative to the public, and more and more people are interested in attending the classes.

Throughout the quarter, the Dilkon Judicial District management attended all budget-related meetings and work sessions with the Navajo Nation Office of Management and Budget and the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch. The proposed FY2019 General Funds budget was successfully presented to and accepted by the Navajo Nation Council Law and Order Committee.

Staff of the Dilkon Judicial District and Dilkon Peacemaking Services participated in the Southwest Navajo Intergenerational Conference on July 11, 2018, at Indian Wells School. The conference theme was Generations of Wisdom, Generations of Strength and featured presentations by NASA mechanical engineer Aaron Yazzie, Cpl. Justin C. Ahasteen (2017 USMC of the Year), Ravis Henry

on traditional/modern Diné culture, Raymond Long on family relationships, Miss Navajo Nation Crystal Littleben, traditional program specialist Elaine Henderson with the Navajo Nation Peacemaking Program, and keynote speaker Tom Chee.

On July 19, 2018, the Dilkon Judicial District went live with ePayment for court data system and Justware processing of payments by credit/debit cards. Staff received training on the card reader.

All court staff attended the mandatory Beyond the Lockdown - Active Shooter safety training on August 1-3, 2018. It was a good training.

The Dilkon Court staff were certified in the FMIS 6B rollout scheduled for October 2018. This effort was a challenge and a good learning experience for staff. •

WINDOW ROCK JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Due to building safety issues, the staff of Window Rock Judicial District and Window Rock Probation Services were relocated to the Administrative Office of the Court's conference room. Judge Cynthia Thompson, court administrator Verlena Hale, and acting court administrator Kendra Dale are actively involved in ongoing meetings with Navajo Nation Shopping Centers, Inc., regarding repairs.

Aneth Judicial District staff attorney Glen Renner assisted Judges Perry and Thompson with legal research, represented the Window Rock Family Court on a Writ under docket SC-CV-27-18, and assisted the court administrator with legal questions concerning employment or JBEP matters. She also assisted the staff and the public regarding legal issues and questions.

Two Adult Guardianship Pro Se Clinics were conducted by DNA Legal Services during this quarter; a total of 14 families attended.

Court administrator Verlena Hale and Judge Cynthia Thompson worked on and presented the Window Rock Judicial District's proposed FY2019 general funds budget to the Navajo Nation Law and Order Committee. The FY2019 Comprehensive Budget was passed by the Navajo Nation Council with a vote of 21-0 with 25 amendments.

Court administrator Verlena Hale, court clerk Kendra Dale, and bailiff Pedro Tsosie participated in a case management committee meeting at the Chinle Judicial District.

The district appreciates services provided by four temporary employees hired to assist the judicial district this quarter: bailiffs Gary Lewis and Dennison Willie, court clerk LaDera Storer, and office technician Noreen Sloan.

The nCourt credit card reader was installed for the Window Rock Judicial District to begin accepting payments by debit/credit cards.

To'hajiilee Judge William Platero assisted the Window



Dilkon Judicial District staff attend the 2018 Navajo Nation Human Resources Conference.

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Window Rock Judicial District Court staff. Judge Cynthia Thompson and Chief Justice Jayne

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Rock Judicial District with arraignments. Kayenta Judge Malcolm Begay assisted the Window Rock Judicial District with criminal pre-trial conferences and sentencing hearings.

All staff attended training in *Ké in the Workplace*, NNJB Employee Policies and Procedures, Customer Service, and Active Shooter - Beyond the Lockdown.

Office technician Patricia Mariano and court clerks Patricia Joe, Kendra Dale, Louise Weaver, Corina Begay, Sherilyn Skeet, Doris Tsosie, and Joann Plummer attended the 2018 Human Resource Summit in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Court administrator Verlena Hale attended training in *Supervising Successfully* in Ganado, Arizona. Court administrator Verlena Hale and court clerk Kendra Dale completed training in *Advanced Court Management for Tribal Judges and Personnel* at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada.

Court clerks Doris Tsosie, Sherilyn Skeet, and Louise Weaver participated in the 26th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Court clerk Corina Begay attended the FMIS training in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Judge Cynthia Thompson attended the 8th Annual Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement training in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

As a part of its staff development initiative, the Window Rock Judicial District staff heard a presentation on *Team Building* by Mathias Milford with the Indian Health Services in Wheatfield, Arizona.

Court bailiff Elaine Johnson completed the First Aid/CPR and AED Program in Gallup, New Mexico, and was certified in administering first aid and CPR. ●

SHIPROCK JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Northern Justice and Public Safety Complex Project planning committee worked closely with project manager Tom Bielecki and Dr. Delores Greyeyes, director of Navajo Department of Corrections. The project stakeholders successfully completed review and evaluation of proposals to hire an architect firm and construction manager. The group conducted interviews and made a selection. On June 28, 2018, an evaluation meeting was held regarding the architectural and engineering consultant proposals and scheduling interviews and evaluation of five firms, Encompass Ar-

chitects, Indigenous Design Studio, LAM Corporation, Arrington Watkins, and Dyron Murphy. On July 27, 2018, interviews were conducted for architectural and engineering firms. Proposals were received from Encompass Architects PC, Indigenous Design Studio + Architecture, LAM Corporation, Arrington Watkins Architects LLC, and Dyron Murphy Architects PC. Indigenous Design Studio + Architecture was selected to provide architectural services.

On August 20, 2018, the Navajo Nation Law & Order Committee met at the Shiprock Chapter for updates on the project.

On August 31, 2018, the project committee reviewed proposals and evaluations for a construction manager. On September 21, 2018, the project committee held interviews and evaluations for a construction manager.

In August 2018, the Arrington Watkins Architects, Peter Sangiorgio, conducted a building assessment of the current court facility and collected data. The Arrington Watkins Architects was contracted to update the 2007 Navajo Nation Master Plan. All contract negotiations are being handled by Dr. Greyeyes.

The forecast for building construction is at \$45 million and projected into a \$51 million project budget.

The Shiprock Judicial District's FY 2019 proposed budget was \$1,050,159. The budget was presented to the Law and Order Committee on July 9, 2018. Judicial Branch budget work sessions and/or meetings were held throughout the budget development process.

The restroom and floor renovation is completed. No further renovation is planned on the current facility. The Shiprock Judicial District management will focus on planning the new criminal justice facility.

On September 17-20, 2018, office technician Nicole Atcitty attended the FMIS training at Twin Arrows Casino and Resort in Flagstaff, Arizona. Upon completion of this training, Ms. Atcitty successfully completed all modules and assessments, and is now FMIS certified.

On August 1-3, 2018, all Navajo Nation Judicial Branch employees, including Shiprock Judicial District personnel, participated in the Beyond the Lockdown - Active Shooter safety training provided by TAC*ONE Consulting. Staff gained a better understanding of an active shooter, identifying active shooter incidents and trends, understanding basic firearms and ballistics, being familiar with the new aggressive action plan: evacuate/ barricade/ fight, determining the best plan of action, and how to increase chances of survival. At the end of the training, staff left with a better mindset and skills necessary to respond effectively to an active shooter incident or situation.

The Shiprock daily visitor registry for this quarter was 10,728. ●

CROWNPOINT JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Judge Leonard Livingston continued to preside over cases at Crownpoint and Pueblo Pintado courts. He was also designated associate justice on three Navajo Nation Supreme Court cases on appeal.

Court administrator Rena Thompson successfully presented the Crownpoint and Pueblo Pintado Judicial District budgets to the Navajo Nation Council Law & Order Committee oversight budget hearings in July 2018.

A safety inspection was held on the Pueblo Pintado court building to determine if the mold removal from a couple of years ago was successful. Mr. Richard Bates with the Navajo Nation Safety & Loss Program tested the air and site and found that the building is not secured and appears to be shifting which could create problems in the future. It was decided to continue with completion of punch list items and move toward a final inspection to obtain a certificate of occupancy.

A meeting was held on September 27, 2018, with local resources from the Crownpoint, New Mexico, area. Updates included development of a training committee to address training topics and defining roles of law enforcement and probation services personnel; defensive tactics for bailiffs, Child Protective Services workers, and Department of Behavioral Health Services staff. Also up for discussions were hosting a district amnesty day and federal prosecutions for children offenses.

Ms. Thelma Johnson ended her temporary employment as document technician on September 14, 2018. Ms. Johnson truly helped the judicial district with the backlog of cases for archiving. She prepared, scanned, and archived a total of 8,887 closed court case files, in which most cases contained numerous documents with multiple pages.

In this quarter, the district also had assistance from an administrative office specialist intern, two workforce employees to help with clerical duties, and a maintenance technician.

All staff attended training on Beyond the Lockdown - Active Shooter held by Tac*One. The training enlightened staff on the importance of reacting to an active gunman on the premises and what to possibly do during the time.

Court administrator Rena Thompson completed training in "Accountability and Court Performance" in Sparks, Nevada. The training enlightened participants on the purpose of courts as well as data collection, graphing information, and how "courtools" can help in planning court operations.

Court clerks Rhiannon Guerro and Louise Thompson and bailiff Darrin Clyde participated in the 2018 Navajo Nation Human Resource Summit in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Participants were provided information on improving customer service through Diné language and teachings, Navajo Preference in Employment Act, Ethics in Navajo Nation

Judicial District quarterly highlights

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Government, Navajo women in leadership, wellness and stress management.

Court clerks Rhiannon Guerro and Vita Begay attended the 26th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The training emphasized the importance of recognizing vicarious trauma with young children and victims of spousal abuse, and using the forensic experiential trauma interview technique to unlock trauma in victims. ●

RAMAH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Ramah Judicial District held its staff development on August 30-31, 2018, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Judicial Branch Human Resources Director Ralph Roanhorse provided refresher training on the Employee Policies and Procedures, and staff attorney William Morris gave an overview of forms used in filing pro se petitions. The court staff obtained a lot of valuable information which can be used daily in the workplace.

A total of 3,338 closed court cases were scanned and archived.

The Ramah Judicial District promoted positive and effec-

tive working relationships with the community, local law enforcement, and other public service organizations through monthly service provider meeting.

Approximately 434 people signed in for court services, received/made 603 telephone calls, and received/sent 885 faxes.

During daily operations, court staff:

- Maintained contact with the general public and local service population, i.e., service providers, prosecutor, attorneys, legal services, social services, police officers.
- Maintained a daily log of incoming/outgoing mail for police officers, social services, and prosecutor. ● Maintained mail, telephone, and fax logs and sign-in sheets for parties coming before the court.
- Updated the bench warrant list on a monthly basis with Ramah Navajo Department of Law Enforcement.
- Made bank deposits (fines, fees, and cash bond) in Gallup, New Mexico.

Court administrator Esther Jose and Judge Rhonda Tuni hosted one resource meeting this quarter. Resource meet-

ings were held to promote effective working relationships with the community and local service providers, i.e., law enforcement, prosecutor, social services, behavioral health services, schools, and Pine Hill Clinic. Resource meetings also serve as an important mechanism for interagency planning and coordination at the service delivery level, as well as help define a clearer vision for strategies to coordinate future services, programs, and initiatives. At the conclusion of the meeting, a comment and question period was held, and lunch served to the participants.

On July 12, 2018, Judge Ronda Tuni and staff attorney William Morris assisted with reviewing case files for the Navajo Nation Supreme Court.

In July 2018, Judge Rhonda Tuni, staff attorney William Morris, and court administrator Esther Jose participated in FY 2019 budget planning meetings and/or work sessions. Chief Justice JoAnn B. Jayne presented the Judicial Branch's proposed FY2019 General Funds budget to the Law and Order Committee. The Committee was supportive of and accepted the Ramah Judicial District's proposed FY2019 budget. The court administrator also developed and submitted an unmet needs budget package.

On July 30-August 3, 2018, bailiff Roy Henry, Sr., completed training in Advanced Law Enforcement Readiness in Las Vegas, Nevada. Training topics included courtroom security, screening check points, judicial threat management, jury security, non-verbal communication, threats to the judiciary, high threat trials, etc.

On August 3, 2018, the Ramah Judicial District court staff attended the Beyond the Lockdown – Active Shooter safety training in Crownpoint, New Mexico. Attendees learned about determining the best plan of action when in an active shooter situation, basic understanding of firearms and ballistics, evacuate/barricade/fight, increasing chances for survival for self and others, etc. At the end of the training, participants had a better understanding and knowledge on how to effectively respond to an active shooter incident in various environments.

On September 4, 2018, court administrator Esther Jose and staff attorney William Morris gave an overview of the Judicial Branch Case Management Policy (1999) to the court staff. For everyone's understanding, Mrs. Jose read the Case Management Policy out loud, while staff attorney William Morris explained and highlighted applicable areas of the policy.

On September 13, 2018, the court staff, traditional program specialist Ruby Frank, and office technician Linda Lee met with Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne to brief her about Ramah Judicial District's court cases, statistics, and court schedule. The staff attorney provided information about the caseload.

On September 17-21, 2018, Judge Rhonda Tuni and staff

attorney William Morris attended FMIS training at the Twin Arrows Resort, in Flagstaff, Arizona.

Judge Rhonda Tuni's last day with the Ramah Judicial District was September 21, 2018.

Document technicians Arbre Jake and Latoya Yazzie's temporary employment ended September 28, 2018. The Ramah Judicial District is appreciative of Ms. Jake and Ms. Yazzie who did an excellent job scanning closed court case files. ●

ALAMO/TO'HAIJILEE JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court administrator Regina Begay-Roanhorse attended the National Center for State Courts Accountability and Court Performance training in Sparks, Nevada, from September 11-13, 2018. Participants were trained on how to establish goals for effective court performance in five areas: access to justice; expedition & timeliness; equality, fairness, and integrity; independence and accountability; and public trust and confidence. There are CourTools that courts can utilize to measure data to improve how a court is conducting its business. It enables courts to collect and present evidence of their success in meeting the needs and expectations of customers. These tools are designed to demonstrate quality of service delivery

The USDOJ announced its FY2018 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation Awards during the 26th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference held at Buffalo Thunder Resort, September 18-20, 2018. In early 2018, court administrator Begay-Roanhorse, with assistance from Judicial Branch grants administrator Raquel Chee, had submitted an application for \$750,000 for a Healing to Wellness Court Peer Support/Veterans Project along with funding the Navajo Nation Integrated Justice Information Sharing Project by hiring data entry clerks for the Navajo Nation Office of the Prosecutor. Purpose Area 3, Bureau of Justice Systems and Alcohol and Substance Abuse, was the only one funded. This is the fourth successful grant awarded to the Alamo/To'hajiilee Judicial District, with \$750,000 being the largest awarded to the district.

Court administrator Begay-Roanhorse presented budgets for Alamo and To'hajiilee at two Law and Order Committee meetings on July 9 and July 13, 2018. The district did not receive adequate funding for both courts and has had unmet needs which has been the case for over five years. Each year, the district's budget gets cut because of the caseload statistics. Upon request, Ms. Roanhorse gave the committee information on the grants, Healing to Wellness Court, and Veterans Justice Outreach project.

Court administrator Begay-Roanhorse and Veterans Justice Outreach coordinator Dorothy Waisanen attended the

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26th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference held from September 18-20, 2018. The training provided important information on victim services, vicarious trauma on providers, assessments in Indian Country of intimate partners, active shooters, and the breakout sessions to discuss matters directly with the respective state U.S. Attorney and staff. It's important to monitor new best practices and trends in Indian Country or changes in the laws concerning federal prosecution of violent crimes.

HTWC Veterans Justice Outreach coordinator Waisanen and court administrator Begay-Roanhorse learned about the special needs of veterans with substance use disorders, how to use restorative justice in tribal wellness courts, addiction as disease, role of advocates, evaluation, treatment and rehabilitation during the 8th Annual Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement training sponsored by the Tribal Law and Policy Institute. The HTWC in Maine for tribal people was a stand out. The judge talked about changes in the court room and how the community embraced the wellness courts, often referred to as specialty drug courts. They are named wellness courts because of the stigma the phrase "drug courts" can denote.

Healing to Wellness Courts: Veteran Justice Outreach. The FY2012 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) will be closed out on September 28, 2018. Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator (VJOC) Dorothy Waisanen will not be working past September 2018 as funds were not secured to sustain the position. Nevertheless, the VJOC continued to work on key components to develop future Veterans courts for Navajos through inter-agency collaboration and coordination of services. The district is moving forward with publishing and showing its successes and barriers without the evaluation component. The Alamo/To'hajiilee Judicial District received grant funding through the U.S. DOJ Bureau of Justice Assistance in 2011 to support development of a Healing to Wellness Court in Alamo and To'hajiilee. The 2011 CTAS funding was expended. The 2012 CTAS grant was awarded as an extension of the 2011 CTAS grant and includes a Veterans Justice Outreach Project to develop treatment courts and strengthen access points for veterans who have benefits at the Veterans Affairs (VA) and Indian Health Services (IHS) systems of care. The community steering committees are comprised of veteran organizations at local chapters. There are 110 chapters on the Navajo Nation; however, the VJOC worked mainly with the 31 Eastern Navajo chapter veteran organizations. The VJOC attended monthly meetings to facilitate drafting strategic plans for the organizations. The plan is to have completed strategic plans in place by the end of FY 2018. Two components of the strategic plan are development of peer supports and access to mental health services to address PTSD. In the future, Navajo tribal courts will have a roadmap and partnerships with individual chapter organizations and their veterans to work

with justice-involved Navajo or Native American veterans towards rehabilitation and treatment, one of the 10 key components of a drug court program.

The VJOC met with Diné veterans and their families during monthly meetings to provide education about available resources and service providers to enhance their quality of life. The VJOC planned and assisted at various events during the year, i.e., Operation Veterans Wellness and Resource Fair, Gallup Veterans Summit and Stand Down, 3rd Annual Navajo Nation Veterans Summit, and ongoing resource/job fairs with local partners and providers to veterans. Further, the VJOC assisted at court events by including local veterans by posting of colors and providing educational information for veterans and their families.

The VJOC attended:

- Alamo resource (Naasgo Hozho Whindzin) meetings: 8/31/18, 9/14/18
- Albuquerque Veterans Resource Day, Albuquerque, NM: 9/4/18 • Crownpoint resource meeting: 8/3/18
- CTAS evaluation meetings: 7/16/18, 7/30/18, 8/13/18, 8/17/18, 9/24/18
- Eastern Navajo Veterans Organization meetings: 7/12/18, 9/13/18 • First Nations resource meetings: 7/24/18, 8/7/18, 9/25/18
- Fort Defiance Agency 2nd Annual Navajo Women Veteran Conference: 7/20/18
- Fort Defiance veterans meeting: 8/9/18
- Gallup resource meeting: 9/27/18 • Law and Order Committee: 9/10/18
- Gallup Stand Down and Summit planning meetings: 8/23/18, 9/20/18 •
- Operation Veteran Wellness planning meetings: 7/6/18, 7/13/18, 7/20/18
- Operation Veteran Wellness, Gallup, NM: 7/28/18
- To'hajiilee Red Ribbon Anti-Drug Event: 9/5/18
- To'hajiilee resource meeting: 9/21/18

Other events and meetings the VJOC participated in include the Alamo/To'hajiilee resource meetings, New Mexico State Tribal Judicial Consortium, local collaborative meetings, and other off/on reservation tribal wellness court resource meetings or events. The VJOC partnered with the Navajo Nation Veterans Department and federal partners, particularly Veterans Affairs, including their Veterans Justice Outreach Program. Last, but not least, the VJOC is working on establishing the Peer Support Project and training for veterans. The most notable event this quarter was the Operation Veterans Wellness where over 500 veterans and their families attended a benefits fair, basketball tournament, and a gourd dance. •

Office of Probation & Parole Services



Five districts were proactive in providing educational forums and sessions to clients: Kayenta, Chinle, Dilkon, Crownpoint, and Alamo/Tóhajiilee. These districts scheduled sessions for clients to attend in terms of well-being, education, life skills, and other valuable information that would direct thoughts to make better decisions about the future. In addition, Navajo Nation Probation Services is still in the planning stages of extending Moral Reconciliation Therapy sessions nationwide with the intent that once all probation officers are certified, MRT sessions will begin in calendar year 2019.

The Navajo Nation Probation Services staff successfully completed the Train-the-Trainer Seminar during the last week of August 2018. The week-long training was informative with outstanding presentations by Navajo Nation internal counter partners, i.e., prosecution, courts, and other resources. Follow ups will occur during the PPS quarterly meeting to ensure consistency and provide clarifications as needed.

During the month of July 2018, the chief probation officer's primary focus was on preparation of the proposed FY2019 General Funds budget for the probation services business unit. As the business unit program manager, the chief probation officer had to ensure that a complete, thorough comprehensive budget was submitted.

The CPO participated in a supervisory training on July 27, 2018, along with other AOC administrative managers. The CPO reported that the training was informative, and she will take the ideas, suggestions and perspectives from the training and incorporate it into her knowledge and

skills to improve her leadership skills as chief probation officer.

All Navajo Nation Judicial Branch staff, including probation services staff, attended the Beyond the Lockdown - Active Shooter safety training at Kayenta, Chinle, or Crownpoint Judicial Districts. This informative training was recommended to ensure that employees are somewhat informed of signs and awareness that an active shooter situation may occur anytime or anywhere and that staff should be able to be aware of all indications.

Central administrative and Window Rock staff moved out of Navajo Nation Shopping Center Pad 21 due to mold and other issues that could endanger the well-being of staff. With support from peacemaking coordinator Roman Bit-suie, the staff relocated to the Peacemaking Program building, which once served as office space for Window Rock Probation Services. The Peacemaking Program staff had to make room for six additional staff in their small building. It is often difficult to meet with clients due to that fact that there is no privacy for client's probation officer report-ins or discuss plans and/or other issues pertaining to clients. To date, it is not known when staff will be able to move back into NNSC Pad 21. Due to inadequate office space, the chief probation officer is working from the Kayenta Probation Services conference room and/or AOC conference, upon availability.

A number of probation services staff attended the 26th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The two-day conference focused on victims of crime on Indian Country. Participants grouped to

Probation & Parole Services quarterly highlights

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identify challenges and barriers to ensure that victims are heard and assisted. The conference was a good resource for probation officers who walked away with information that can be applied and used toward their caseload and daily interaction with clients.

For years, the Navajo Nation Probation Services has been involved in the development and implementation process of the Title IV-E initiative in the Ramah District in terms of juvenile processes and supervision. Mr. Thomas Cody, through the Casey Foundation, has been revisiting the initiative and has been scheduling meetings for stakeholders. Navajo Nation Probation Services, by recommendation from the Office of the Chief Justice, attended the quarterly Title IV-E meeting on July 9, 2018, in Seattle, Washington.

Senior probation officers JoAnn Holyan-Terry and Harmon Mason are doing good jobs handling and assisting probation officers in their respective districts. They worked diligently on completing district case audits, even though completing audits can be a tedious, lengthy process, especially when there are other initiatives (development), personnel and supervision issues, and technical support that also need attention. In the next quarter, focus will be on completing annual performance evaluations of staff and submitting them to the Judicial Branch Human Resources.

Aneth Probation Services. Judge Irene Black, by administrative order, delegated probation officer Bettina Norton as acting court administrator until a permanent court administrator was hired for the district. Officer Norton performed court administrator duties in addition to her own duties as probation officer. Officer Norton, as the district subject matter expert (SME), took part in work sessions in creating a Justware User Guide for use by probation services staff. The user guide was introduced and discussed during the Train-the-Trainer seminar in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Officer Norton reported that most of the cases going through her office are community court cases rather than court-adjudicated probation cases.

Alamo Probation Services. Officer Lauren Billy was invited to give a presentation on school truancy at a Magdalena School Johnson O'Malley meeting at the Alamo Chapter. She presented on how probation services and the local prosecutor are working together to combat truancy issues. She also provided information on the JV process and how probation works with the courts, prosecution, and local resources to assist clients, parents, and children.

Alamo/Tóhajiilee Probation Services began referring probation clients to the Peacemaking Program traditional program specialist for Life Value Engagement sessions.

By order of the Alamo/Tóhajiilee judge, the court bailiff and probation officer transported minor children to treatment facilities in Sacaton, Arizona, and/or Thoreau, New Mexico. Chinle Probation Services

Chinle Probation Services worked with clients with manpower of two probation officers. A third probation officer position became vacant in the last quarter, so the existing caseload was divided between the two officers. A new probation officer should be hired within the next few weeks.

Officer Bernita Dalton is involved with development of a Chinle Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court (JHTWC) being spearheaded by Judicial Branch grants administrator Raquel Chee and stakeholders from local resources and the community. Meetings are ongoing to further strategize and plan for the implementation of the JHTWC in the near future. This initiative will positively benefit the children of Chinle and surrounding communities.

Chinle Probation Services actively promoted good health and diabetes prevention and awareness by having Ms. Margilene Barney with the Chinle Special Diabetes Prevention Program provide classes to probation clients on a monthly basis. Her classes focused on the ill-starred effects on internal organs by alcohol and substance abuse. She gave demonstrations on eating a well-balanced meal and shared recipes with clients. Overall, these life skills sessions are good for clients.

Chinle Probation Services collaborated with Iina' Counseling Services from Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility in providing suicide awareness and prevention sessions. The first session was held on July 17, 2018; classes will be ongoing.

Officer Victoria Joe referred three clients to the Tsin-Nan-Tee Prevention and Awareness in Nazlini, Arizona, to learn about diabetes/nutrition, colorectal cancer awareness, and elder care. She also referred one client to the Grandparents Baa Akohwiidizin Trail Ride and Health Fair sponsored by Tachiinii Nursing Services, Inc.

Crownpoint Probation Services. The Crownpoint probation officers reported that they are continually busy with scheduled client report-ins, engagement, and ongoing PSR report writing. Officer Sharon Willie worked with a 26-year old female client who was in a dysfunctional family environment involving alcohol and physical abuse all her life. With Officer Willie's encouragement, the client enrolled at San Juan College and is pursuing a certified nursing assistant degree. After completing outpatient counseling, the client made a decision to leave home and start making positive changes for her future. She is now looking for a home of her own.

Officer Willie referred two clients for traditional ceremonies utilizing the peacemaking hogan. She attended the ceremonies to support her clients and kept the fire lit throughout the ceremonies. The ceremonies were positive and beneficial for both clients.

Officer Marshall Benally, with assistance by local resources, referred six clients to residential treatment pro-

grams. Of the six referrals, four successfully completed their treatment programs.

Crownpoint Probation Services worked with the Crownpoint Indian Health Services HDDP and local resources by permitting use of the hogan for purposes of providing educational services by local resources and to meet in a suitable environment for weekly parenting classes.

Dzil Yijiin Probation Services. Officer Arlene Begay provided continual services to probation clients, and made referrals to treatment center as needed. Due to inadequate office space, it has been challenging for Officer Begay to conduct educational forums and/or sessions. This should change once the new modular building is set up and opened to the public.

Dilkon Probation Services. Officer Dominique LaFontaine mentored juveniles under his supervision by encouraging them to take part in the Tour de Sih Hasiin 300-mile Bike Challenge across the Navajo Nation. The bike tour began in Window Rock, Arizona, on July 9, 2018, and ended July 15, 2018, at the Twin Arrows Navajo Resort and Casino, Arizona. Officer LaFontaine's effort to support his juvenile clients was co-sponsored by Officer Terry John with the Window Rock Police Department.

Kayenta Probation Services. Kayenta Probation Services received a total of 224 new cases this quarter as a result of the backlogged cases filed by the Office of the Prosecutor. These cases involve counseling, pretrial, deferred prosecution, court request, application for legal counsel, and presentence reports.

Kayenta Probation Service teamed up with the local farm board by having community service workers work off outstanding fines by picking up trash in the community. This allows the community to focus on other projects, i.e., establishment of community gardens, community beautification.

Kayenta Probation Services is awaiting relocation to the building that was formerly occupied by the Kayenta Criminal Investigations (CI). CI moved into their new building and signed over the building to Kayenta Probation Services. The building is currently being renovated.

Ramah Probation Services. Officer Brendolyn Natan collaborated with Peacemaking Program traditional program specialist Ruby Frank about implementing Life Value Engagement sessions for probation clients.

Shiprock Probation Services. Shiprock Probation Services worked closely with the Shiprock Peacemaking Program by referring clients to traditional program specialist Sarah Whitehorse. Ms. Whitehorse provided clients with rehabilitative counseling using Diné Hozho teachings focusing on the emergence of life, self-care, and living a sober lifestyle. The probation officers received positive feedback from clients who seem to have gained a more positive outlook and attitude about themselves.

The Shiprock probation officers worked with Tuba City

and Kayenta Department of Corrections to assist clients in regards to physical examinations, community work hours, and other assistance needed by the NDOC staff. This collaborative effort is working well between Shiprock Probation Services and Navajo Department of Corrections staff.

The probation officers made time to schedule community outreach sessions at local chapters and schools. The purpose of outreach is to provide awareness of consequences if laws are breached and not complied with. The outreach effort has been positive.

Officer Calvin Silas worked with a juvenile client who is also attending outpatient services with Shiprock Department of Behavioral Health Services. The minor child was found to be abusing methamphetamine. With counseling and consistent drug testing, she is beginning to show progress and drug testing now show results of negative meth usage. The juvenile is complying with conditions and demonstrating a positive outlook on her future.

Officer Silas has been assigning perspective thinking tasks to clients on probation and obtaining feedback from them during exit interviews. Perspective thinking allows clients to talk about and provide a self-analysis about their own perspective of being on probation and how they made a difference or made improvements toward a happier, healthier lifestyle. The purpose of this task is to restore a healthy outlook of oneself physically, mentally, and emotionally.

Officer Lucy Yesslith used frequent field visits as a tool to ensure client accountability and compliance. She worked with a Shiprock High School special needs student who threatened to conduct a school shooting. Officer Yesslith made frequent home visits to obtain a better understanding of the student's home environment and how the family is helping her and her challenged needs. Frequent visits were also made to the school to ensure that the threats were not carried out and even went to the extreme of checking the student's backpack as a precautionary measure. The response from school officials has been positive.

Tuba City Probation Services. The Tuba City probation officers are conducting ongoing, routine report-in with clients, making proper referrals, and attending staff and criminal justice summit meetings at the invitation of the court.

Window Rock Probation Services. Probation officers Marcellus Morgan and Alberta Smith-Jumbo assisted two clients in getting into a 90-day residential treatment program in Phoenix, Arizona. Both clients are pending a 90-day evaluation before being discharged.

Window Rock Probation Services is currently located in a small office which is occupied by three probation officers, an office technician, and a senior probation officer. This situation makes it difficult for report-in, especially when clients need to speak to a probation officer in private. These circumstances should change soon when staff reoccupy the NNSC Pad 21 building. ●

Peacemaking Program



Work on the Peacemaking Youth Education and Apprenticeship Program (PYEAP) was a particular focus for the Peacemaking Program this quarter. A strategic plan was completed and approved by U.S. DOJ. This approval allowed the Program to take the first of four annual draws against the grant. The strategic plan was a collaborative effort among the Judicial Branch and other participants. It identifies core activities, persons responsible to lead and participate in them, goals and measurements, and deadlines for completion of incremental steps. The plan uses the SMART planning methodology recently adopted by the Judicial Branch. Staff were pleased to have the plan approved by DOJ with only a few minor clarifying editorial recommendations. The plan is a strong roadmap for the program's success. It highlights the importance of preserving and utilizing traditional, culturally-relevant methods in conflict resolution, policy formation, and cultural events.

During this quarter, the Program started implementation of the plan by completing revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Peacemaking Program and participating schools and making presentations to school boards and other officials to get MOUs signed and the program in place. The goal is to work with at least 40 schools involved in the PYEAP activities.

The Peacemaking Program continued to fulfill its responsibilities of providing services to other agencies, branches of government, and the Navajo Nation through policy engagement, work with schools, presentations to chapters, and

participation in community and cultural events. Traditional program specialists (TPS) attended chapter and community meetings and presented cultural and peacemaking information to hundreds of Diné in various settings.

Other outreach activities have also been successful. The program coordinator was asked by U.S. DOJ to present information about peacemaking in a Webinar, and to work on a continuing basis to improve the knowledge of other grant recipients about peacemaking and Navajo Nation programs. Work with school districts, in schools, and with youth continued. TPS met with officials from several schools and offered peacemaking and educational services, maintaining focus on the programs with school administrators.

Community-based peacemakers are being engaged to handle more peacemaking sessions and counseling. During the fourth quarter, community-based peacemakers were used in several judicial districts for peacemaking sessions, as well as Life Value Engagements. The focus continues to be strengthening the family and maintaining family unity when possible. Some community based peacemakers had difficulty with transportation and communication, causing some sessions to not be completed.

With the completion of the Strategic Plan for PYEAP, implementation means that TPS are reinvigorating their engagements with youth in the communities and schools. Various judicial districts are not consistent about referrals—some use peacemaking services for family- and youth-related issues, but several districts have sporadic or rare

referrals and limited collaboration. Meetings have been held with individual judges and district administrators that show opportunities for greater collaboration, trying to resolve communication, and other problems to create more harmonious efforts. Presentations of MOUs to schools is raising awareness among leaders and administrators about the PYEAP and opportunities for youth.

Completing the strategic plan provided an important opportunity to connect with stakeholders, partners, and one another. This process helped articulate a common vision of our goals and the steps necessary to achieve them, with specific outcomes, timeframes, and individual responsibilities made clear to everyone. Achieving consensus at this specific, explicit level for our key initiative is highly developmental for the Peacemaking Program staff as a team.

Bi-culture training specialist Elaine Henderson has been involved in many mission-advancing activities, and continued to work on improvements to professionalism and efficiency. She provided training for new Peacemaking Program staff, filled in during absences with services, and worked closely with other agencies to coordinate a pilot project that would result in the Peacemaking Program assisting with direct referrals from the Division of Social Services. She focused on improving consistency and accuracy in reporting and case management. Examples of her activities included: • A resource meeting in Tuba City Judicial District to discuss and implement a truancy flow of referrals and what issues need to be resolved to make it more workable. • The Peacemaking Program held its PYEAP II stakeholders meeting in Chinle, Arizona. This was a successful meeting attended by local peacemakers who gave guidance on compiling the strategic plan. • Attending the Holbrook Unified School District's board meeting to answer questions on a proposed Memorandum of Understanding for the PYEAP II grant. The board was fully supportive and commended the program for its efforts to have an alternative to assist students experiencing truancy issues. • Attended a meeting at Tuba City Judicial District to be a part of addressing the work flow of students referred for truancy from the schools. In attendance were the district prosecutor, Tuba City court staff, TPS, social services, and other stakeholders. Mrs. Henderson presented a brief overview of the mission/vision of the Peacemaking Program and discussed the flowcharts in the Plan of Operation. It was agreed that a better workability needs to be addressed with the school's referral system since mostly all cases in the previous school year were made during the last month of the school year.

The Peacemaking Program prioritized work based on the goals set by the Navajo Nation Council and the Judicial Branch. These are examples from some of the judicial districts: **Alamo Court.** The TPS focused on youth services and provided assistance with truancy, delinquency, substance abuse, and other issues for youth and families, including a young person in a treatment center. Engagement

with schools and community members is a high priority.

Aneth. The TPS is particularly active in prevention and community education services. A talking circle hosted in the hogan provides opportunities for youth to discuss their concerns and issues with caring adults and receive encouragement. Presentations to community groups and in schools reached over 120 people this quarter. Domestic violence cases are dropping in this district. **Dzil Yijiin.** Services for this area are being performed from the Hardrock Chapter because there is no other available facility. This situation, and the lack of tribal vehicles and adequate communication equipment, severely hampers the ability of the TPS to provide services for families who were part of the Navajo-Hopi relocation process. These families face greater issues with family disharmony, substance abuse, depression, and similar problems than the Navajo Nation population in general. Improved availability of traditional, culturally-based services is important for this area and will be a focus in the future. **Kayenta.** The Kayenta Court's workload was reduced by peacemaking counseling, including use of community-based peacemakers. Seven cases referred by the court were resolved in peacemaking with community-based peacemakers. Topics included marriage counseling, substance abuse, domestic violence, and traditional values in family relationships. 27 counseling sessions were provided by the TPS, including 9 referrals from probation and parole services. Presentations at high schools gave students and administrators opportunity to learn more about Navajo traditions and peacemaking. Dennehotso School will start using PYEAP and peacemaking services. **Ramah.** Referrals from the Ramah District Court improved which resulted in peacemaking sessions being scheduled with community-based peacemakers. The TPS was brought in by the school district to assist with curriculum for family listening sessions. A youth apprentice was assigned to work with youth during breakout sessions of this curriculum, which allowed for outreach to parents and young people on a peer-to-peer basis. **Tóhajiilee Court.** The TPS helped a family resolve conflict issues that the prosecutor intended to refer to federal authorities for charges. The successful peacemaking process brought about family reunification and avoided federal law enforcement involvement. The individual who avoided charges will work with the TPS for traditional counseling in family relationships and anger management. **Tuba City.** Peacemaking cases in Tuba City have had similar positive outcomes. Referred by the Tuba City District Court, Naalchidi entered a plea agreement and part of that was for him to have a peacemaking session with his wife. The Peacemaker provided traditional teachings including roles and responsibilities of husband and wife, positive communication, domestic violence and its affects, and alcohol abuse. At the conclusion of the session, Naalchidi said he would like to begin attending AA to help himself. His wife said she would like to have a Beauty Way ceremony conducted for her and her family so they can live in harmony. ●

Navajo Nation Integrated Information Sharing Project

Monitored approved FY2018 NNIJISP \$484,000 and \$232,000 carryover funds, totaling \$717,000. In July, NNIJISP systems and programming manager Michelle Yazzie reported that the balance of about \$127,000 after requests from NNIJISP partners funding requests. In September the ending balance was \$34,189.66, this is contingent on receiving and closing out all purchase orders by September 21, 2018. Overall, we were able to spend 90 percent of our budget or roughly \$683,000 of FY 2018 NNIJISP budget.

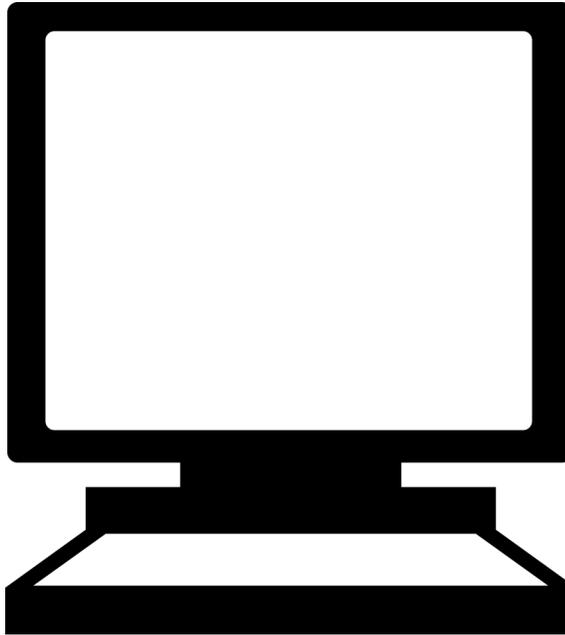
Monthly NNIJISP meetings were held in June, July, August, and September 2018. Task list work sessions were held in July and August.

The NNIJISP systems and programming manager coordinated plans with Journal Technologies, Inc., in registering 45 staff from the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch and other Navajo Nation partners to attend the JTI 2018 Professionals Training Conference in Park City, UT. Registration totaling \$17,975 was paid using the NNIJISP business unit. The NNIJISP systems and programming manager, administrative director, and grants staff are working on getting an outstanding invoice for lodging paid for Navajo Nation participants.

The FY2019 NNIJISP budget was compiled and presented to the Budget and Finance Committee (BFC). BFC approved communications and utilities, repairs and maintenance, and special transactions; however, supplies, lease and rental were disapproved. The total amount approved by the Budget and Finance Committee was \$350,000. An FY2019 Unmet Needs Budget in the amount of \$134,160 was also submitted.

Activities by NNIJISP Systems and Programming Manager

- Completed 27 work orders, which included travel to Aneth and Shiprock Judicial Districts.
- Provided information on NNIJISP to partners.
- Facilitated NNIJISP meetings and task list work sessions.
- Reviewed budget balances for the NNIJISP business unit using the Navajo Nation FMIS.



- Participated in Navajo Nation Fair activities, i.e., Kids Day, decorating the Judicial Branch float for the parade.
- Created Justware custom reports for Navajo Nation Supreme Court and Law and Order Committee.
- Assisted with copying, binding, and creating graphs and charts to include in the Judicial Branch's FY 2019 Budget binders.
- Attended the AOC staff development training on the Judicial Branch Employee Policies and Procedures Manual in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- Created inventory lists for the

Liberty court recorders and Fujitsu document scanners.

- Met with Navajo Nation Contract Accounting to discuss payment of an outstanding Journal Technologies, Inc., lodging invoice in the amount of \$14,788. Accounts Payable supervisor Janice Haskie suggested that sole source procurement be used as justification for payment. If payment is not made in FY2018, administrative director Stephen B. Etsitty stated that payment can be made using FY 2019 funds. As of September 31, 2018, payment has not been made.
- Compiled quotes for purchase of computer equipment, printers, laptops, scanners, monitors, and software for NNIJISP partners.
- Participated in Administrative Office of the Courts managers meetings.
- Completed minutes for NNIJISP meetings.
- Completed NNIJISP quarterly narrative and program performance criteria reports.
- Presented NNIJISP budget to the Law and Order and Budget and Finance Committees.
- Attended Journal Technologies, Inc., 2018 Professionals Training Conference in Park City, Utah, from June 11-15, 2018. Provided feedback on conference at debriefing meeting with administrative director Stephen B. Etsitty.
- Provided continual IT support of hardware and software for Judicial Branch. ●

Judicial Conduct Commission



Government Relations Officer Karen Francis presented the proposed budget of the Judicial Conduct Commission to the Law and Order Committee on July 9, 2018. She informed the committee of the unmet need for personnel including an executive director and office technician. On July 13, 2018, she attended the budget revisits of the Law and Order Committee and on July 20, 2018, she attended the Law and Order Committee meeting where the proposed budget was passed to recommend to the Budget and Finance Committee.

Ms. Francis attended the meeting of the Health, Education and Human Services Committee of the Navajo Nation Council to hear an update report by Department of Justice Attorney Mel Rodis on the status of reclassifying commission members as employees for tax purposes only. Mr. Rodis's recommendation is to create a new classification of employees to be included in the employee policies and procedures.

The Judicial Conduct Commission met in a work session and meeting on August 16-17, 2018, at Twin Arrows, Arizona. The work session was to inform the Commission on the changes to their status as employees for tax purposes and to fill out the necessary paperwork. The Commission also discussed future plans including conducting a radio program in the first quarter of FY 2019.

Judicial Conduct Commission Chairman Robert Yazzie and Vice Chairman Manley Begay attended the Labor Law and Labor Arbitration Conference September 5-6, 2018.

Topics included Investigation, Evidentiary Issues, Due Process, Discipline and Discharge, Sexual Harassment, Safety, Should this Case be Settled, Direct and Cross Examination Techniques, Difficult Cases on Insubordination, Contract Interpretation, and Labor-Management Relationship. Ralph Roanhorse, Judicial Branch Human Resources Director, also attended this conference.

Judicial Conduct Commission member Judy Apachee participated in the Judicial Branch's float entry for the 72nd Annual Navajo Nation Fair Parade on September 8, 2018.

On September 17, 2018, the Law and Order Committee approved legislation to delegate its authority in screening and recommending applicants for judge and justice positions to the Judicial Conduct Commission. The legislation was sponsored by Council Delegate Otto Tso.

Office Technician Linda H. Williams attended the 26th Annual Four Corners Indian Country Conference sponsored by the U.S. Attorney's Office on September 18-20, 2018. The conference gave Ms. Williams the opportunity to learn about the latest issues in Indian Country in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado and to network with other professionals in the region.

Work is ongoing to update the design of the Judicial Conduct Commission webpage with Sandstone Public Relations. Quanah Yazzie, a temporary office technician with Administrative Office of the Courts, was assisting with the effort but his employment ended as of the end of the fiscal year. ●

Other news

Judicial Branch Statistical Caseload by District Report for FY18 4th Quarter

CASE TYPE	CASELOAD	CLOSED CASES
Alamo	148	37
Aneth	621	215
Chinle	1303	644
Crownpoint	1922	462
Dilkon	982	332
Dzil Yijiin	776	230
Kayenta	2747	821
Pueblo Pintado	205	53
Ramah	2798	1219
Shiprock	4114	1309
To'hajiilee	371	47
Tuba City	2238	681
Window Rock	5095	1100

Judicial Branch Statistical Caseload By Type Report for FY18 4th Quarter

CASE TYPE	CASELOAD	CLOSED CASES
Civil	1692	291
Criminal	8734	2023
Civil Traffic	6164	2804
Criminal Traffic	1630	459
Family Civil	2568	544
Domestic Violence	1720	934
Dependency	510	42
Delinquency	213	30
CHINS	89	23
Supreme Court	134	24
Probation/Parole	4620	1514
Peacemaking	495	296

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 12, 2018

- Veterans Day (Observed) - Holiday. Judicial Branch closed.

November 14, 2018

- Pro Se Class. Chinle Judicial District. 9:00 a.m.— Probate, Quite Title.

November 16, 2018

- Pro Se Class. Aneth Judicial District. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Resource Meeting. Dilkon Judicial District.

November 21-23, 2018

- Thanksgiving and Family Day - Holiday. Judicial Branch closed.

November 27, 2018

- Pro Se Class. Tuba City Judicial District. 9 a.m.

November 28, 2018

- Pro Se Class. Chinle Judicial District. 9:00 a.m.— Guardianship of a minor.

November 29 and 30, 2018

- Dilkon Judicial District Pro Se Class. Call ahead to confirm that the class is being held at (928) 657-8140.

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