

Diné Justice

A Newsletter of Hashkééjí Nahat'á

YA' IISHJÁÁSHTSOH
2018



Quarterly message of the Chief Justice



Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne

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Yá'át'ééh, Shí Diné Doo Shíghéí, Ado Nihíí Nahatajii Nataani Honorable Navajo Nation Council Delegates, *Doo Alají Hozhoojí Nahatá* Russell Begay, *Doo Jonq athan Nez Akádó Dájizdahyígí, Adóó Alájíí Nahatajii Nahata* Lorenzo Bates *Doo* distinguished guests. I respectfully present you the *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* (Judicial Branch) Third Quarterly Report for Fiscal Year 2018 covering April 1, 2018, to June 30, 2018.

The cornerstone of the *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* is embodied in the establishment of the judicial branch on October 16, 1958. Section 1, Resolution No. CO-69-58 (codified at 7 N.T.C. Subsection 201 (1978)). It was the desire of the *naata'nii* that "these courts be made effective and respected instruments of justice." The creation of the *dine'* courts was a first "step" for checks and balances in the Navajo Nation government. Later on December 4, 1985, an amendment to 7 N.T.C. Subsection 201 reiterated the establishment of the Judicial Branch plus it created the Navajo Nation

Supreme Court. The intent of creating the supreme court was "in furtherance of the goal of strengthening the Courts of the Navajo Nation."

Through an amendment on December 15, 1990, our *naata'nii* amended Navajo Tribal Code Title 2 to create the judicial branch as a separate branch of Navajo government. The preamble to this legislative act stated, "treating the Judicial Branch as a separate branch of government has proven to be beneficial to the Navajo Nation and has provided stability in the government." N.T.C. Resolution No. CD-68-89.

The *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* third quarterly report contains the commitment, accomplishments, data, fortitude, challenges, and sacrifices made by the two hundred and thirteen (213) employees to fulfil the mandate and preamble to the creation of the branch. The full independence of the courts is of utmost importance to the branch so use of *k'e* and *Diné bi*

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beenahaz' áanii remains the foundation of our vision, mission, goals, and objectives.

Visions are created as we experience life, past, present, and future. Our ancestors prepared the way for us – they created justice, fairness, and *k'é*. With these values, they cemented their vision for us. The *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* is vested with special teachings and movement to reach the highest level of fairness for our Diné. Thus, the branch vows to be an independent judiciary since its creation. The *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* is highly respected around the world due to our unique approach to justice. Our *Diné* require judicial guarantees for quality, fairness, respect, and human rights. Based on these teachings and concepts, the *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* goals and objectives continue to embody *Diné bi beenahaz' áanii*.

The Navajo Nation's declaration and proclamation of the 2018 Year of Naaltsoos Saní (Treaty of 1868) reflected on the significance of our treaty and sovereignty. Our *Diné* courts have integrated *Diné* Fundamental Law to provide the basis of its sacred teachings and laws. Our *Diné* courts vow to protect sovereignty and they play a significant role in educating our *Diné* on the tenets of the Treaty of 1868 and our sovereignty. The *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* constantly moves towards aligning these teachings with *Diné bi beenahaz' áanii*.

The fundamental tenet of an independent judiciary is to have a full judiciary. The search continues for a third Associate Justice for the three (3) justice panel of the Supreme Court. The third justice position has been vacant for more than seven (7) years. Within thirty (30) business days upon my confirmation as Chief Justice, I assigned all district court judges (as associate justice by designation to sit as the third justice on the appellate panel) which began the process of removing the backlog of unresolved, supreme court cases dating back to 2011. This allowed an immediate, short-term solution to a long-standing situation. District Court judges responded; however, these new assignments cut into their own backlog of district court cases. Thus, this process remains a challenge given their daily caseloads.

Another function of the Navajo Nation Supreme Court is to oversee the practice of law in *dine'* courts. Sixteen (16) new bar members were sworn in to

practice law as members of the Navajo Nation Bar Association (NNBA). The process is for the Supreme Court to conduct a hearing to review the NNBA petitions for admittance to the bar for individuals that have passed the Navajo Nation Bar Exam and Dine Fundamental Law session.

District Court judges and court personnel in Shiprock, Crownpoint, Alamo, To'hajiilee, and Ramah, New Mexico; Aneth, Utah; and Kayenta, Chinle, Tuba City, Dilkon, Window Rock, and Dzil'i jiin, Arizona remain vigilant, hardworking, and successful despite judge vacancies in their district courts. Recruitment efforts are ongoing to fill District Court judge vacancies to help carry the load and fulfil the mandate of our *naata'nii*.

In order for the *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* to move forward with its vision and mission, a new Strategic Plan was created for a ten-year plan (2018-2028) focusing on the next 18-month period (June 2018 to December 2019). The branch employees developed an Action Plan to address high-priority matters. The last Strategic Plan was made in 2007.

The *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* continues its outreach to the public. Our *Hashkeeki Naahat'a* employees and other partners have done a fantastic job in providing educational and supportive services to our *Diné*. This work is accomplished with using external grant funds as well as general funds. These endeavors help to fulfill our vision and mission in rehabilitating individuals and families and restoring harmony pursuant to *Diné bi beenahaz' áanii*. ●



Associate Justice Cynthia Thompson by designation, Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne and Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley during Supreme Court oral argument.

Judicial District FY 18 3rd Quarterly Highlights

TUBA CITY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Three pro se trainings were held this quarter. Training topics included guardianship of a minor, name change, correction of records, declaration of a name, probate, and how answer a petition. Individuals who want to represent themselves are required to attend pro se training so he/she is aware of what the law requires and his/her duties and responsibilities in court prior to filing their packets with the court. The total number of attendees during this reporting period was 30 participants.

The Tuba City Judicial District judge, court administrator, and office technician hosted Criminal Justice Summit meetings on April 20 and June 22, 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.

Judge Victoria Yazzie and court administrator Alice Huskie held trainings on court procedures and processes on district and family court cases for the clerks on a regular basis. On occasion one-on-one meetings are held to provide clarification on topics relating to a specific case matter.

Oaths of Office. Judge Victoria Yazzie administered oaths of office as follows:

- Roberta Gorman, school board, Leupp Community School, Inc.
- Bahozhoi N. Kinsel, school board, Kaibeto Boarding School
- Chester Claw, school board, Tonalea Day School

- Thomas McCabe, health board, Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation

On April 6, 2018, the Tuba City Judicial District held its annual Justice Day with an open house and a luncheon. The theme for Justice Day 2018 was “Perpetuate Diné Way of Life Through Resilience.” More than 350 students and the public had opportunity to tour the courtroom without the formalities of a court hearing. The public enjoyed presentations about the Treaty of 1868, justice symbols, why Lady Justice is blindfolded, and the meaning of the justice scale. Staff explained courtroom rules, the different types of hearings held by the family and district courts, and the types of cases referred to probation or peacemaking. People touring the court building expressed positive comments about the facility. The Navajo Nation Department of Corrections and Department of Law Enforcement also provided presentations throughout the day showing their equipment that they use for work. The overall turnout was excellent.

Indian Law Conference. On April 5-6, 2018, staff attorney Marvin Beauvais participated the Indian Law Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona. Topics presented included Tribal Sovereign Immunity, IHS and the Opioid Epidemic, Land Rights, Jurisdiction, Taxation, Water Rights, Natural Resources, Human Trafficking in Indian County, ICWA and Ethics. The overall conference was beneficial in providing updates.

On April 30 and May 1, 2018, court clerks Amy Hatathlie and Lenora A. Begay participated in a Justware work session in Window Rock, Arizona. Justware is the case management software program utilized by all Navajo Nation Courts. The group reviewed Justware features, made recommendations for proposed changes, and discussed e-payments, creating a user’s guide, and the proposed Judicial Branch Automation Policy. All Navajo Nation Judicial Districts participated in the work session to provide input.

Daily Visitor Sign-in and Metal Detector Count for April, May, June 2018

MONTH	Court Hearing	Protection Order	Pay Fine/Cash Bond	Filing Documents	Obtain Information	Check Mail	Attend Training	Background Check	Oath of Office	Maintenance of Building	Attend Meeting	Other Hearings	Other	Total Clients Served	Metal Detector Reading
Apr 2018	593	66	51	174	400	104	21	2	2	1	61	0	94	1,569	2,244
May 2018	499	54	30	179	328	99	21	3	2	1	2	0	102	1,320	1,794
June 2018	366	44	14	110	276	61	4	7	9	2	11	0	53	957	1,450
Total	1,458	164	95	463	1,004	264	46	12	13	4	74	0	249	3,846	5,488

On May 4, 2018, the Tuba City Judicial District staff learned about Diné history through training about Naaltsoos Sání in commemoration and tribute to the Navajo people that courageously made the “forced” journey by the U.S. government 150 years ago. Despite the sad, heartbreaking, and disheartening

Judicial District quarterly highlights

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stories, the Diné people persevered and came a long way on the path of resilience. Through the Navajo Treaty of 1868, approximately 8,000 Diné people returned to their homeland.

On June 4-6, 2018, Judge Victoria Yazzie and court administrator Alice Huskie attended a Judicial Branch Strategic Plan work session facilitated by Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne in Ignacio, Colorado. The group identified obstacles and recommended ways to improve the services of the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch. Mapping the workflow plans were documented for review and evaluation in the future.

On June 7-8, 2018, NNBA held its annual conference at the Sky Ute Casino Resort in Ignacio, Colorado. Judge Victoria Yazzie heard updates and information related to the bar association.

On June 12-14, 2018, office technician Orlando Sam, bailiff Jonathan Nez, and court clerk Jannie Nelson attended the JTI Professionals Training Conference in Park City, Utah. The conference had work sessions on JusticeWeb, calendaring and docketing, financials, JDA forms, business rules and workflows. The group enjoyed the conference.

On June 20-22, 2018, bailiff Vinton Yazzie and court clerks Amy Hatathlie and Lenora Begay participated in the Flagstaff Municipal Court and Coconino Superior Court-sponsored Judicial Staff Training Conference in Flagstaff,

Arizona. The staff enjoyed breakout sessions in Legal Advice vs. Legal Information, Grand Jury and Indictment Process, Five-Star Customer Service, Courtroom Etiquette, Coping with Drastic Changes, Overcoming Adversity, Self Defense & Tactics, and Court Security. ●

KAYENTA JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Kayenta Judicial District staged a successful 2018 Justice Day with the featured theme, “Diné be’iina Náás Yilyéél dóó bee Hada’íniilní – Perpetuate Diné Way of Life Through Resilience,” focused on the Treaty of 1868. The April 6, 2018, agenda included a welcome by Hon. JoAnn B. Jayne, Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation; presentation by retired Chief Justice Herb Yazzie on “The Evolution of Navajo Sovereignty Since the Treaty of 1868;” and an address by Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley. Throughout the event, visitors obtained educational information about the Navajo courts, probation, peacemaking, and service providers which was topped off with a free lunch.

The Kayenta Judicial District provided its “Justice on Wheels” mobile court at the Tsa’ah bii Kin Chapter House in Inscription House, Arizona, on April 20, 2018. Services included new Navajo Nation court case filings, pending family and district case inquiries, fine and fee payments, probation services, and free pro se clinic.



Kayenta Staff Attorney Letitia Stover presents a pro se clinic at Inscription House Chapter House during the mobile justice program.

Despite the declared Navajo Nation Police Officer Day holiday on May 11, 2018, six district staff volunteered to participate in the 2018 Kayenta Public Safety and Justice Day to education student and adult visitors about the Navajo courts and probation services in Kayenta, Arizona.

Through the organized efforts of the Kayenta Judicial District, Navajo Nation Office of the Prosecutor, and Navajo Nation Office of Public Defender, the district conducted a successful Amnesty Day on April 30, 2018. Defendants were afforded opportunity to appear before the court to make good faith efforts to resolve outstanding warrants and a safe haven without being arrested. The district addressed 18% of its outstanding bench warrant cases with positive public feedback and encouragement on its proactive efforts.

All district court clerks participated in the “2018 Journal Technologies Professionals Training Conference,” on June 12-15, 2018, in Park City, Utah. The conference offered beneficial learning labs and breakout sessions on Justware 6.0 Upgrade Path, Justware Financials, Justware JDA Loops, eSuite Portals, and case study panel discussions.

Judge Tina Tsinigine received a scholarship to attend a National Judicial College training entitled, “Evidence in a Courtroom Setting,” on June 11-14, 2018, in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The four-day course offered excellent instruction on Federal Rules of Evidence in Comparison to State and Tribal Rules of Evidence, Evidentiary Issues, Ethics, Relevancy, Lay and Expert Witnesses, Impeachment, Privileges, Electronic Evidence and Judicial Notice.

In addition to facilitating two service provider meetings, staff attorney Letitia Stover offered three district Pro Se Legal Clinics for 44 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 from Forrest Lake, Tuba City, Tonalea, Rough Rock, LeChee, and Klagetoh chapters members.

In efforts to complete the Navajo Nation Office of the Controller initiated Expense Management Project to all Legislative and Judicial Branch employees, court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie and office technician Regina Jones participated in a, “Navajo Nation FMIS 6B Agency Rollout of Procurement and Accounts Payable Training,” and obtained certification on April 11-12, 2018, in Window Rock, 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.

Staff attorney Letitia Stover participated in the Kayenta Township hosted community stakeholders meeting on April 25, 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, im-

pact 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.

The Judicial Branch began its rollout of the e-Payment initiative at the Kayenta Judicial District on April 12, 2017. Since then, the public utilized the ability to pay court civil traffic fees by credit card at the court counter or on a secure website with payments totaling \$28,839.00. As the pilot district, court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie, bailiff Brandyn Benallie, and office technician Regina Jones provided, “Justware E-Payment,” orientation to the Aneth, Shiprock, and Chinle Judicial District staff for their rollout.

By invitation, Judge Tina Tsinigine, staff attorney Letitia Stover, and judicial hearing officer Dorothea Denetsosie presented to students during Native Cultural Week on May 1, 2018, at the Tuba City High School in Tuba City, Arizona. Students obtained information on the history of the Navajo Nation Courts, Navajo Nation Laws, and history of Native people. The presentations touched on the new cyberbullying laws, domestic violence, ABBA, and criminal statutes. The group also read and analyzed a Navajo Nation Supreme Court case with the students.

Judge Tina Tsinigine, staff attorney Letitia Stover, court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie, and court clerk Linda M. James participated a Judicial Branch Strategic Plan work session on June 4-5, 2018, in Ignacio, Colorado. The work session provided opportunity to update the strategic plan to best serve the public and the Navajo Nation. Three components were identified to the long-term vision of the Judicial Branch including judicial independence, confidence in our traditional values and identity, and public trust and accountability.

Judicial Branch staff attorneys Letitia Stover and Glen Renner presented on the structure of the Navajo Nation Courts and Navajo Nation Laws during the Monument Valley UNITY Youth Prevention Conference on June 9, 2018, in Monument Valley, Utah.

The Law and Order Committee of the Navajo Nation Council received reports from Kayenta Chapter officials, Kayenta Judicial District, Kayenta Police Department and Kayenta Unified School District regarding public safety issues within the community of Kayenta and surrounding areas on June 18, 2018, in Kayenta, Arizona. Court administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie and staff attorney Letitia Stover shared statistical information on the drastic increase of court cases to further support the need for an adequate court, probation services, and peacemaking building.

The Kayenta Judicial District staff took the opportunity to view the historic United States and Navajo Nation Treaty of 1868 exhibit on June 28 and 29, 2018, in Window Rock, Arizona. ●

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Staff Attorneys Letitia Stover, Glen Renner and Traditional Program Specialist Chester Stanley at the United Native Indigenous Tribal Youth Prevention Conference in Monument Valley.

ANETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Aneth Annual Justice Day was held on April 16, 2018. The event marked the 11th anniversary date since a Navajo court was established in the Utah strip of the Navajo Nation. The Aneth Judicial District hosted an open house, Aneth Peacemaking Program, with assistance by high school students from Whitehorse High School, provided presentations on the Treaty of 1868, local service providers set up information booths regarding their respective programs, and the court staff served lunch to the public.

Due to a shortage of judges, Aneth Judge Irene S. Black was assigned to assist Shiprock Judicial District on a temporary basis by Administrative Order 68-2014 on December 1, 2014, by then Chief Justice Herb Yazzie. This three-plus years' assignment has been an exhausting and demanding responsibility for Judge Black; however, Judge Black without reluctance continues to commute to Shiprock Judicial District, a distance of approximately 64 miles one-way on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays. She then hears cases in the Aneth Judicial District on Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week.

Staff attorney Glen Renner continued to work on the draft Domestic Violence Bench Book with Kayenta staff

attorney Letitia Stover.

During the quarter, staff attorney Glen Renner completed three webinar trainings: April 26, 2018, the Case for Cite and Release in Lieu of Arrest; May 4, 2018, Pretrial in Rural Jurisdictions; and June 21, 2018, Westlaw Advanced Search.

Judicial Branch IT manager Ben Mariano and programmer support specialist Melanie Price installed the chip reader for e-payment at Aneth District Court on May 10, 2018. In addition, Kayenta court administrator Lavonne Yazzie and court bailiff Brandyn Benallie provided Aneth District Court staff with a presentation on the online e-payment process.

Aneth District Court went LIVE with the online e-

payment process on May 14, 2018. E-payment is an online debit/credit payment for the public to pay civil traffic fines within Aneth Judicial District.

Judge Irene Black, staff attorney Glen Renner, court bailiff Daren Roberts, and acting court administrator Bettina Norton participated in the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan work session at Ignacio Casino and Resort in Ignacio, Colorado, on June 4-5, 2018. The work session focused on discussions to update the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan.

Judge Irene S. Black and staff attorney Glen Renner participated in the Navajo Nation Bar Association 2018 Annual Conference on June 6-8, 2018, at the Sky Ute Casino and Resort in Ignacio, Colorado. They acquired CLE hours required to remain in good standing with the bar association.

Staff attorney Glen Renner and traditional program specialist Stanley Nez presented on filing probate and quiet title actions in Navajo courts to the Northern Agency Grazing Committee for Districts 9, 12 and 13, on June 15, 2018, in Shiprock, New Mexico. Nineteen grazing officials attended as well as approximately 20 people in the audience, including the BIA natural resources officer. On June 25, 2018, they provided similar training to 11 individuals during a grazing permittee meeting at the Tólikan

Chapter House in Sweetwater, Arizona.

Staff attorneys Glen Renner and Letitia Stover with Kayenta Judicial District gave a presentation on Navajo courts and new laws concerning cyberbullying and revenge porn during the United Native Indigenous Tribal Youth Prevention Conference in Monument Valley, Utah, on June 9, 2018.

The United States District Court Tribal Reentry Community Court (TCRC) for the District of Utah held hearings on April 6, May 3, and June 1, 2018, at the Aneth District Court in Aneth, Utah. The TCRC holds monthly review hearings for individuals who are released from federal incarceration and assist them with re-entry back into Aneth and surrounding communities.

Judge Irene Black and court clerk Darlena Mustache participated in the 2018 Journal Technology Professional Training Conference in Park City, Utah, on June 11 to June 15, 2018. The conference focused on current trends of the Justware case management system utilized throughout the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch.

Staff attorney Glen Renner and Judge Irene Black met with prosecutor Karen Bernally on June 20, 2018, to begin planning for a bench warrant amnesty day. The amnesty day is tentatively scheduled for September 27 and 28, 2018. ●

CHINLE JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Chinle Justice Day 2018 was an eventful occasion for the staff and public. Events included a program with guest speakers, a presentation on the Treaty of 1868 - Naaltsoos Sani, tours of the court rooms, and lunch for the public. Special guests included Miss Navajo 2017-2018 Crystal Little Ben, newly confirmed Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne, and students from Chinle Unified School District. Staff welcomed the public and enjoyed hosting the 2018 Justice Day event in the new building. The public complimented the building and were thankful for having an awesome new judicial complex constructed for the Chinle and surrounding communities.

Judicial hearing officer Victor Clyde assisted the Chinle Judicial District by hearing domestic violence cases on Mondays of each week. He also assisted with drafting proposed orders for the presiding judge to review and sign.

Judge Rudy Bedonie assigned staff attorney Chris Bernally 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

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Chinle Judicial District Court and Peacemaking staff at the new Chinle justice center facility.

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to resolve the issue(s) if it involves another department/program.

With technical assistance by grants administrator Raquel Chee, Judge Cynthia Thompson and court administrator Vanessa Mescal met with stakeholders to obtain input of how the juvenile healing to wellness court will be developed and implemented. The goal is to implement a plan that our children and family members can benefit from through a community effort.

The district staff attorney facilitated pro se clinics on Thursdays 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 Chinle Judicial District implemented Justware e-payment and began receiving online and credit/debit card payments of civil traffic fines. Judicial Branch IT manager Ben Mariano installed the software and credit card reader. Kayenta court administrator Lavonne Yazzie and office technician Regina Jones provided orientation to the staff on operating the credit card reader, reading reports, and being observant of glitches.

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. ●

DZIL YIJIIN JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Dził Yijiin Judicial District hosted its 2018 Justice Day on April 5, 2018. The event commenced with a fun walk from Pinon IHS to Pinon Chapter. The 2018 Justice Day festivities celebrated the 59th anniversary of the Navajo Nation court system as well as the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of 1868. Keynote speakers elaborated on the theme, "The Year of Naaltsoos Sani," to educate the public on the Treaty of 1868, our traditional and culture values as Diné in Dził Yijiin and surrounding communities.

DNA People's Legal Services, Inc., hosted Pro Se clinics on April 16, May 14, and June 25, 2018. The workshops provided information to individuals seeking legal advice and assistance 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 workshop was a success and individuals attending the workshop filed pro se packets with the court for further proceedings.

On April 24, 2018, Modular Solution, Inc., completed construction of the modular building for Dził Yijiin Judicial District. The structure is ready for delivery to the designated site in Pinon, Arizona.

On April 30, 2018, bailiff Richard Claw and court clerk Myron Begay assisted Kayenta Judicial District with its 2018 Amnesty Day during court hearing processes.

On June 4-5, 2018, court administrator Arlene Lee and court clerk Myron T. Begay participated in the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan work session at Sky Ute Casino Resort in Ignacio, Colorado.

On June 11-15, 2018, bailiff Richard Claw and court clerk Myron T. Begay attended the 2018 Journal Technology Professional Training Conference in Park City, Utah.

On June 20-21, 2018, court clerk Marita Lee participated in the Northern Arizona Judicial Training Conference sponsored by Coconino Superior Court in Flagstaff, Arizona.

On June 20, 2018, bailiff, Richard Claw assisted the Window Rock Judicial District with court security for scheduled arraignment hearings. ●

DILKON JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Dilkon Court conducted monthly resource meetings every third Friday of the month. These meetings are held to discuss and address interoffice concerns with local resources/departments. The meetings have been successful. Resource meetings were held on April 20, May 18, and June 15, 2018.

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

May 10, 2018, Clerk Functions/Rotation Plans by Judge Malcolm Begay and court administrator Darlene LaFrance, Dilkon Judicial District;

June 7, 2018, Justware Financials by programmer support specialist Melanie Price, Judicial Branch IT Department.

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.

The Dilkon Judicial District celebrated its 2018 Justice Day on April 6, 2018. This community awareness and public education event is always a success. This year's theme was "Perpetuate Diné Way of Life Through Resili-

ence” which featured education on the Treaty of 1868, the “Naaltsoos Sani.”

Dilkon Judicial District staff attended the JTI 2018 Professionals Training Conference in Park City, Utah, on June 11-15, 2018, and the Arizona Courts 2018 Judicial Staff Training Conference in Flagstaff, Arizona.

The Navajo Nation Judicial Branch justices, judges, staff attorneys, court administrators, district staff, and AOC staff participated in the Strategic Plan work session in Ignacio, Colorado, on June 4-6, 2018.

Judge Malcolm Begay and staff attorney Jordan Hale participated in the Navajo Nation Bar Association 2018 Annual Conference on June 7-8, 2018, in Ignacio, Colorado. They also participated in the Judicial Conduct Commission meeting held at the same location on June 5-6, 2018.

Marie Denetdeal, traditional program specialist, retired from the Dilkon Judicial District as the longest serving Navajo Nation employee in the Judicial Branch. The district is appreciative of her dedicated services of 46 years as a court clerk and traditional program specialist under the Peacemaking Program. Ahe’hee’, Marie! ●

WINDOW ROCK JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Window Rock Judicial District hosted its 2018 Justice Day with a welcome address, Zumba, tours of the court building, informational booths by local service providers, and lunch to participants. The event had a great turn out by the community, litigants, service providers, and Navajo Nation Judicial Branch staff.

Alamo/Tóhajiilee Judge William Platero assisted the Window Rock Judicial District with criminal arraignments via video conference.

Judge Cynthia Thompson, hearing officer Victor Clyde, court administrator Verlena Hale, court clerk Kendra Dale,

Daily Visitor Sign-in for April, May, June 2018

	Apr 2018	May 2018	June 2018	Total
Total number of individuals served for court hearings, information or other court-related services	1,278	1,555	1,370	3,396
Note: Additional services were provided to individuals calling the court; however, a log was not kept regarding this public service.				

Family and District Court hearings held in April, May, June 2018

	Apr 2018	May 2018	June 2018	Total
Family Court Hearings	167	178	201	546
District Court Hearings	302	397	238	937
Total	469	575	439	1,483

and bailiff Pedro Tsosie participated in the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch Strategic Plan work session in Ignacio, Colorado.

Court administrator Verlena Hale, court clerk Kendra Dale, and bailiff Pedro Tsosie participated in the Judicial Conduct Commission meeting in Ignacio, Colorado.

The Window Rock Judicial District worked with the Navajo Department of Workforce Development in getting three temporary workers to assist the court with various tasks and duties: Brawnsou Gould, Tristan Waquiu, and Autumn Jim. ●

SHIPROCK JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Parsons project manager Tom Bielecki and the Shiprock task force worked diligently on issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP) to contract for architectural, engineering, and consulting services. On May 24, 2018, a pre-submittal meeting was held for interested architectural, engineering, and consulting firms. On May 31, 2018, the task force met to develop procedures for reviewing, evaluating, and scoring the RFPs and set up an interview schedule. On June 28, 2018, the task force met to evaluate RFQ 05-17-18SP, Architectural, Engineering & Consultant Services.

On May 10, 2018, Shiprock Judicial District successfully implemented Justware ePayment capability for the public to pay civil traffic fines online or pay at the court using a credit or debit card.

The Shiprock Judicial District judge, court administrator, staff attorney, and two court personnel participated in the Judicial Branch Strategic Planning work session on June 4-5, 2018, at the Sky Ute Casino and Resort in Ignacio, Colorado. The facilitators, Melissa Clyde with the Casey Family Programs and Paul Kabotie with the Indigenous Collaboration, did an excellent job. The facilitation process and approach included participation and interaction by participants; reflection on a ten-year history of the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch; identifying obstacles that are blocking progress towards the Branch’s vision; and developing a two-year strategy plan. The work session was productive in mapping a strategic plan.

During the April 30, 2018, Justware work session, court administrator Ethel S. Laughing and court clerk Lucia Barton-Jensen obtained updates on the proposed e-payment implementation at the Shiprock, Aneth, and Chinle Judicial Districts, an overview of statistical reports, and the Division of Social Services Justware User’s Guide.

On May 31, 2018, staff attorney Derrick Burbank facilitated discussions between staff attorneys and the Navajo Nation Supreme Court regarding proposed amendments to the Rules of Navajo Criminal Procedures.

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The Shiprock daily visitor registry for this quarter was 10,931. The breakdown for purpose of visit is summarized below:

MONTH	District Court Hearing	Questions	Citation/Pay Fine	Paperwork	Witness	Family Court Hearing	Questions	Pay Fine	Protection Order	Paperwork	Witness	Peacemaking Session	Questions	Probation Services	Others	TOTAL CLIENTS	METAL DETECTOR READINGS
Apr 2018	176	110	78	49	2	229	122	4	79	284	2	4	13	3	357	1,512	4,043
May 2018	106	71	68	38	0	165	111	40	54	210	0	68	2	0	285	1,229	3,693
Jun 2018	155	112	51	42	0	158	94	3	62	212	0	0	0	0	215	1,104	3,195
TOTAL	437	293	197	129	2	552	327	47	195	706	2	72	15	3	857	3,845	10,931

Judge Genevieve Woody and staff attorney Derrick Burbank participated in the Navajo Nation Bar Association 2018 Annual Conference on June 7–8, 2018, in Ignacio, Colorado.

A total of 988 traffic civil/criminal case files was successfully archived this quarter. ●

CROWNPOINT JUDICIAL DISTRICT

On April 5, 2018, the Crownpoint Judicial District, Crownpoint Probation Services, Crownpoint Peacemaking Services, Crownpoint Department of Law Enforcement, and Crownpoint Department of Corrections hosted Justice Day 2018. The focus of the event was to remember the Treaty of 1868 where our forefathers were imprisoned at Bosque Redondo and later released to return to where we are at today. A presentation by peacemaker and traditional practitioner Kenneth Begay enlightened participants as to the events that occurred. Crownpoint Probation Services presented about services they offer, working with traditional practitioners using prayers, ceremonies for inmates, helping probation clientele get back on life’s track, and strengthening the inner being. According to public comments, the event was deemed a success. Approximately 20 resource booths were set up in the courthouse with additional booths in the corrections and law enforcement buildings. All three components opened their doors to the public and served lunch and refreshments.

Three in-service trainings were held, including the presentation during Justice Day 2018 entitled “Remembering the Naaltsoos Sani.”

On May 3, 2018, Judge Leonard Livingston provided training on case management, ethics and role of the court. Judge Livingston also administered oaths of office to seven district court clerks, two bailiffs, and one office technician.

On June 27, 2018, court administrator Rena Thompson presented information on the case flow management on

case types. Her presentation introduced a checklist for each court clerk to follow when processing a case filing. A personality trait list was presented in connection to team work and how we need each other with these traits.

Judge Leonard Livingston continued to preside over cases at

Crownpoint and Pueblo Pintado Courts. In addition, Judge Livingston administered oaths of office to one chapter official and 10 court employees. He attended a strategic plan work session in Ignacio, Colorado, and Judicial Conduct Commission training in Twin Arrows, Arizona.

A district resource meeting was held on May 31, 2018, with all resources in the Crownpoint, New Mexico, area. The group discussed various topics and initiatives:

- Development of a training committee to address training topics for police officers, probation officers, bailiffs, child protective services workers, and behavioral health services staff.
- Available Pro Se Clinics through DNA Legal Services.
- Service of process and revisions to Title 17.
- Communication between social services and law enforcement personnel.
- Hosting an amnesty day.
- Division of Public Safety Criminal Investigation shared information related to crimes on the reservation onto major crimes and how the district attorney can help with investigations

Thelma Johnson began temporary employment as a document technician starting April 9, 2018, and ending September 30, 2018. She is assisting the court by archiving court records and preparing documents for scanning.

Crownpoint Judicial District staff attorney Sharon Noel resigned; her last day of employment was April 27, 2018.

A student intern began internship on June 4, 2018, to complete 150 hours of internship under the Administrative Office Specialist Program.

Pueblo Pintado Circuit Court. While the Pueblo Pintado Court Building was progressing toward obtaining its Certificate of Occupancy and opening its doors with punch list items being addressed, installation of telephone lines and

handsets, and completion of the fire alarm testing, Judicial Branch maintenance technician Virgil Burnside found that the remediation of mold was not thorough and that mold still exists in the building. Apparently, the building was not completely stripped down and rebuilt as previously thought. Mold still exists under the painted walls, pipes, floors, and under the building. This is a major setback and takes us back to the beginning of the remediation process. A meeting was held with the Navajo Nation Risk Management Program on May 29, 2018, regarding the mold issue. A new claim has been submitted to determine the next course of action. All activities have since been placed on hold pending a response from Risk Management. ●

RAMAH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Annual performance evaluations on the staff were completed.

Court administrator Esther Jose and Judge Rhonda Tuni hosted one resource meeting this quarter. Resource meetings 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. They also serve as an important mechanism for interagency planning and coordination at the service delivery level, as well as help to 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.

The court worked on counting active, closed, and pending cases for the annual caseload certification.

On April 20, 2018, the Ramah Judicial District celebrated its 59th Annual Justice Day with the theme, “Nitsahakees, Nathat’a, Iina, Siihasin.” The event featured an open house, community education, information booths by local service providers, a fun walk, and guest speakers. The highlight of the 2018 Justice Day was education on “Naltsoos Sani—Treaty of 1868” which commemorates the 150th year of the signing of the Treaty, which returned the Diné people to their sacred homeland and recognized a nation to nation sovereign relationship between the United States and the Navajo Nation. Over 200 visitors and general public attended the event and were served lunch. It was a successful, fun-filled event.

The Judicial Branch financial services manager facilitated work sessions with all court administrators and program managers on how to prepare the FY2019 budget packet. At the May 7 work session, the program managers discussed the possibility of cutting positions in the Judicial Branch. The court administrators and program managers presented their respective business unit’s proposed budget for FY2019. The court administrator also attended the

FY2019 Budget Instructions Manual (BIM) orientation that was sponsored by the Office of Management and Budget on May 17-18, 2018.

On May 16, 2018, court administrator Esther Jose went before the Motor Vehicle Review Board to request replacement of two high-mileage tribal vehicles assigned to the Ramah Judicial District and to address a misuse of tribal vehicle complaint against an employee. The MVRB voted in favor of replacing both two tribal units. The misuse/abuse complaint was discussed between the employee and supervisor and cleared by the board since all the requirements were met. The Navajo Nation Telecommunications and Utilities Department will have radios installed in both units.

On June 4-5, 2018, Judge Rhonda Tuni and court administrator Esther Jose attended the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan work session in Ignacio, Colorado. Participants discussed the Judicial Branch goals identified at the Public Safety Summit earlier this year. The vision and goals of the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch will be sent out for everyone to review. This was very important activity to ensure that the work was focused and outcome oriented.

Court clerk Roxanne Yazzie learned about the capabilities of the Justware court software program during the JTI 2018 Justware Professionals Training Conference in Park City, Utah, on June 11-15, 2019. Ms. Yazzie reported that the conference was well organized, enjoyable, and she learned a lot from the sessions.

On June 14, 2018, Judge Rhonda Tuni and court administrator Esther Jose participated in a joint meeting with Ramah Navajo Social Services (RNSS) regarding Title IV-E, the juvenile justice system development, and an update of the Title IV-E memorandum of understanding regarding adjudicated delinquents between RNSS and the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch.

On June 18, 2018, the Ramah Judicial District welcomed its newly hired staff attorney William Morris. Mr. Morris

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Ramah Staff Attorney William Morris

Judicial District quarterly highlights

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is serving his 90-day introductory period.

Approximately 379 people signed in for court services, received/made 560 telephone calls, and received/sent 132 faxes. The court bailiff quarterly report showed 298 people served, 12 bench warrants and 35 public intoxications. ●

ALAMO/TO'HAIJILEE JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Alamo/Tóhajiilee Judicial District worked with the Tóhajiilee community to address child abuse. On April 26, 2018, the Alamo/To'hajiilee Judicial District, in partnership with Navajo Nation Division of Social Services and Tóhajiilee Behavioral Health Services, held a child abuse prevention event to recognize that abusing children is not allowed in the Tóhajiilee community. The Navajo Nation Treatment Center's presentation focused on traditional teachings on parenting and raising children. Elarina Nakai provided information on the Strengthening Families Program and what the community can do to address child abuse. To celebrate the occasion, participants wore blue and launched balloons. The local Headstart program sponsored a fun walk. Local chapter president Mark Begay participated in the fun walk and helped with the balloon launch with the head start youth to remind everyone that lives of children are precious. He also spoke at the event and urged the community to get involved and help keep the community healthy and safe. Other providers from the schools and the Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board attended the event.

The Alamo Justice and Law Day was held on April 20, 2018, with the theme of the Treaty of 1868 with a focus on substance abuse prevention and anti-drug/violence in the Alamo Navajo Community. The event featured presentations on school shootings by Sheriff William Armijo; sovereignty by Judge William J.J. Platero; substance abuse prevention by Alamo Behavioral Health Services; and violence and suicide prevention by the Navajo Department of Law Enforcement. The Alamo/Tóhajiilee Judicial District sponsored an Easter egg hunt for the children. There were also food and a sobriety fun walk in the morning. The Alamo Emergency Medical Services featured a helicopter on display for participants to look at up close.

The Alamo/Tóhajiilee Judicial District held a great 2018 Justice and Law Day. The Tóhajiilee Community School and New Mexico State University Professor Shawn Secatero provided the community with a presentation on the Long Walk and the Treaty of 1868 from the perspective of the Canoncito Band of Navajos. The youth gave presentations of their boards with pictures of the research they did and the trip they took to Bosque Redondo. The court and community were pleased to have these amazing youth pro-

vide information on an important event in history. Other presentations included violence and suicide prevention by Division of Public Safety Director Jesse Delmar; specialty courts to promote wellness by Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator Dorothy Waisanen; and sovereignty by Judge William J.J. Platero. There was food as well as a fun walk. Members of the Law and Order Committee participated in the event.

Court administrator Regina Roanhorse attended a Law and Order Committee meeting in Alamo on April 24, 2018. Local officials wanted to meet with the committee to discuss law and safety issues in Alamo. The local school board and chapter members in attendance voiced concerns about lack of Navajo police in the community. Former law enforcement officers that patrolled the area also attended. After the meeting, the court administrator informed the committee that the Naasgo Hozho Whindzin Coalition was working on strategies to address substance abuse in the community including supporting the construction of a temporary holding facility or a multi-purpose justice center in Tóhajiilee, New Mexico.

To assist the Chinle Youth Healing to Wellness Project with their strategic plan and creation of community steering committees, court administrator Regina Roanhorse, staff attorney Alisha Thompson, and specialty court coordinator Dorothy Waisanen gave presentations on the Total Community Approach specialty court project for the Alamo/Tóhajiilee Judicial District on April 19, 2018. Valuable information was provided to staff of Chinle Judicial District, Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Navajo Nation Office of the Public Defender by the Alamo/Tóhajiilee Judicial District team about how to engage the community, develop logic models, entry points, referral systems and evaluation plans that are part of the USDOJ Tribal Youth Program grant requirements. The Chinle Judicial District received a grant award for a youth healing to wellness court and requested information and tools from the Alamo/Tóhajiilee Judicial District to help strengthen their efforts to meet the requirements of the grant.

Council delegate Norman Begay and the Alamo Naasgo Hozho Whindizn Coalition asked Tóhajiilee Chapter for a supporting resolution to plan, design, and construct a multi-purpose justice center. A favorable outcome would result in a cross-commissioning agreement with Socorro County that would allow for more police services, arrests and prosecutions in the district. Currently, Socorro County cannot relay anyone arrested under the cross-commissioning agreement to Crownpoint, McKinley County, New Mexico. On April 24, 2018, the Tóhajiilee Chapter passed resolutions in support of a separate police district for the Alamo and Tóhajiilee communities and construction of a multi-purpose justice center in Tóhajiilee, New Mexico.



Staff of the Alamo/To'hajiilee Judicial District at the To'hajiilee Court House.

Veterans Justice Outreach coordinator (VJOC) Dorothy Waisanen assisted with organizing, planning, and helping at events such as Operation Veterans Wellness and Resource Fair, Gallup Veterans Summit and Stand Down, 3rd Annual Navajo Nation Veterans Summit, and ongoing resource job/resource fairs. The VJOC provided education to veterans and their families and invited local veterans to post colors during various events at the court. The VJOC participated in various meetings pertaining to the Eastern Navajo Veterans Organization (ENVO), Tóhajiilee resources, New Mexico State Tribal Judicial Consortium, local collaborations, strategic planning, and other off-reservation and/or on-reservation tribal wellness court resource meetings or events:

- 4/6/18, 5/25/18, 6/15/18 – Operation Veteran Wellness planning meetings
- 4/7/18, 4/21/18, 6/24/18 – ENVO strategic planning sessions
- 4/12/18, 5/10/18, 6/14/18 – ENVO regular meetings at Baahali (Breadsprings), Iyanbito, and Ojo Encino, New Mexico, respectively
- 4/13/18 – New Mexico Tribal State Judicial Consortium, Drug Court Committee
- 4/13/18 – Alamo Naasgo Hozho Whindzin resource meeting with chapter officials
- 4/17/18 – Veterans Symposium Outreach
- 4/19/18 – Community Veterans Court Graduation
- 4/26/18 – Local Collaborative 16 (State Behavioral Health Coalition) Sandoval County and Navajo Nation (Cuba, Pueblo Pintado, Ojo Encino)
- 4/27/18 – Tóhajiilee resource meeting
- 5/9/18 – Navajo Nation Supreme Court and Administrative Office of the Courts Justice Day
- 5/11/18 – Healing to Wellness Network, Resource, Graduation, and Feast
- 5/14/18 – Meeting with ENVO Commander Tolth regarding the strategic planning session
- 5/16/18, 5/21/18, 6/20/18, 6/26/18 – Meetings with program evaluator Marla Pardilla
- 5/18/18 – Native American Healing to Wellness Program Open House
- 5/24/18 – Albuquerque Metro Court Healing to Wellness Court Graduation
- 5/28-6/1/18 – National Association for Drug Court Professionals Conference and Veterans Treatment Court Conference
- 6/4-5/18 – Navajo Nation Judicial Branch Strategic Planning Work Session
- 6/12/18- Benefits and Claims Fair at Navajo Technical

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University

- 6/19/18 – New Mexico Native American Behavioral Health Summit presentation of the VJO and the HTWC Projects
- 6/28/18 – Community Veterans Court Resource Day
- 6/29-30/18 – Navajo Nation 2nd Annual Veterans Summit

The VJOC continued to work on the key components to develop future veteran courts for Navajos through inter-agency collaboration and coordination of services. The team comprised of the program manager, court administrator, and VJOC worked on logic models and process/referral, roles, and sustainability roadmaps that will be helpful if the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch chooses to develop a veterans' treatment court in the future. Since the end of the grant is nearing, the team is working with program evaluator Marla Pardilla on completing its management tools and working on roles with peacemaking and probation services.

The VJOC worked with the 31-chapter veteran organizations that comprises the Eastern Navajo Veterans Organization and attended monthly meetings and events. She facilitated the drafting of a strategic plan for the organization and set a goal to have it finalized by the end of July 2018. One component of the strategic plan is development of peer support and mental health access to address PTSD. In the future, Navajo tribal courts will have a roadmap and partnerships with these 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 fact that the Navajo Nation has a federal health delivery system (Indian Health Services and tribal programs) and Veteran Affairs is a federal health and benefits delivery system, is unique to Indian Country. There is an MOU between the two federal agencies, and, currently IHS programs are billing VA for services they provide service-connected disabled veterans. However, in order to get service connected disability status, there is a need for all veterans to sign up for their benefits, particularly if they are returning combat veterans who also are justice involved. Many veterans chose not to apply for their benefits or when they apply, they are rejected and do not fight for their benefits. The VJOC is working with the Navajo Nation Veterans Affairs on this issue, which is now a legislated tribal program under the Office of the President. It should be noted that Navajo chapter veteran organizations are not tribal programs; they work with their local chapters to get funding through the Navajo Nation to support their needs.

In 2011, the Alamo/ Tóhajiilee Judicial District received grant funding through the USDOJ Bureau of Justice Assis-

tance to develop a Healing to Wellness Court in Alamo and Tóhajiilee. The 2011 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) funding has been expended. In the 2012 CTAS grant, a Veterans Justice Outreach Project was included to develop future treatment courts and strengthen access points for veterans who have benefits at the Veterans Affairs and Indian Health Services systems of care.

If the Navajo Nation is to have long-term impacts to address alcohol and substance abuse as it relates to violent crime, the Navajo Nation needs to invest in Healing to Wellness Courts and stop thinking that closing cases are the best way to handle them. Alcohol/substance abuse and wellness in communities is a long-term process. There are stages of change that need to happen with the individual as well as the community, and everyone needs to work together to address the problems and evaluate its progress.

Veterans Justice Outreach coordinator Dorothy Waisanen will not be working past September 2018 because of the end of the VJO grant and the Judicial Branch did not sustain the position with general funds.

Veterans Justice Outreach coordinator Dorothy Waisanen and court administrator Regina Roanhorse attended the Native American Behavioral Health Summit. Ms. Roanhorse gave a presentation on wellness courts and Navajo laws that support rehabilitation and treatment for justice-involved individuals. She also provided information on community engagement and how to utilize committees to develop programming in the community. The planning council subcommittee incorporates important initiatives into their funding and resource profiles for the state behavioral health systems of care across New Mexico. Representatives from the tribal health programs and local collaboratives (coalitions) meet regularly to collaborate and share important information to improve the quality of life for Native people across New Mexico.

Staff attorney Alisha R. Thompson held one-on-one consultations with 11 members of the Tóhajiilee community and 10 members of the Alamo community to discuss pro se filings and other legal information. Ms. Thompson participated in several work sessions including Justware configuration and Chinle Healing to Wellness Court development as well as several community events such as the Child Abuse Prevention Day and Justice Day. Ms. Thompson provided comments on the proposed revisions to the Rules of Criminal Procedure on behalf of the Alamo/Tóhajiilee Judicial District and participated in the Judicial Branch Strategic Planning meeting by Skype. Finally, Ms. Thompson provided legal guidance to the Judicial Conduct Commission, particularly in its development of rules and regulations concerning a proposed delegation from the Law and Order Committee to make recommendations for the selection of probationary judges and justices. ●

Office of Probation & Parole Services

District probation services implemented outreach initiatives such as chapter presentations, mobile court, community court, New Path family education, Probation and Parole Services (PPS) Justware User's Guide committee, continuing reentry efforts, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) pilot project, and other probation initiatives.

The Tuba City MRT Pilot Project has been a struggle and not as successful as the project could be due to very few referrals being made by the court. The success and sustainability of the project is contingent on this very important aspect.

The Navajo Nation Probation Services is undergoing district audits by the senior probation officers. Auditing includes reviewing the Justware case management module to ensure probation services staff are entering information accurately, and that statistical reporting is in correlation with actual cases on hand. Once the audits are completed, supervisors will follow through with evaluating each probation staff.

The Probation Services management team held meetings to plan the annual Train-the-Trainer Seminar which is scheduled for the last week of August 2018. The three-day seminar will be followed by a two-day tribal collaboration with Tribal Innovations. Training packet proposals were completed and forwarded to the Administrative Office of the Courts.

The Chief Probation Officer (CPO) has been actively participating in Navajo reentry development stakeholders' meetings. She conducted presentations and facilitated meetings with Department of Behavioral and Mental Health Services and outside agencies, including Arizona Supreme Court Probation Department, State of Arizona U.S. Attorney's Office, Navajo County Probation Services, and Apache County Probation Services. The meetings and reentry development will continue in the next quarter.

For public education, Navajo Nation Probation Services will focus on scheduling public education forums at local chapter meetings in their respective districts. The Kayenta, Aneth, and Chinle Probation Services are already conducting presentations at chapters in their districts.

The vacant senior probation officer position was filled by Mr. Dempsey Davis of Tuba City, Arizona. Mr. Davis' employment will commence on July 9, 2018 and will serve a 90-day introductory period. His assigned duty station will be in Tuba City, Arizona.

The Navajo Nation Probation and Parole Services held a Justware work session with programmer support specialist

Melanie Price and Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) Bettina Norton, Lucy Yesslith, Sheila Begishie, and Bernita Dalton. The group discussed developing a NN Probation Services Justware User's Guide. The simple, user-friendly guide will help probation staff learn the Justware case management application as it pertains to probation services. The idea turned into a reality, and a group was formed to begin drafting the user's guide. Work sessions will be scheduled in the next quarter and a timeline will be set for completion of the guide.

CPO attended two NNIJISP meetings to request funding to replace outdated computer equipment assigned to district probation officers. The request submitted in May 2018 was tabled and is pending submittal of additional documents. The equipment must have Justware so probation officers can use the equipment during travel or while conducting field visits to clients. CPO is hopeful that the committee will approve the request to ensure quality assurance for direct services at the respective districts.

PPS office technician Tamera Johnson and chief probation officer Lucinda Yellowhair participated in a three-day Financial Management Information System (FMIS) 6B Rollout work session at Twin Arrows Casino and Resort to complete and obtain certification for processing procurement documents through the Navajo Nation FMIS. The office technician and CPO are vital in approving expenditures and processing financial procurement transactions for the PPS business unit. Both successfully completed the courses and obtained certification. A few probation services staff still need to complete their FMIS common foundation modules.

During the Administrative Office of the Courts/Navajo Nation Supreme Court 2018 Justice Day event, senior probation officers Harmon Mason and JoAnn Holyan-Terry set up a table to provide information to the public on probation and parole services and hand out promotional items. The outcome was a success. Probation Services staff from Shiprock and Chinle also attended.

Kayenta probation officer Genevieve Curley, Crownpoint probation officer Marshall Benally, and chief probation officer Lucinda Yellowhair participated in the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan work session in Ignacio, Colorado. The two officers found the work session interesting and productive, and they expressed gratitude for being included in the planning stages and their participation and voice will be included in the implementation of the Judicial Branch planning in the next several years.

Aneth Probation Services. Probation officer Bettina Nor-

Probation & Parole Services quarterly highlights

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ton:

Reported that her caseload in the Community Court is higher than her probation caseload because defendants are opting out to utilize the Community Court rather than being referred to probation services. Officer Norton reports that the recidivism rate for this avenue is much lower than if a defendant is sentenced to probation.

Assisted the Aneth Judicial District as acting court administrator pending hiring of a permanent court administrator. Once the position is filled, Ms. Norton will resume full-time duties as probation officer. Ms. Norton understands that her primary duties and responsibilities as a probation officer supersedes her acting court administrator status.

Alamo Probation Services. Probation officer Lauren Billy completed court-ordered transport for two clients: one juvenile client to Mary's Mission Adolescent Treatment Center in Sierra Vista, Arizona, and the second was transporting a defendant from the Crownpoint Detention Facility to the Rehoboth McKinley Christian Treatment Facility in Rehoboth, New Mexico. In addition, Officer Billy was involved in case staffing for clients who are in treatment facilities in New Mexico. She also worked with service providers in the Tóhajiilee and Alamo communities.

Chinle Probation Services

Chinle Probation Services has 11 clients in long-term residential treatment facilities. Their length of stay is dependent on the progress each is making and according to evaluations conducted by the facility psychiatrist.

Officer Bernita Dalton had one juvenile client at the San Tan Treatment Facility in Chandler, Arizona; two female clients at the Beautiful Beginning Group Home in Phoenix, Arizona; and one male client at the Infinity Group Home in Phoenix, Arizona.

Officer Victoria Joe had two clients at the Infinity Group Home in Phoenix, Arizona, and one client at the San Tan Treatment Facility in Chandler, Arizona. She worked with a client with schizophrenia, referred four clients to the Tsin-Nan-Tee Prevention and Awareness forum in Wheatfields, Arizona; and worked with Sequel which is an extension service to DBMHS that assists with placing clients in facilities that better serve their needs.

Officer Rosella Chee had two clients at the Emmarie Group Home; one client at Mary's Group Home; and one client at the Infinity Group Home, all in Phoenix, Arizona.

The Chinle Probation Services collaborated with Iná Counseling Services of Chinle, Arizona, to provide awareness and prevention information to clients referred to probation services. The first session was held on May 23, 2018. Subsequent sessions will be held on alternating months with the next session in July 2018.

For purposes of educational outreach to clients referred to Chinle PPS, Peacemaking Program Diné researcher Joe

Sandoval will provide presentations on "Naaltsoos Sani (Treaty of 1868)" and "Changing Woman" throughout the remainder of 2018.

Crownpoint Probation Services

Crownpoint Probation Services handled a high number of cases referred by the Court. In addition, all guilty pleas were referred to Probation Services for pre-sentence investigations and recommendations as ordered by the Court. Completing the high volume of pre-sentencing reports requests takes time.

Officer Marshall Benally helped two individuals, one from Crownpoint and the other from Alamo, receive traditional ceremonies in the Crownpoint peacemaking/PPS hogan. Both ceremonies had successful outcomes.

Dilkon Probation Services. The probation officer worked with local service providers, increased field visits locally and conducted case staffing on one minor client at Mary's Mission Treatment Facility, Sierra Vista, Arizona.

Dzil Yijiin Probation Services. Probation officer Arlene Begay:

Referred a male client to the Jess Homes, Inc, in Phoenix, Arizona; the client successfully completed in-patient treatment and returned home.

Had a client admitted to the Infinity Group Home in Phoenix, Arizona; the client is still in the treatment facility to date.

Made arrangements to have a minor child admitted to the St. Mary's Boys Home in Sierra Vista, Arizona. The minor child is reported to be doing well and is in compliance with his treatment program.

Had a client admitted to the Mountain Top Behavioral Health Services in Phoenix, Arizona. However, the client was discharged due to noncompliance of his treatment plan and was transported back to the Chinle Department of Corrections to complete his sentence.

Gave a presentation on probation conditions during a traditional counseling session with Pinon Health Center Counseling Services.

Kayenta Probation Services

The Kayenta probation officers participated in the Kayenta Judicial District's Amnesty Day. The event had a good turnout. Probation cases that were outstanding for review hearings, warrants, or revocations were handled.

The probation officers met with Kayenta Farm Board to discuss a plan of action to assist the community in terms of working on farm lands. One suggestion was to have community service workers work off some of their fines by picking up trash in the local area. This suggestion was put into effect and has been successful thus far.

Officers Curley and Begishie assisted with distribution of food with St. Mary's Food Bank. Community service

workers will work off some of their hours by working with St. Mary's Food Bank twice a month in distributing food to local community members.

The Kayenta Probation Services has five clients in long-term in-patient treatment facilities in Phoenix, Arizona.

The probation officers took turns in facilitating self-skilled sessions where probation clients learned how to write a resume and letter of interest to assist them in finding employment. Other educational presentations included prevention and awareness topics, i.e., opioids, STD, HIV, AIDS, Zinka virus, hantavirus, drug identification.

Officer Sheila Begishie filed a recommendation for early termination for a client who was sentenced to 40 months in federal incarceration through the Bureau of Prisons (BOP); one of Officer Begishie's clients met his academic requirements and received his high school diploma while on probation supervision; worked closely with a client to complete four different types of counseling sessions over the course of eight months through probation supervision. This resulted in having his children returned to him by Department of Family Services and gaining physical custody of his children.

Officer Andy Harrison worked with a client who was picked up on a federal warrant and transferred to the Crossroad Treatment Facility in Phoenix, Arizona. The federal warrant was issued to assure that he completes a treatment program. Even though the client is released from his treatment program before his probation date expires, April 11, 2019, the case will remain open until the probation date expires.

Officer Genevieve Curley assisted a client to get in a treatment facility; however, while the client was in treatment, he was served with a federal warrant and apprehended. Information regarding the client's status is pending with the Navajo Nation Criminal Investigations.

Ramah Probation Services. Probation officer Brendolyn Natan:

Arranged to have two clients accepted into the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) to complete the High School Equivalency Program. The two clients successfully met their academic requirements and obtained their high school diplomas. One of the clients is furthering his education by enrolling himself into the Central New Mexico Community College in Albuquerque.

Attended the Human Trafficking in Tribal Community Conference in Window Rock, Arizona. The conference was hosted by the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women.

Attended meetings with the Navajo Nation Office of the Prosecutor and Casey Foundation to become familiar with Title IV-E project.

Shiprock Probation Services

The Shiprock probation officers reported that they focused on field visits in the Shiprock and surrounding areas. Instead of having clients report in, they met with them at their place of residence, school, or employment. The purpose behind frequent field visits is to let clients understand that court compliance is not just during the day of their report in, but they can be checked randomly at any time and day.

Officer Lucy Yesslith participated in a sexual assault awareness walk and presented on the definition of sexual assault and who the victims of these crimes are.

Officer Yesslith had one male client admitted for in-patient treatment at the Navajo Regional Behavioral Health Center in Shiprock, New Mexico. She participated in monthly case staffing to assure that her client is in compliance with treatment and probation conditions.

Officer Calvin Silas attended monthly meetings with the Farmington Juvenile Services, aka Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI), in Farmington, New Mexico. The purpose of these meetings was to look for solutions, share information, and network to address duplications of services for Navajo juveniles from surrounding communities who are being detained. San Juan County PPS is collaborating with Navajo PPS regarding services and tribal notification for children in their custody.

Officer Gibson McDonald had a male client with severe alcohol addiction admitted to the Na'nizhoozhi Center, Inc., (NCI) in Gallup, New Mexico, for 60 days. He worked with Shiprock NDOC in transporting the male client to Gallup.

Tuba City. Probation officer Eva Sam had two male clients admitted to the Destiny Sober Living treatment facility in Buckeye, Arizona. She participated in monthly case staffing at the facility to monitor the progress of her clients.

Window Rock Probation Services

The Window Rock probation officers gave presentations about probation services to staff of Navajo Nation Department of Self Reliance in Window Rock and Navajo Tribal Utility Authority in Fort Defiance.

Officer Marcellus Morgan apprehended and transported a defendant who escaped from custody while waiting to be transported to the Department of Corrections.

Officer Alberta Smith-Jumbo had an adult client admitted to a residential treatment facility in Phoenix, Arizona. The client will remain at the facility for 90 days and, upon return, continue probation supervision by Officer Smith-Jumbo. She also referred an adult male to the Rehoboth McKinley Christian Treatment Facility in Gallup, New Mexico. The client will be in treatment for 90 days. ●

Peacemaking Program

The Peacemaking Program delivered on its core objectives of providing direct services, supporting the work of community-based peacemakers, and exceeding its performance goals during the third quarter. The Treaty of 1868 anniversary activities were completed this quarter. Peacemaking was able to provide the traditional perspective to help inform the approach taken by all three branches of government in planning events. Staff also made presentations in several venues, sharing the traditional perspective on treaty-related history and issues with over 600 people.

Events this quarter continued to highlight the critical importance of preserving and utilizing traditional, culturally-relevant methods in conflict resolution, policy formation, and cultural events. Events commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Treaty have brought focus on this, but so have results achieved with youth, family preservation, training and discussions with judges, and work with schools.

The Peacemaking Program continued to engage and expand on its broader 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. Discussions with former Chief Justice Herb Yazzie and Diné elders about the differences between traditional approaches to land management, compared with the Anglo-American methods, have been productive. Mr. Yazzie is working with Diné traditionalists who would like to see improved recognition and easier implementation of traditional family management of ancestral homesteads and grazing areas. This has been a longstanding issue, and frequently a source of conflicts addressed through Peacemaking.

This quarter was a critical period for the strategic plan required for the Peacemaking Youth Education and Apprenticeship Program (PYEAP), as required under the new grant. The design for the strategic plan was based upon the SMART planning methodology introduced by the chief justice. This methodology calls for clear statements of our goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, results-oriented, and time-based. The traditional program specialists and others involved in implementing the next phases of the PYEAP program activities came together for an intensive planning session based on this method. The outcomes are the core of our strategic plan. It may be more important that all of the implementing staff understand the significance of personal and programmatic accountability, and how it will be built into the strategic plan using the SMART methodology. During the strategic planning retreat, all staff members contributed to development of a plan that will bring strong results because of the level of accountability

for performance embedded in the plan.

Other outreach has been successful. The Navajo Nation Bar Association's orientation for new members was an opportunity to share information about Diné Fundamental Law, and how it is used in both peacemaking and court processes and decisions. There were about 35 people in the Public Safety collaboration meeting, where peacemaking's presentation focused on the importance of culturally-relevant solutions to social and behavioral problems. Six chapters were represented at a presentation at Navajo Mountain, and another at Hardrock. The program coordinator and the bi-cultural training specialist worked with five employees in peacemaking sessions. Traditional work continued with meetings with the Navajo Medicine Man Association and the Diné Hatahlii Association. These relationships are very important to the Peacemaking Program, as the program collaborates on youth and community activities.

Work with school districts, in schools, and with youth continued. Traditional Program Specialists (TPS) met with officials from several schools and offered peacemaking and educational services, maintaining a focus on programs with school administrators.

The Peacemaking Program is advancing its administrative goals:

Use community-based peacemakers. Community-based peacemakers are being engaged to handle more peacemaking sessions and counseling. During the third quarter, community-based peacemakers were used in several judicial districts for peacemaking sessions, as well as Life Value Engagements.

Focus on youth. With implementation of the second phase of PYEAP now in sight, the traditional program specialists are renewing their engagement with youth in the communities and schools. Peacemaking is still experiencing inconsistent referrals from the various judicial districts, but hopes that the training done with judges during this quarter will improve these outcomes. Outreach in communities and schools has helped families come to peacemaking as walk-ins before problems involve law enforcement. One important goal is to have a high community awareness of peacemaking services available so that young people can have issues addressed before they become truant or engaged with school discipline or law enforcement. Families have approached traditional program specialists to support troubled youth. Part of the PYEAP implementation is to revise the memoranda of agreement with schools, so outreach to teachers and administrators will strengthen FY2018 fourth quarter and FY2019 first quarter.

Maintain our professionalism. Bi-culture training special-

ist Elaine Henderson has been working with new and existing employees to improve understanding, consistency, and uniformity in reporting. Some of our transition to greater efficiency and higher accountability has created stress for employees facing changes in the way they do their work. Discussions have provided opportunities for sharing, reconciliation of past practices to future performance expectations, and improved communication.

Advance our mission. The Peacemaking Program's core work is conducting peacemaking sessions, life value engagements, and other elements of traditional problem-solving. The program added to that with the youth initiative and a strong curriculum for youth apprentices. This work is continuing with high quality.

Past work on the Diné Action Plan and other collaborative solution-seeking with Public Safety and others seem to be resulting in better integration of our cultural solutions in program planning. Many program planning materials are borrowed from similar Anglo-American programs, but we know that planning without cultural relevance will not work for the Navajo Nation. Peacemaking participation in these planning efforts is an opportunity to infuse cultural information, training, and relevancy. Availability of traditional cultural solutions is a vital expression of Navajo sovereignty, since self-governance is, at its core, preserving our distinct identity as a unique people through consistent expressions and implementation of our culture. This mission is at the heart of Peacemaking's role. While these activities are qualitative and difficult to measure quantitatively in the short term, our overall outcomes will improve over time with more focus on our culture.

The bi-cultural training specialist has been involved in many mission-advancing activities, and continued to work on improvements to our professionalism and efficiency. She provided training to new peacemaking staff, filled in during absences with services, and worked closely with other agencies to coordinate a pilot project that would result in peacemaking assisting with direct referrals from the Division of Social Services. She focused on improving consistency and accuracy in the program's reporting and case management.

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. The Alamo TPS is presenting traditional teachings during the six-week Summer Academy, designed to keep older youth engaged in community services and activities during the summer months. She also worked with the parents of truant students in discussions to prevent truancy and to help parents understand the importance of regular school attendance. Younger students up to 11 years

old are sent to peacemaking while older students are referred to the Office of the Prosecutor. Some of these cases are referred back to peacemaking by the prosecutor.

Crownpoint. This TPS continued to have high walk-in and referral traffic, and resolved 22 cases during the third quarter. Funding and facilities continued to impede her work. She and several other TPS received training on human trafficking and drug identification/recognition.

Dilkon. Relationships with area schools have been a focus in this district. The TPS helped children and youth resolve five referrals before they became Children in Need of Supervision (CHINS) or delinquency court matters. She also provided Live Value Engagement sessions with youth in the schools to avoid truancy and other issues.

Dził Yijiin. Services for this area are being performed from the Hardrock Chapter House 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 Court's workload was reduced by peacemaking counseling, including using community-based peacemakers. Three cases referred by the Court were resolved in peacemaking. 28 counseling sessions were provided by the TPS, including 14 referrals from Probation & Parole Services. Presentations at high schools gave students and administrators opportunity to learn more about Navajo traditions and peacemaking. Twelve school referrals resulted in Individual Life Value Engagements to discuss truancy, low grades, traditional teaching, grief and loss, absent parents, and teen relationship problems.

Ramah. The TPS is working with the judge to improve role clarity. She presented at Ramah Justice Day on cyberbullying and human trafficking, and gave the same presentation for the Navajo Housing Authority at Ramah, as well as the Youth & Elder Fest at the Navajo Nation Museum in June 2018.

Shiprock Judicial District. The TPS worked with students in several schools, focusing on truancy and drug use. Several Life Value Engagement sessions have been held at the schools, with follow-up sessions that included family members, with positive outcomes. The TPS has been active in more than half a dozen schools.

Alamo/Tóhajiilee Judicial District. The TPS worked with the community school and behavioral health services on prevention activities. He has also presented traditional materials as part of the dual enrollment classes. ●

Navajo Nation Integrated Information Sharing Project

A budget revision in the amount of \$84,800 was completed to cover funding requests made by the partners. The total funding requests by NNIJISP partners totaled \$311,301 including:

- \$65,000 Department of Information Technology
- \$32,502 Division of Social Services to replace obsolete computer equipment
- \$55,000 NN Probation and Parole Services
- \$124,424 Judicial Branch JTI Support and Maintenance
- \$16,400 APEX Scanner License Agreement
- \$17,975 JTI 2018 Professionals Training Conference Registration Fees

The Aneth, Chinle, and Shiprock Judicial Districts are ready to implement ePayment portal and JusticeWeb. These applications will be used by the public to make citation payments via online, telephone, or debit/credit card transactions at the court.

Judicial Branch Grants and NNIJISP Sections coordinated registration and lodging arrangements for Judicial Branch staff and NNIJISP partners to participate in the 2018 Journal Technologies Professionals Training Conference, June 11-15, 2018, in Park City, Utah. A total of 45 Navajo Nation employees, including 34 Judicial Branch and 11 NNIJISP partners from various Navajo Nation programs, i.e., Office of the Prosecutor, Office of Public Defender, Department of Information Technology, Division of Public Safety, Division of Social Services, and Department of Family Services, attended the event. The conference focused on Justware, an automated case management application used by courts throughout the United States. JTI is familiar with roles of judges, court clerks, cashiers, attorneys, probation officers, and other judicial staff. The Navajo Nation Justware application is unique and is customized specially for the Navajo Nation Courts. Staff learned about different topics on various user levels from non-Justware user to expert user. A master schedule was provided to each participant to follow according to the user's knowledge of Justware. Learning labs provided one-on-one training or discussions as well as breakout sessions held throughout the week to provide opportunity for focused learning on various topics.

Activities by NNIJISP Systems and Programming Manager

Coordinated NNIJISP meetings held March 15, April 19, and June 21, 2018. Prepared agenda and meeting minutes and distributed accordingly.

Compiled and prepared the FY2019 NNIJISP preliminary fixed cost budget in the amount of \$754,505 and submitted

to the Office of Management and Budget.

Assisted with updating the Information Technology Security Policy.

Pursuant to a recommendation by Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne, facilitated a simple work session to compile a task list for NNIJISP partners. The task list will be used to move forward with activities that NNIJISP needs to accomplish to achieve its overall goal of data and information sharing among partners.

On May 21, 2018, participated in an RFP bid opening for the Network Penetration Test requested by Navajo Nation Department of Information Technology. Participants included Purchasing Department, General Services, Business Regulatory, and Judicial Branch.

Submitted the maintenance and service contract renewal for Journal Technologies, Inc., to Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne for approval. This JTI contract provides support and maintenance for Justware, the case management application used by the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch.

Submitted the service contract between Navajo Nation Department of Information Technology (NNDIT) and JANUS Software, Inc., d/b/a JANUS Associates, beginning July 1, 2018, to September 30, 2018. This contract will provide a third party information technology security assessment on the NNDIT environment and provide a proactive evaluation of point-in-time assessment of the current security posture from internal network and external network environment perspectives. NNIJISP partners are in support of this network test and concur with utilizing NNIJISP funds to pay for the testing. NNDIT reported that this is the first time such a test will be conducted on the overall Navajo Nation network.

On May 7, 2018, facilitated NNIJISP work session to compile task lists for review by participants, consolidate duplicate tasks, and add new tasks received. The new task list will be sent to all partners to prioritize before the next meeting on August 2, 2018.

One of NNIJISP's major goals is data sharing among Navajo Nation and NNIJISP partners; therefore, NNIJISP will participate in a milestone project where information will be shared between Navajo Nation Division of Public Safety and the Office of the Prosecutor using an API to bridge the gap for an automated versus manual process. As an example: a police officer completes an incident report; the police officer's supervisor approves the report; the prosecutor's office receives the complaint/report; the prosecutor immediately makes a decision; the police department/officer is notified. This is just one example of what partners would like to automate. ●

Administrative Office of the Courts

Administrative Director

Pueblo Pintado Court Building. In May 2018, maintenance work was suspended due to evidence of mold found inside the walls of the building while the maintenance technician was working on the last items of the punch list issued by Division of Community Development. A final inspection and issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy by Division of Community Development is on hold. A meeting held with Dave Becenti with the Navajo Nation Risk Management Department led to a recommendation to file a claim to address the mold problem. AOC is awaiting a determination from the Risk Management Department on a Property Loss Report filed on June 7, 2018, of next steps and guidance to address the issues. On June 27, 2018, the roof of the building was examined for leaks or potential for leaks. After a cursory inspection of the interior of the building, no further problems were identified, but mold is evident. Regular inspections of the HVAC units and thermostat control panels are needed after the mold issue is addressed.

Dził Yijiin Court Building. On April 10, 2018, representatives from the Administrative Office of the Courts, Dził Yijiin Judicial District, and Division of Community Development made an on-site visit to the manufacturing company Modular Solutions, Inc., in Phoenix, Ariz., to look at the construction of the Dził Yijiin modular court building. Aside from changes to the electrical amperage capacity for the IT server room, the group was satisfied with the progress.

Delays in site preparation in Pinon, Ariz., occurred in May 2018. Coordination among NTUA, Division of Community Development, and the contractor took longer than expected regarding developing/reviewing/approving site plans for utilities. Approved electrical plans with construction costs were received by AOC on June 22, 2018. Approved plans for water and wastewater with construction costs are pending. Site grading, foundation, and utility extensions/hook ups will proceed in the fourth quarter. The completion date for the project is August 10, 2018.

Human Resources Office

The Navajo Nation Judicial Branch Human Resources is working with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) in implementing the judge/justice salary study. NCSC is gathering salary data from other local courts and agencies to compare the compensation with the Navajo Nation judges. NCSC will conduct personal interviews with the judges and justices regarding their duties and responsibilities.

As part of its ongoing recruitment efforts, the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch Human Resources set up an information booth on June 7 and 8, 2018, during the Navajo

Nation Bar Association 2018 Annual Conference at the Sky Ute Casino and Resort in Ignacio, Colorado. Job vacancy announcements and employment applications were distributed with the hope that individuals would consider applying for vacant district court judge, associate justice, and staff attorney positions within the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch. One comment that kept surfacing was the need to make changes to the current review and appointment process in filling judge/justice vacancies.

Archiving

The information data technician prepared, organized, and scanned 14,130 documents/files, including:

- Dilkon Peacemaking Program: Inactive records from 2017
- Window Rock Judicial District: Completed scanning 1992 Silver vs. Pahe Case Files
- Judicial Branch Human Resources: Inactive Personnel Records and 2015-2016 timesheets

Grants Administration

Grant Applications Completed and Submitted: 2018 Adult Reentry and Employment Strategies Planning Program in the amount of \$200,000.

Grant Awards: 2017 Justice Assistance Grant: Capacity Building to Respond to Family Violence for \$70,990.

Information Technology

Epayers for Aneth, Chinle, Kayenta, and Shiprock were developed, implemented, and online. The website <https://www.justiceweb.navajo-nsn.gov> was updated to reflect the updated PaymentPortal API to accept credit card swipe payments and to accept online payments.

Attended the JTI 2018 Professionals Training Conference in Park City, Utah. During the conference, met with JTI management to discuss JTI technical support and other issues.

Attended meeting with Modular Solutions of Phoenix, Arizona, to begin planning for installation of computer network cabling in the new Dził Yijiin court building. The new building is scheduled for delivery and setup this summer.

Continued teleconference meetings with NDT/Journal Technologies personnel to continue JusticeWeb implementation and configuration for e-file, e-view, e-payment and e-discovery in JusticeWeb.

Attended Navajo Nation CyberTeam meetings.

Conducted Justware work sessions with district SMEs to cover upcoming projects, new reports, JDAs, JTI 2018 Professionals Training Conference, and other Justware issues.

Attended NNIJISP meetings. •

Navajo Word of the Day

The following are phrases and words in the Navajo language that are used within the Navajo Nation justice system. These phrases are provided by the Peacemaking Program as part of an initiative of the Judicial Branch to educate the public and preserve our Navajo language

Hoł bééhózin dóó bíjígah.

Qualification: Possessing the personal qualities, property, or other necessary things to be eligible to fill a public office or to take on a particular duty.

Awáalya asdá bee há nihoot'ánígíí t'áadii bíghah ji leehí hwéé'ílnii'.

Parole: A release from prison/jail before a sentence is up that depends on the person's "keeping clean" and doing what he or she is supposed to while out; conditional release from prison.

Yadi'diinii'go ádeeha'didziih;

Yooch'íid bąąh ádingo nahozhdoolnih bee ádeeha'didziin

Oath: Formal swearing that you are bound by conscience to tell the truth.

T'óó bee ho'dójihígíí

Name (Nickname):

Na'anish.

Labor: Work, task.

Bíla' ashdlá'ii neest'íí'

Béeso biniiyé bíla' ashdlá'ii neest'íí'

Nályééh bee wókeedgo bíla ashdlá'ii nii''oh yidlóóz

(holding a person in seclusion for ransom)

Kidnap: The act of taking away and holding a person illegally.

Béeso t'óó áłtsééd bik'é ch'éé'doodálgíí aahwiidínóot'íí l bíjígíí'

Bail: Money or property pledged to assure the appearance in court of a defendant.

Ha'át'íish át'é (what is this?)

Béehonísjįh identify (him/her)

Identify: To come to know or to say that someone/something is what it is.



Beehaz'áanii k'éti'ígíí t'áadoo béehoozjįhí dine la awáalya góne' wótą' éi biniinaa aadahwiinít'ííđéé' bi' déékeed.

Habeas Corpus, Writ of: A court order to someone holding a person to bring that person to court. It is most often used to get a person out of unlawful imprisonment by forcing the captor and the person being held to come to court for a decision on the legality of the imprisonment or other holdings.

Nídiilyá, shóozt'e'.

Gain: Get, obtain, come to have

Wáashindoon bisiláo nida'alkaahígíí

F.B.I. (Federal Bureau of Investigations): The U.S Department of Justice that investigates violations of federal law. F.B.I. agents are federal police officers.

Yisdil; atilyaa

Damage: The harm or loss sustained by reason of personal or property injury.

Ánásjįd (Cancelled)

Ni'kólyaa (Set Aside)

Nahjį' kólyaa (To Withdraw)

Cancel: Put an end to, to withdraw, do away with, stop.

Wáalya

'Awáalya

Jail: A building in which a person who has (allegedly) broken the law is locked up.

Judicial Conduct Commission

Pursuant to 7 N.N.C. § 421, the Judicial Conduct Commission is established as an independent commission, free from political influence and interference, receiving administrative support and assistance from the Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation. The purpose of the Commission is to recognize that the leaders of the Judicial Branch shall uphold the values and principles of Diné bi beenahaz'áanii; enhance and earn public trust and confidence in the Navajo Nation Judiciary; educate the public that the Navajo Nation Judiciary plays a vital role in the protection, preservation and maintenance of Navajo Nation sovereignty; provide a forum for fair and impartial dispute resolution consistent with the values, customs and traditions of Diné; and advise the Chief Justice when requested to do so.



Retired Associate Justice Dr. Raymond Austin presents on Navajo Common Law to judges and staff attorneys at a training June 29.

The Judicial Conduct Commission held a work session and meeting on April 5-6, 2018. During the work session, the Commission began work on drafting amendments to its Plan of Operations and developing proposed Rules and Regulations for a new policy that would delegate to the Commission the authority to screen and recommend applicants for judge and justice positions.

The Commission held a work session on May 18, 2018, to finalize the proposed amendments and Rules and Regulations for review.

Judicial Conduct Commission Chairman Robert Yazzie and member Judy R. Apachee participated in the strategic session of the Judicial Branch to provide input in the development of a strategic plan on June 4-5, 2018. The branch worked on developing a vision and long- and short-term goals.

The Commission held a work session and meeting on June 6, 2018. The Commission received feedback from judges on the application, appointment and confirmation process from their perspective and presented the draft Rules and Regulations and proposed amendments to the Plan of Operations.

Chairman Yazzie, Ms. Apachee and Troy Eid provided a report outlining the work they have conducted with the Commission over the past year to the Navajo Nation Bar Association's annual conference on June 8, 2018.

Ms. Apachee and Karen Francis, Government Relations Officer, presented a report on the proposed amendments to the Plan of Operations and draft Rules and Regulations to the Law and Order Committee on June 11, 2018. Ms. Apachee and Ms. Francis also provided a copy of a Power

Point presentation summarizing the Commission's activities to the Committee. The report was accepted with a vote of 2-0.

The Commission sponsored a training for Navajo Nation judges and staff attorneys of the Judicial Branch on June 29, 2018. The training featured sessions on Ethics and Leadership in the Courts, Navajo Judicial Ethics, Incorporating Navajo Common Law into Litigation and Court Decisions, and Holy Mountains, Traditional Philosophy: Rethinking and Reclaiming Navajo Sovereignty. The Navajo Nation Bar Association approved CLE credit for the four sessions.

During each of the 13 Justice Day events of the Navajo Nation Courts, Judicial Conduct Commission brochures were disseminated to members of the public.

On June 14, 2018, Karen Francis, Human Resources Director Ralph Roanhorse and Financial Technician Paulette Begay attended an informational presentation by the Navajo Nation Department of Justice, Office of the Controller, Personnel Department, and Office of Management and Budget regarding the reclassification of Commission members to employees for tax purposes. Work is ongoing to implement the required changes.

Judicial Branch staff whom have routinely assisted the Commission include Karen Francis, Government Relations Officer; LaVerne Garnenez, Supreme Court Law Clerk; Alisha Thompson, Staff Attorney; Jordan Hale, Staff Attorney; Roman Bitsuie, Peacemaking Program; Elaine Henderson, Peacemaking Program; Ralph Roanhorse, Human Resources Director; Linda Williams, Office Technician; and Paulette Begay, Financial Technician. ●

Other news

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 26, 2018

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

July 28, 2018

- Veterans Outreach Project at Operation Veterans Wellness. Rio West Mall, Gallup N.M.

August 1, 2018

- Pro Se Class. Chinle Judicial District. 9:00 a.m.— Name change, correction of record, declaration of name.
- Pro Se Clinic, Kayenta Judicial District. 10:00 a.m.

August 8, 2018

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

August 10, 2018

- Flagstaff Justice Court & Flagstaff City Court holding court at Tuba City Judicial District. 1:30 p.m.
- Pro Se Class, Aneth Judicial District, 2:00 p.m.

August 15, 2018

- Pro Se Class. Chinle Judicial District. 9:00 a.m.— Validation of common law marriage; recognition of traditional marriage; dissolution of marriage; paternity, child support, custody or visitation; modification of child support/, custody, visitation; how to answer a petition.

August 22, 2018

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

Judicial Branch Statistical Caseload Report for FY18 3rd Quarter

CASE TYPE	CASELOAD	CLOSED CASES
Civil	1783	288
Criminal	8789	2188
Civil Traffic	5829	1459
Criminal Traffic	1703	400
Family Civil	2477	486
Domestic Violence	1698	877
Dependency	461	33
Delinquency	205	38
CHINS	94	11
Supreme Court	149	30
Probation/Parole	4307	1424
Peacemaking	620	312

Did you know?

⇒ Chinle Judicial District Staff Attorney Chris Benally holds weekly pro se classes. Call the Chinle District Court at (928) 674-2070 for more information and to confirm.

⇒ More statistics are available in the full quarterly report posted on our www.navajocourts.org website.