

Hashkééjí Nahat'á Bahane'

T'ÁÁTSOH
2019



Quarterly message of the Chief Justice



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Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne delivers a report to the 24th Navajo Nation Council at the 2019 Spring Session.

The upcoming 60 year anniversary of the establishment of the current Navajo Nation Supreme Court and district courts is a historic benchmark that the Dine' have achieved stellar success and status throughout the world. Because we have a growing population, the solemn responsibility we hold bestows upon us the duty to honor our children with a solid court system which will withstand life's challenges for the next 60 years, and beyond.

In 2002, the Navajo Nation council proclaimed that "the Dine' have always been guided and protected by the immutable laws provided by the Diyin, the Diyin Dine'e', Nahasdzaan, and Yadihlil; these laws have not only provided sanctuary for the Dine' Life Way but has guided, sustained and protected the Dine' as they journeyed upon and off the sacred lands upon which they were placed since time immemorial." CN-69-02, November 1, 2002

The Hashkééjí Nahat'á is the only branch of government which can issue an order to incarcerate a person and take away the freedom to move about your life. To that end, the Hashkééjí Nahat'á invites the Executive

and Legislative Branches for solid and reliable collaboration to protect and enhance the Dine' Life Way. The Hashkééjí Nahat'á is fulfilling its sacred duty of protection by abiding with the Navajo Nation Bill of Rights codified at 1 N.N.C. Subsection 1 and other rights as promulgated by the Legislative branch and ratified by the Executive Branch.

The mandate bestowed upon the 3-branch leadership is to protect dine' sovereignty and government. The Hashkééjí Nahat'á calls upon the Legislative and Executive branches for assistance in adequate funding to ensure the Judicial Branch may fulfill its sacred duty to the Dine' Life Way and most importantly that that assistance upholds judicial independence. This judicial independence is sustained, in part, by filling justice and judge vacancies, providing durable, safe court facilities for Window Rock, Shiprock, Kayenta, Dzil Yijjin, Pueblo Pintado, and Peacemaking Courts, and Probation and Parole. This correlates to recruitment of judges and other professionals.

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Quarterly message of the Chief Justice

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Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne at the Inauguration ceremony of the Navajo Nation President, Vice President and Council on January 15, 2019. Chief Justice Jayne administered the oath of office pursuant to 7 NNC § 374, which states, "The Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation shall administer the oath of office to the President, Vice President, Navajo Nation Council Delegates, and all other elected officials as provided by law. The Chief Justice may designate another Justice or Judge of the Navajo Nation to administer the oath."

An example of a 3-branch collaboration is when the Hashkééjį Nahat'á traveled to Santa Fe, New Mexico, on February 14, 2019, with the Legislative and Executive branch leadership to provide assistance and support in educating the governor's staff and state legislators on our courts' needs and priorities. Due to efforts by the Navajo Nation leadership, funds were a part of New Mexico Senate Bill 280 that included \$1.2 million to plan for a judicial complex in Tse Bonito and \$3.15 million for a judicial/public safety complex for Shiprock. The bill passed the State Senate on March 13, 2019, and the House of Representatives on March 15, 2019.

To the Dine' who are in the judicial system: As A133j7 Hashkééjį Nahat'á for the Branch and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, case management in the courts is the highest priority. The lack of judges and a third justice created some of the backlog of cases which have increased through the years. Moreover, the increase in population and those using the judicial system has increased through the years. I ask for your patience while we address the caseloads because justice delayed is justice denied.

The Hashkééjį Nahat'á has short and long term goals and objectives such as a partner in the development of the Diné Action Plan, a comprehensive initiative to empower and strengthen healthier generations. Navajo Nation public safety summit participants identified violence, suicide, and substance abuse as challenges for capacity building, communication, consistency and uniformity, and community engagement. After a decade, the Judicial branch drafted a new Strategic Plan with a vision and concomitant objectives priori-

tized in traditional values and identity, retaining judicial independence, public trust, and accountability which coincides with case management as the highest priority.

The Hashkééjį Nahat'á conducts its duties using Diné bi beenahaz'áanii for the restoration of harmony. The Peacemaking healing objective (K'e Bee Hozhoo Nahoodleel) to have disputes resolved by bringing all affected people together with the assistance of a respected elder or leader was established prior to the advent of courts. Their core mission of implementing Navajo culture through facilitation of traditional justice practices remains the mainstay of the Hashkééjį Nahat'á. Peacemaking must remain highlighted with their priorities for restorative justice, status and respect for elders, children and family hozho', protection of vulnerable adults and children, and be inclusive of all faiths. Hashkééjį Nahat'á recognizes that our children and youth are also a high priority and thus peacemaking program has always been a sacred resource to them.

The primary objective of the Probation and Parole Services is to educate first and then to rehabilitate a person who breached tribal standards and laws of the Navajo Nation. With this as their foundation, the Probation and Parole Services recognizes harmony with oneself and one's environment is the "traditional cornerstone of Navajo existence." The Hashkééjį Nahat'á branch remains committed to restorative justice which is based on outcomes.

The Hashkééjį Nahat'á branch highlights its accomplishments in the 2nd Quarterly report to the Legislative and Executive branches and to the Dine. ●

Judicial District FY 19 2nd Quarterly Highlights



Tuba City Judicial District Staff Attorney conducts a pro se class for the public on March 19, 2019.

TUBA CITY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Three general staff meetings were held during this reporting period. Judge Victoria Yazzie and Court Administrator Alice Huskie provided updates on court operations and shared information on planned activities for the upcoming months with the staff.

Staff Attorney Michael Bennett provided three pro se trainings for the public. The pro se training included the following topics: validation of common law marriage, recognition of traditional marriage, dissolution of marriage, paternity, child support, custody, visitation, name change, corrections of records, declaration of a name, probate, guardianship of a minor, modifications and how to answer a petition. The training is for individuals who wish to file pro se packets with the court. The individuals who want to represent themselves are required to attend pro se training so they are aware of what the law requires and their duties and responsibilities in court. The total attendance for the pro se trainings during this reporting period is 69 participants.

The Navajo Nation Child Support Enforcement held administrative hearings on January 14, 2019, February 11,

2019 and March 11, 2019, for their clients. There were 85 scheduled cases; 43 administrative cases were held, 23 cases were continued and 19 cases dismissed. The CSE requested to have administrative hearings at the court where a more structured and a secured place for their clients is provided. The Court and CSE are collaborating information in hopes of locating and serving absent parents.

On March 18-19, 2019, the Tuba City Judicial District hosted the 6B Procurement Training for Judicial Branch assigned staff to carry out work duties as a requisitioner, approver or receiver. The overall goal is to implement the 6B Procurement rollout as required by the Navajo Nation Controller's office. Ninety-four staff attended the two-day training. Financial Manager Yvonne Gorman and her staff provided the training.

On March 20, 2019, the Court Administrators and Program Managers held their meeting at the Tuba City Judicial District. The group received information on the court processes, budget updates, personnel information by human resource office and Law and Order orientation. Discussions are lengthy and intense. Court Administrator Darlene LaFrance, Dilkon District, facilitated the meeting.

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Judicial District quarterly highlights

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Kayenta Judicial District hosted the quarterly judicial conference March 1, 2019, in Kayenta.

During this reporting period, the Honorable Victoria Yazzie administered the Oath for Navajo Law Enforcement Officers including the Lieutenant, Sergeants and Criminal Investigation Officers. The Law Enforcement Officers are required to renew for their oath for public safety every year.

Two employees from Navajo Nation Workforce Development, Ramona Yazzie and Cheona Burbank, came to work with the Tuba City Judicial District. Both employees are assisting the court clerks and office operation. The court is providing on-the-job training for the two employees to learn about the Navajo Criminal Justice system. They enjoy their work and are becoming aware of the fast paced work environment in processing court documents.

On February 5, 2019, Court Clerk Geneva Salt provided Civil Traffic Citation training for Court Administrator and Office Technician. The training provided clarification on questions regarding updating cases for e-payment and monthly reports.

On March 1, 2019, Judge Victoria Yazzie, Staff Attorney and Court Administrator attended the Judicial Branch quarterly conference in Kayenta, Arizona. The conference provided information on employee performance evaluation,

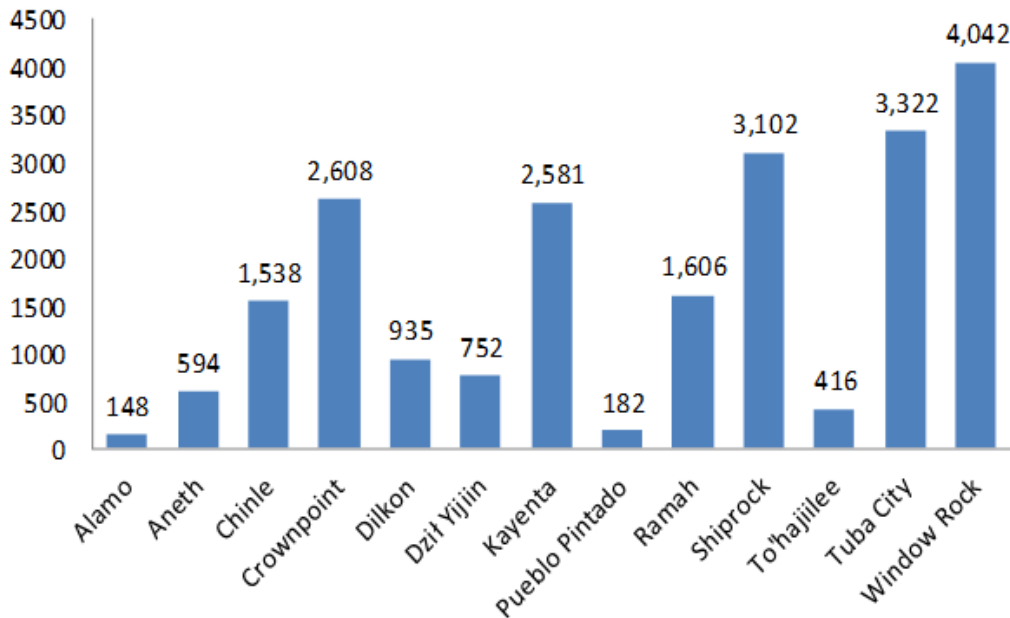
complaint protocol for staff, strategic plans, FMIS 6B Procurement process and implementation. Kayenta Judicial District staff hosted and provided luncheon. Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne and staff sponsored the Judicial Conference.

On March 4, 2019, Judge Victoria Yazzie and Staff Attorney attended the Navajo Preference in Employment Act training in Window Rock, Arizona. The NPEA Training provided a refresher on some of the particular features of the Act, including: Office of Navajo Labor Relations Plan of Operation, the purpose of NPEA, the specific requirements for Navajo candidate selection, acceptable advertising methods for jobs available on or near the Nation, and some of the most important obligations of Nation employers in dealing with their workers. The training also provided a forum where Judges and Staff Attorneys could discuss some of the Supreme Court cases regarding interpretation of NPEA provisions. ●

KAYENTA JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court Administrator Lavonne K. Yazzie and Office Technician Regina Jones participated in a mandatory Navajo

Judicial District Courts FY19 2nd Quarter Caseload



The meeting of public safety agencies, tribal/state/federal community programs, local schools, merchants, churches, and community members focused on concerns regarding public safety, impact of crime, capacity building and housing. Quarterly work plan development updates were established to address concerns by examining current public safety measures and identifying improvements.

In efforts to address a Navajo Nation Judicial Branch Strategic Plan goal, Court Administrator facilitated two Case Management Committee work sessions. The work sessions are providing an opportunity to evaluate the court's use of technology to best serve the public and the Navajo Nation.

Nation Financial Management Information System (FMIS) 6B Agency Rollout work session. The work session provided an opportunity to process financial documents and identified segregation of duties for initiating, approving, receiving and/or voucher matching on-line purchase requisitions. The goal of the project is to eliminate duplication of services, time and travel costs by using technology in the Nation's procurement process.

Judge Tina Tsinigine and district staff attended the 2019 Navajo Nation Inauguration on January 15, 2019, in Ft. Defiance, Arizona.

In efforts to seek funding for the project-ready Kayenta Judicial District Judicial Complex, Court Administrator and Staff Attorney Letitia Stover attended all seven district Navajo chapter planning and regular meetings to garner support resolutions in obtaining funding for the construction of the Kayenta Judicial District from the Navajo Nation *Sihasin* funds and other Navajo Nation, Federal, and state sources of funds as needed

Judge Tina Tsinigine participated in a February 1, 2019 interview to address the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch Judge's Pay Plan Study Project in conjunction with the National Center for State Courts. The in-depth review and recommendations will be used to update Judicial Branch Navajo Nation Judge position descriptions.

Court Administrator participated in a Judicial Branch Orientation for the Law and Order Committee of the Navajo Nation Council on March 8, 2019 in Window Rock, Arizona.

Staff Attorney facilitated a Kayenta District Service Providers' meeting on March 28, 2019, in Kayenta, Arizona.

The Kayenta Judicial District hosted the Quarterly Judicial Conference on March 1, 2019, in Kayenta, Arizona. Conference participants received Judicial Branch updates and ascertained new developments. As host, the district staff prepared a delicious luncheon for the group.

In addition to facilitating two service provider meetings, Staff Attorney conducted three district Pro Se Legal Clinics for 60 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 members of Tuba City, Crownpoint, LeChee, and Kaibeto chapters. ●

ANETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

All Aneth District Court personnel and Peacemaking and Probation staff completed 8 hours of First Aid/CPR/AED certification training. The training was held at the Utah Navajo Health System, Inc. conference room on February 1, 2019.

The Aneth Judicial District reinitiated the resource meetings. The first meeting was held on January 29, 2019 at the Montezuma Creek High School, Peacemaking Hogan.

There were over 25 resources representing various agencies and departments. The resource team decided this was a much needed meeting so they voted to have it monthly.

Aneth Judicial District developed, completed and implement Aneth court's emergency evacuation plan and protocols. In-service training on court safety and how to imple-

Judicial District quarterly highlights

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ment a safety plan was presented by court Bailiff Daren Roberts. The plans included Emergency Safety Plan for; fire egress routes, meeting points, active shooter drills and Safety Data Sheet (hazardous material in the court).

Judge Irene S. Black continues to be temporarily assigned to Shiprock Judicial District due to the shortage of District Court Judges. The assignment began on December 1, 2014, by then Chief Justice Herb Yazzie by Administrative Order 68-2014. Judge Black conducts hearings for Shiprock Judicial Districts on Mondays via telehearings and travels to Shiprock, N.M., on Thursdays and Fridays. Aneth Judicial District is left to pack all Aneth cases into Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Judge Black travels over 260 miles between Shiprock Judicial District and Aneth District weekly.

Judge Irene Black, Court Administrator Bryan Parrish and Office Technician Elvira Miller attended the Judicial Branch 6B FMIS training session on March 18 and 19, 2019, at Tuba City Judicial District. The items discussed were how and what to enter into JD Edwards financial Management system to process payment for Judicial Branch. Each office got to practice entering Purchase Requisitions into the system to generate Purchase Orders.

Staff Attorney Glen Renner with the assistance of the Traditional Program Specialist Stanley Nez completed presentation on filing probate and quiet title actions pro se on Navajo Nation courts to the Tolikan Grazing Permittees on January 28, 2019, and conducted two other classes at the District courtroom this quarter.

The United States District Court, Tribal Reentry Court (TCRC) for the District of Utah held a hearing on March 7, 2019 utilizing the Aneth Judicial District court facilities in Aneth, Utah. TCRC conducts quarterly review hearings for their participants, who are released from federal incarceration, to assist them with re-entry into the respective communities. ●

CHINLE JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Chinle Judicial District staff worked on the handbook and procedural book for the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court. They reviewed the intake forms and the case flowchart. The Resource Coordinator facilitated meetings and attended trainings. The Resource Coordinator resigned from the position. The position is being advertised with a goal of filling next quarter.

The Judicial Hearing Officer continued to assist the Chinle Judicial District with domestic violence cases. He conducts domestic violence hearings on Monday mornings. He also assists with drafting proposed orders for the presiding judge to review and sign. His services have been valuable to meet the needs of the people.

Staff Attorney continued to facilitate the Resource

Meeting on a monthly basis. It has been a challenge to involve key departments (i.e. Law Enforcement, Corrections and the Prosecutor's Office). Issues brought forth from other attendees are difficult to address because representatives from these key departments are not present.

The Staff Attorney continued to facilitate the Pro Se clinic on Wednesdays to the community members. He provided basic information on the court processes in general. He also answered questions from the attendees on their issues. The Pro Se clinic has been helpful to the pro se practitioners.

The quarterly Judicial Conference was held in Kayenta, Arizona. Judge Bedonie, Staff Attorney and Court Administrator attended the meeting. Judges and staff received information from the Judicial Branch Human Resources Department on employee performance evaluations, personnel complaint protocol, and judge's training requirement and schedule. They also discussed the role of the judicial hearing officers and reports were given by the respective departments within the Judicial Branch. The next quarterly Judicial Conference is scheduled and will be hosted by Shiprock Judicial District.

Judge Bedonie has continued to cover Dził Yijiin Judicial District. He travelled to Pinon, Arizona on Wednesdays and Thursdays to preside and reviews cases in Dził Yijiin Judicial District. The Court Administrators have worked together to coordinate Judge's schedule and availability. ●

DZİL YIJIIN JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Dził Yijiin Judicial District provided court services and coordinated meetings with local resource providers within the Dził Yijiin region.

Dził Yijiin Judicial District modular project is 95% complete. The final remaining items for installation are the backflow preventer assembly and Fire Alarm Control Panel (FACP) to meet final inspection requirements.

Dził Yijiin District personnel successfully completed Financial Management Information System (FMIS) trainings and are certified in FMIS 6B rollout to process financial purchase requisitions online.

On January 10, 2019 Judge Bedonie, Probation Officer Arlene Begay and Court Administrator Arlene Lee attended the Dził Yijiin Regional Council meeting at Hard Rock Chapter. Judge Bedonie reported on the Pinon District Court operations and answered questions on court processes. Court Administrator provided updates on the modular unit infrastructure.

Pro Se clinics were hosted by DNA People' Legal Services on January 14, February 12, & March 28, 2019. The



This will be the new Dził Yijiin Judicial District facility in Pinon, Arizona.

workshops provided legal advice and assistance for individuals seeking legal aid in the Family Civil Domestic proceedings: Divorce, Name Change, Correction of Record, Paternity/Child Support, Guardianship of Minor(s) and Validation of Marriage. The workshops were a success. Individuals who attended the workshops filed their pro se packets with the court for further processing.

On January 16, 2019 Shelley Lee, Office Technician, attended Case Management work session in Window Rock and represented Dził Yijiin District.

On March 18, 2019, Office Technician and Court Administrator attended FMIS 6B rollout work session facilitated by Yvonne Gorman, Financial Service Manager, and AOC fiscal technicians at Tuba City District.

During second quarter, Court Administrator coordinated and collaborated with various entities including NTUA and Frontier, Modular Solutions LTD, to complete modular unit construction.

Staff attended a meeting with Navajo County representative Miles Begay to request assistance with gravel for the parking lot at the new court facility to serve the community.

On March 27, 2019, the pre-final walk was done through discussions on punch list items at modular building project site; met with Lorenzo Chavez, General Contractor; Winston Chato, Project Supervisor; Andy Thomas, Project Manager, (Division of Community Development);

Frontier, Judge Bedonie and staff from Administrative Offices of the Courts, including Information Technology, Administrative Director, and Virgil Burnside. •

DILKON JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Dilkon Court conducted monthly Resource Meetings every third Friday of the month. These meetings are improving with participation from all resources/departments, with updates and discussion of interoffice concerns; the Resource Meetings were held on January 18, February 15, and March 15, 2019; however, this quarter our meetings have been slow and not much participation.

Two staff in-service trainings were conducted this quarter. On January 4, 2019, Judge Malcolm Begay and Court Administrator Darlene LaFrance reviewed with staff District Statistics and Rotation of Clerks, with a focus on how to accommodate case flow and addressing the public when short of staff. District. On February 27, 2019, Jordan Hale, Staff Attorney, gave a presentation on Probate/ Quiet Title procedure and process. The Peacemaking Program also participated.

The Dilkon Judicial District will not conduct Pro Se classes for public education until further notice. The Staff Attorney will assist the public with their questions. DNA Legal Services used to assist with Pro Se clinics, however

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Staff of Dilkon Judicial District and First Lady Phefelia Nez

their grant funding was not renewed to continue this work. DNA Legal Services will continue to assist with Domestic Abuse Protections cases.

Judge Malcolm Begay attended the Justices and Judges Compensation Review on March 4, 2019 in Window Rock, AZ;. He also assisted with the preparations for the Law and Order Committee orientation on March 5, 2019, and the orientation on March 8, 2019.

Judge Malcolm Begay and Staff Attorney assisted with other judicial districts and Supreme Court with cases such as arraignments, hearings, oral arguments, writs, etc.

Staff Attorney attended the Judicial Conduct Commission meetings on January 14-15, 2019 and on March 14-15, 2019. ●

WINDOW ROCK JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Window Rock District's lease with the Navajo Nation Shopping Center, Inc. expired on December 31 2018. District personnel have temporarily relocated to Administrative Office of Court conference rooms. Upon extensive search and inquiry, the District has not located a new building to occupy.

Court Administrator, Verlena Hale attended a meeting with NNSCI personnel regarding the modular building (Pad 21); repair costs and schedule to move out of the building.

Court Administrator met with BIA Ft. Defiance Region staff in regards to Temporary Office Space, Building issues & concerns at the Ft. Defiance Chapter House.

Court Administrator attended a meeting with NTUA personnel, Mr. Rex Kontz, in regards to temporary office space for the WRJD staff.

Court Administrator attended a Planning meeting at the St. Michaels Chapter House, St. Michaels, AZ.

Court Administrator attended meetings with Office of the President/Vice President in regards to Temporary Office Space and an option to use an administrative building in Tse Bonito, NM.

Verlena Hale had a meeting with Joe Hausner, Frontier on potential office space in St. Michaels, AZ.

Judge Malcolm Begay, Dilkon Judicial District, is assisting in reviewing and handling of some Window Rock District Court Cases.

The Window Rock Judicial District accommodated two

volunteers through the Ft. Defiance Workforce Development; Ms. Daryn Murphy and Marlinda Belone. Employment for Ms. Murphy and Ms. Belone ended February 8, 2019.

Accomplishments by Judge Cynthia Thompson

- Continues to handle district court cases and all of the Family Court cases.
- Worked on the Juvenile Justice Grant in the Chinle Judicial District.
- Presided over cases at the Dilkon and Chinle Judicial Districts.
- Appointed as designated associate justice on NN Supreme Court cases.
- Swore in the newly appointed Deputy Police Chief, Daryl Noon; conducted the swearing in of new police officers and Sergeants in Chinle, AZ.
- Conducted Oath of office to personnel in the Navajo Nation Department of Corrections.
- Along with Court Administrator and Staff Attorney, conducted a Resource Meeting at the Navajo Nation Museum.
- Along with Judicial Hearing Officer Clyde, Staff Attorney, and Court Administrator, attended the quarterly Judicial Conference in Kayenta District.

Accomplishments by Judicial Hearing Officer Victor Clyde

- Handled all domestic violence cases in the Window Rock Judicial District and assisted other districts, as requested.
- Met with the Court Administrator regarding domestic violence case issues and concerns.

Accomplishments by Staff Attorney Lorenzo Curley

- DNA Legal Services conducted Adult Guardianship Pro Se Clinic in January and February for a total of fourteen families.
- Court Administrator, Judge Thompson, Chief Justice Jayne, Aneth District Staff Attorney interviewed candidates for the Window Rock District Staff Attorney position. Mr. Lorenzo Curley was hired.
- Assists Judge Thompson with legal research and drafting of orders as needed, in particular with the complex civil docket.
- Aneth District Staff Attorney was assisting Window Rock District with legal questions concerning employment or Judicial Branch Employee Policies and Procedures matters. These matters were given over to Staff Attorney Lorenzo Curley.
- Assisted staff and the public regarding legal issues and questions.

Training

- Judge Thompson and Mariah Tsosie, Office Techni-

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Judge Cynthia Thompson administers the oath of office for Deputy Police chief Daryl Noon January 8, 2019.

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cian with Window Rock Judicial District, attended a mandatory FMIS training at Twin Arrows Resort and Casino, Flagstaff, AZ.

- Peacemaking Program's Traditional Program Specialist, Jimmie Burbank, provided a Life Value Workshop at the Old Supreme Courtroom; he conducts this workshop on a monthly basis.
- Court Administrator attended Financial Deposit Training at Window Rock, AZ. •

SHIPROCK JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Northern Justice and Public Safety Complex Project.

The Shiprock Judicial & Public Safety Complex planning committee, including project manager Tom Bielecki with Parson, Department of Correction Director Dr. Greyeyes and staff, Shiprock Chapter President Duane Yazzie and staff, Shiprock Planning Commission, and newly elected Council Delegate Eugenia Charles-Newton, has made tremendous progress. Honorable Charles-Newton has successfully lobbied the State of New Mexico lawmakers to provide \$3.15 million for the project in the capital outlay bill which is pending Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham's review and signature. Ms. Charles-Newton also obtained support letter from the Navajo Nation President and Navajo Nation Speaker's Office for construction funds through the State of New Mexico Governor Lujan-Grisham.

Other activities include:

- On January 16, 2019, Meeting on Construction Manager at Risk Contract Negotiation with Arviso/Oakland construction contractor.
- On March 14, 2019, conference call meeting held on master plan with Arrington Watkins. Master plan near completion.
- On March 22, 2019, U.S. Representative for New Mexico Ben Ray Lujan Jr. and staff member Brian Lee toured the Shiprock Corrections facility and the Shiprock Court house. Representative Lujan has seen the building conditions and been informed of the impacts of the deteriorated, unsafe, unhealthy, and outgrown building of the Shiprock Corrections and the Shiprock Court facility. Others in attendance at this tour were District 4 San Juan County Legislator Anthony Allison, Shiprock Chapter President Duane Yazzie, Darryl Junes Joe, Shiprock Planning Commission, legislators' support staff, Navajo Nation Chief of Police Phillip Francisco, and the local criminal justice department personnel. Honorable Eugenia Charles-Newton provided the tour of the correction facility and court administrator Ethel S. Laughing provided the tour of the court facility.
- On March 26, 2019, the Shiprock Judicial & Public Safety Complex planning committee and project man-

ager Tom Bielecki with Parson, held a project update meeting in Shiprock, NM. The planning committee, project manager and staff member, Department of Corrections Dr. Greyeyes' staff and a representative of the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority attended. Updates were shared with the group, and next step is to start the programming sessions with each criminal justice components beginning the week of April 22, 2019.

The Shiprock judicial management personnel received training on the Financial Management Information System/6B Rollout, and overview of SharePoint site implemented for Administrative Office of the Courts in-house business unit ledgers; and overview and demonstration on assigned roles of an approver, requisitioner, receiver, and 3-way match.

On January 4, 2019, the United State District Court, District of Utah, District Judge David Nuffer and his staff visited the Shiprock Court and toured the facility. Judge Nuffer and staff were informed of our plans for a new criminal justice complex and that we are excited. Judge Nuffer and his staff were on their way to Aneth Judicial District to conduct re-entry court for tribal members. Following the visit, Judge Nuffer extended his best wishes in writing for a new courthouse and appreciative of the bailiffs' help and opportunity to meet.

Shiprock Judicial District Staff Attorney Derrick Burbank provided two pro se clinics, a session on February 28, 2019 on probate and the other session held on March 29, 2019 on divorce. Nineteen interested participants attended the probate pro se clinic. Four interested participants attended the divorce pro se clinic.

The Shiprock Judicial management appreciates the hiring a temporary document technician for the district operation. Accomplishments includes 803 traffic civil/criminal cases scanned this quarter.

During the quarter the Court Administrator and Court Clerks attended the JustWare work session in Chinle AZ. Discussions on new added status and sentence types and set up for process of original/lesser charge were discussed. They were also updated on e-payments, ACH payments, manual allocations, and bench warrants system and process.

On March 1, 2019, Court Administrator, Judge Genevieve Woody, and Staff Attorney attended the Judicial Conference in Kayenta, AZ. Overview was given on performance evaluations, personnel complaint protocol, and reports were also given out on the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan Implementation, the 2020 General Funds Formulation Process, and Fund Management Plan.

On March 20, 2019, the Court Administrator attended the Court Administrators' meeting at Tuba City District Court. During this meeting CAs received updates on budg-



Navajo Nation Judicial District Court Administrators Verlena Hale, Lavonne Yazzie, Regina Begay Roanhorse, Alice Huskie, Rena Thompson, Bryan Parrish, Esther Jose, Ethel Laughing, Vanessa Mescal and Darlene LaFrance.

et projections, Judges vacancies, LOC orientation and FY 2020 Budget Formulations.

The Shiprock District's daily visitor registry for this quarter was 3,485. •

CROWNPOINT JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Crownpoint Judicial District continued to review/close out cases file more than two years old. Reviews were conducted with Court Clerks; some cases were scheduled for review hearings or status hearings. This is still in process and continues to be addressed.

Crownpoint along with Pueblo Pintado staff had three local in-service trainings on the topics of "Court Filings," and "Customer Service," presented by Staff Attorney Shawn Attakai. A staff development day was also included this quarter titled "Legal Advice v. Legal Information" & "Diné Action Plan- Fundamental Law" presented by Staff Attorney. These trainings provided to court staff are to enhance, refresh, and teach for development in their daily work duties and responsibilities.

The Pueblo Pintado progresses in opening its doors. Risk

Management Department has recommended to re-set the building on the foundation due to settlement of the soil. A cost estimate is in development and a search for potential contractors is underway. There are a few punch list items needed to be completed. Materials have been purchased and need to be installed/repared and onto the final walk through with Division of Community Development Capital Projects Management Department for Certificate of Occupancy.

The Crownpoint Judicial District is continuing the process of reviewing and inputting correct data for traffic civil citation beginning year 2011 to 2000. This task awaits time for the individual to retrieve DVD(s) and obtain a laptop with a DVD drive to load the information to type into Justware court software. These cases constitute approximately 36,990 cases.

Judge Leonard Livingston continued to preside over cases at Crownpoint District, along with Pueblo Pintado Court cases. In addition, this quarter, Judge Livingston administered oaths of office to 26 law enforcement officers, 6 criminal investigators, 8 telecommunication special-

Judicial District quarterly highlights

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ists and 1 secretary/treasurer chapter official from Casamero Lake Chapter.

Judge Livingston made three trips to attend conference with Navajo Supreme Court involving administratively assigned Supreme Court Cases. He also attended a Judge Salary Study presentation in Window Rock, AZ. Along with Staff Attorney he attended the quarterly Judicial Conference, held in Kayenta, AZ. Judge Livingston also completed his FMIS requirement in common foundation, inquiry He attended, with Court Administrator and Office Technician, a two-day FMIS 6B rollout training in Tuba City, Arizona.

A local Criminal Justice Summit Initiative resource meeting was held on March 22, 2019 with local resources in the Crownpoint, NM area. The meeting was a success in regards to resource sharing information of their respective programs, activities the program is involved in, concerns and suggestions related the criminal activities happening within Eastern Navajo Agency chapters. There are needs that the group volunteered to work on and report to the group next meeting. Furthermore, the need for Bailiffs to receive service of process training when serving Temporary Restraining Orders without notice was also discussed. This quarter, 23 petitions were served by Bailiff Kelsey Begay.

The Crownpoint Judicial District hired a Document Technician on January 16, 2019. Ms. Gloria Toledo has completed 1,958 cases comprising 60,194 pages of documents.

Two staff members, Office Technician Louise Thompson and Court Clerk Vita Begay, attended a Mistake Free; Proofreading seminar in Albuquerque, NM, to help with editing documents upon request.

The Crownpoint Judicial District had two students from Capacity Builders of Farmington, N.M., observe domestic violence hearing as part of their internship working towards a degree in sociology. Court Commissioner and parties in the case consented to the two students. The interns will soon be taking the Navajo Nation Bar Exam to help with domestic violence advocacy.

The Crownpoint Judicial District is honored to have Judge Victor Clyde come and hear domestic violence cases in the Crownpoint Family Court every Tuesday except administrative days.

The local safety committee had two meetings this quarter. The committee is comprised of five staff members, probation officer, and BIA safety officer. Their mission includes setting protocols, policies, routine drills in fire, outside threats and other safety hazardous threats.

The FMIS 6B rollout has begun; training was provided and attended by the district judge, office technician and court administrator who a part of the roll out. The financial process is a new innovation toward local governance.●

RAMAH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Ramah Judicial Court staff and the two programs' Probation/Parolee Officer, Traditional Program Specialist and To'hajiilee Court Bailiff attended the CPR and 1st Aid Training on March 29, 2019 in Ramah District Courtroom.

In the 2nd quarter, Judge William Platero had individual meetings with the court staff to improve the district plan and make adjustments based on their current job description, the duties they perform and what needs to be established as a goal for FY2019 by the court staff and administrator. The annual performance evaluations of Ramah Judicial Court staff will be continued into the quarter. Completing the evaluation forms for each of the staff is still in process.

Judge Platero continues to assist the Office of the Chief Justice to review Supreme Court case files and other Judicial District courts.

This quarter's closed cases have been archived for Family/District Court cases. As soon as clerks closed out cases they are archived. The court has been keeping up with archiving closed out cases.

Court Administrator traveled to attend Managers' Meeting on January 29, 2019, at Staff Development Training Center in Window Rock, AZ. The new Human Resources Director, Cheron Watchman, introduced herself and updated us on her work and information on employee relations and guidance of the policy. Other topics were discussed by the attendances. She also attended the March 20, 2019 Court Administrators/Managers' meeting in Tuba City District.

Judge Platero and Court Administrator traveled to Kayenta Judicial District to attend the quarterly Judicial Conference on March 1, 2019, with Chief Justice, Associate Justice and the rest of the District/Family Court Judges, Staff Attorneys, Court Administrators, Human Resources Director, Secretary, Administrative Office of the Director, and Financial Manager. Meeting topics included Judicial Branch updates and learning about new developments, such as 6B Rollout processes for judges.

Court Administrator and court staff hosted a Resource Meeting. The meetings provide an important mechanism for interagency planning and coordination at the service delivery level, as well as help define a clear vision for strategies to coordinate future services, programs, and other initiatives, particularly for youth. Key stakeholders are given the opportunity to participate in the resource meetings held at the respective court at Ramah District Courtroom. At the conclusion of the meeting, comments and questions were raised by the participants.

Court Administrator and Court Clerk attended the March 28, 2019 JustWare work session at Chinle Judicial District. AOC-IT conducted work session with the court clerks to update from the last Work Sessions held January 17-18,



Ramah Judicial District staff with Judicial Hearing Officer Victor Clyde, Staff Attorney Alisha Thompson, Judge William Platero and Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley.

2019 and February 6, 2019.

Court Administrator traveled to Tuba City District on March 18-19, 2019, to attend 6B Rollout Session. The work session agenda included: SharePoint District Sites Overview, Logging into AOC's SharePoint site to view Business Units In-house General Ledgers for Availability of Funds. FMIS 6B Procurement & Accounts Payable Overview, and Process Online Requisitions or Live. Approvers approve online. The next day covered Receivers process receiving reports online for various business units and Vouchers Matchers process using the 3-way match. Last day was open for questions and answer session. Learned a lot of information.

Court Administrator and two Court Clerks attended training on Pro Se Clinic in To'hajiilee District on March 4, 2019.

On February 19, 2019, Judge Platero administered oaths of office to five Ramah Navajo Law Enforcement Police officers; and on March 12, 2019 he administered oaths to nine Ramah Navajo Law Enforcement Police Officer, Dispatchers and nine Ramah Navajo Detention Officers.

Approximately 371 people signed in for services, 360 telephone calls logged in/out were received, and 1,726 incoming/outgoing fax services.

Management by Court Bailiff with his security report within this quarter: 0 people served, 0 pocket knives, 0 other deadly weapon. Bench Warrant & Public Intoxication, 11 bench warrant 36 public intoxication. ●

ALAMO/TO'HAJIILEE JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Court Administrator Regina Begay-Roanhorse and Staff Attorney Alisha Thompson attended case management and JustWare training sessions on: 1/16/19; 1/17-18/19; 2/6/19; 3/13/19 and 3/28-29/19. Court Administrator and Staff Attorney are both licensed in the Navajo Nation Bar Association so their input into case flow, case management is in alignment with James v. Window Rock Family Court, slip op. No. SC-CV-06-12 (2012). It is important for Court Administrators to ensure that case management in their districts are in accordance with applicable rules and laws and that the records are preserved and properly maintained both in the files and databases (Justware).

Staff Attorney held two Pro Se Clinics: one in To'Hajiilee, March 4, and one in Alamo, March 5, 2019. The topic for the Pro Se Clinics was on the Navajo Court process and included a discussion on the role of the courts, sovereignty, Navajo Fundamental Law, and how to initiate and defend cases in the Navajo Courts.

Judicial District quarterly highlights

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Judge William Platero is the presiding judge for Ramah and To'hajiilee/Alamo Judicial District Courts.

Staff Attorney provided legal guidance to the Judicial Conduct Commission, particularly in its development of policies and protocols for the selection of probationary judges and justices. The Judicial Conduct Commission met on March 13-14, 2019 at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Care Coordinator Dorothy Yonnie was hired on March 13, 2019, for the Healing to Wellness Court Peer Support enhancement project for the Ramah, Alamo and To'Hajiilee courts. This program is funded through the 2018 CTAS (Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation) U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse grant.

Ms. Yonnie will be working with tribal, state and federal health systems to develop a Peer Support program to assist courts with their Wellness Court justice-involved defendants to support recovery, treatment and rehabilitation. More information on Peer Support can be found at the New Mexi-

co Human Services website: "Office of Peer Recovery and Engagement" (OPRE). Retrieved from: <http://newmexico.networkofcare.org/mh/content.aspx?cid=8113>.

Title IV-E of the Social Security Act provides for federal payments for foster care and adoption assistance through the states. This district worked with Division of Social Services in the early 2010s to address the need for appropriate court orders. On February 27 – 28, 2019 Court Administrator and Staff Attorney William Morris attended the Casey Programs' "Achieving Child and Family Well-Being: The Courts as Critical Partners in Navigating Prevention through Permanency." Court Administrator provided input to other tribal partners about the strength of the Alchini Bi Beehaazaani (Title 9- Children's Code) in pre-adjudicative processes for family conferences that our Peacemaking does with families called "family conferencing." Best practices by state judges were presented including resource mapping and representation. Overall, it was a very important discussion about child welfare, permanency and prevention for those who are involved in dependency cases.

Court Administrator worked with the Navajo Public Safety department's detention services, criminal investigators and data management offices to develop a 2019 Coordinated Tribal Assistance solicitation for equipment, coordination of services in the jails and a white collar crime investigator/ Federal U.S. Attorney – Tribal Prosecutor. She also worked with the Division of Social Services to develop a Victim Witness Advocate position for Eastern Navajo Agency in Crownpoint, N.M., covering 31 chapters. The effort brings dialogue about what gaps in services are needed to address justice issues. Ms. Roanhorse works with the Administrative Office of the Court's Grant Administrator to submit CTAS grants in one grant application per tribe. The CTAS process is a federally mandated process that requires tribes to submit Tribal Action Plans (TAP) to address the most pressing needs in tribal communities. In the Navajo Nation's TAP there are 3 problems to address: domestic violence, substance abuse and suicide. Ms. Roanhorse is a former tribal prosecutor and has also managed several state, federal and privately funded programs to address all three areas. She utilizes her experience, training, and education to develop justice programs that would address violent crime in the Navajo Nation. With her knowledge of the Navajo Nation laws, she is able to facilitate dialogue with justice partners to submit the best practical grant application for law enforcement, prosecutors, social services and tribal youth programming. This would include funding technology projects to support justice initiatives through the Navajo National Integrated Justice Information Sharing Project. For this quarter, the CTAS group met on: 1/9/19; 1/10/19; 1/28-31/19; 2/4/19; 2/14-15/19.

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Office of Probation & Parole Services

Report of Chief Probation Officer (CPO) Lucinda Yellowhair. This quarter our PPS management team has been focusing and working to complete the revisions of the SOP (Standard Operating Procedures) manual. This has been an ongoing effort to complete. Alisha Thompson, Staff Attorney-Tohajiilee, has been assisting our work group to ensure the revisions are consistent with the statutes of Navajo Nation.

Probation Services staff of thirty, Peacemaking staff of two and five staff of Department of Corrections have attended and completed the 32-hour certification training to become certified to facilitate an MRT (Moral Reconciliation Therapy) session for probation clients referred to Probation Services. This project, task and effort is Navajo Probation's initiative to develop and move toward client rehabilitative services.

Probation Services sent four Probation Officers to the Tribal Probation Academy in Parker, Ariz. The four Probation Officers have completed two of three weeks of scheduled probation academy. Probation Officers will be completing the last week of probation academy on April 12, 2019.

Probation Services interviewed for a Senior Probation Officer after a year of advertisement. Ms. Sheila Begishie was selected as the new Senior Probation officer. She is currently on her 90-probationary period.

In this quarter, Probation Services has several positions vacant that are being advertised; one Office Technician-Administration for the Chief Probation Officer's Window Rock office; two Probation Officers who resigned from their positions (Dilkon and Window Rock); one probation officer from Shiprock; and a vacant position for a Probation Officer in Kayenta. Probation Services is also advertising for a Reentry Coordinator for the Navajo Reentry effort.

Chief Probation Officer and two Probation Officers attended a Global Youth Conference under the Juvenile Healing to Wellness initiative. The week-long training was informative and they obtained valuable information to bring back to share with probation staff and committee. This is another method of enhancement for juvenile clients on our books.

Probation management team has scheduled two Standard Operating Procedure work sessions and this effort is made as one of the priority task to complete in this fiscal year.



Peacemaking Program and Probation & Parole staff who took training in March in Moral Reconciliation Therapy. This is a new initiative of the Judicial Branch.

Conducted two personnel staff meetings with two districts to listen and discuss issues that pertain to personnel matters that occur where probation management had to step in to find solutions to come to a consensus for a better working relationship in the work area. We find that having probation management team combat personnel issues at the district with first-hand information with staff does help alleviate issue that may arise and become problematic. Before that happens, we have help resolve the matter.

Assisting the new Senior Probation Officer Sheila Begishie through her probationary period to introduce her roles. Ms. Begishie is assigned to work from Tuba City PPS to ensure the probation office is restructured and work

Probation & Parole Services quarterly highlights

Cont'd from page 15

toward a better relationship with the Court, public, and local resources in terms of communication and collaboration. She also has other assignments and tasks with other districts including Kayenta, Chinle and Dził Yijiin. These tasks include restructuring and enhancements of working environment in the office. Senior Probation Officer has scheduled her first staff meeting with her staff to introduce and provide information on how she will be managing her assigned districts.

Chief Probation Officer was selected for a second term to the Committee on Probation for the Arizona State Chief Probation Officer's Task Force through the Arizona Supreme Court. The committee focuses on Arizona tribal leaders and Chief Probation Officers to meet to discuss issues with regards to working relationship, collaboration, networking and cross cultural information that helps better understand both the state and tribal jurisdiction issues and matters. Her first meeting will be in May 2019.

Probation Services management team has identified trainings for Probation Officers and staff— Drug/Alcohol certification training for all probation officers in May 2019; the PPS quarterly meeting; and the annual Train the Trainer Seminar for probation staff. These tasks are in the planning stages and will be followed through with submissions of training, travel and projected agenda.

Chief Probation Officer participated in the Law and Order Committee (LOC) orientation; but because Probation Services was not given ample time to provide the full orientation on Probation Services, we hope to come back to LOC to give a full and complete orientation information about Probation Services.

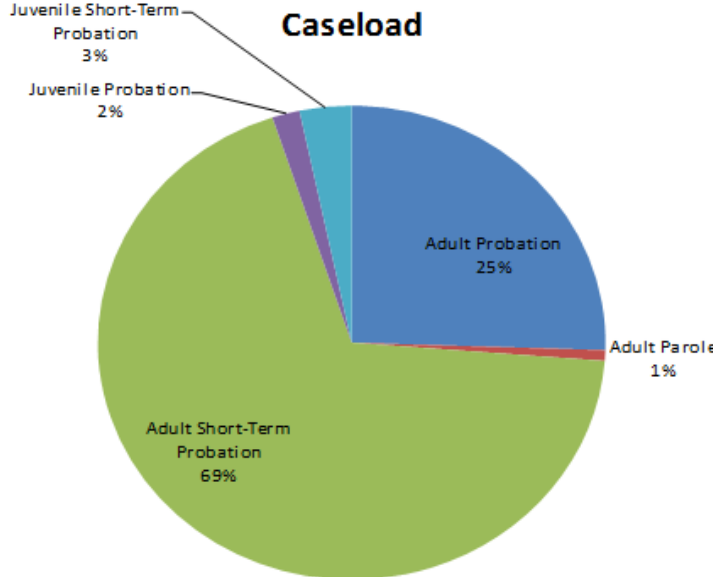
Probation Services was able to send eleven probation staff to complete the FMIS training. Out of eleven staff who completed and passed the Common Foundation, three have not completed the task. The three probation officers will be instructed to complete the FMIS task.

The PPS continues to search for office space to house the Window Rock and administrative offices. Office space is needed in Window Rock for three probation officers and a

Senior Probation Officer. Searching for additional office space has been a challenge in terms of space, land and funds.

The PPS continues to participate with the Reentry Grant support staff. Grants Administrator and Chief Probation Officer have been working to start the planning stages of Navajo Reentry. They are scheduling dates in the near future after a coordinator is hired to form a committee that will include probation staff, law enforcement, prosecution, department of corrections and other applicable departments. They anticipate to have the dates scheduled in the next quarter

**Probation and Parole Services
FY 2019 2nd Quarter**



Aneth Probation Services

Probation Officer Bettina Norton reports that she continues to have a low number of clients. However, most defendants are opting to participate in the Community Court program, which is a higher number in client intake for Probation Services. Clients are participating in counseling sessions, community service work, essay writing, public presentation and referrals to the Peacemaking Program. There seems to be a higher success rate than if the client is on probation.

Probation Officer Norton reports that she has clients working on essays as part of court obligation as a Community Court participant. She reports that their reports are read and communicated into record during their review hearings or at their final hearing. She also reports that this concept appears to be working being that the clients are writing essays and reading them becoming aware of their actions while going through the court system.

Alamo/To'hajilee Probation Services.

Probation Officer Lauren Billy reports that she has three clients that are being discharged from treatment facilities: one minor child from the Shiprock Adolescent Treatment Center, Shiprock, N.M., and two minor children from the Desert Vision Adolescent Treatment Center from Sacaton, Ariz.

Officer Billy is in the process of getting one minor child into the Sequoyah Treatment Facility for a period of 180 days per court order. Minor child was placed in a secured facility being that he is a high risk offender for absconding

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and suicidal ideation.

Chinle Probation Services.

Probation Officer Dalton has one minor child who is in residential treatment with Butterfly Center in Taos, N.M.

Probation Officer Bryant Jones is making good progress and working with assigned caseload since his permanent status a month ago. He appears to be working well with clients and staff

Crownpoint Probation Services.

Crownpoint Probation Officers have been assisting clients with furniture from local businesses and clothing from donations again from local community efforts. The Catholic Church of Crownpoint donated furniture for a client and his family in need of furniture for their home. They also received donations of jackets, coats, sweaters for those released from incarceration.

Crownpoint Probation Services staff have been working on an ongoing Active Shooter protocol for their office.

Dzil Yijiin Probation Services.

Probation Officer Arlene Begay was assigned by Chief Probation Officer to start participating in the Healing to Wellness initiative with the Chinle Judicial District and its surrounding communities including the Dzil Yijiin areas.

Dilkon Probation Services.

Probation Officer Lucinda Cling has resigned from her position with Dilkon PPS. Her services were appreciated.

Kayenta Probation Services.

Kayenta Probation Services reports that they have in this quarter four probation clients who were taken into federal custody for indictment charges.

Since the Senior Probation Officer position was filled by Probation Officer Sheila Begishie, Kayenta currently has a vacant Probation Officer position. The position is currently being advertised.

Shiprock Probation Services.

Shiprock Probation Services reports that they fulfilled their previous quarterly objective to conduct field visits to clients' home, school and employment. The results were positive and Probation Officers became familiar with and aware of their clients' schedules, home life and associations when out in the community. They report that their field visits are positive and some clients appreciate that the Officers are out conducting random home visits.

Probation Officer Gibson McDonald has retired from his position as a Probation Officer. Mr. McDonald has worked with the Judicial Branch for more than 20 years and has earned his retirement. ●

Judicial District quarterly highlights

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The Alamo-To'Hajiilee Judicial District Court Administrator assisted the Canoncito Band of Navajo Behavioral Health Program in conducting a resource mapping/asset mapping work session at the court on March 8, 2019. The purpose is to begin strategically planning for health initiatives that would address the most pressing need in the community. The New Mexico Department of Health and partners came to the area to assist with mapping. This information is important for future planning to address alcohol and substance use in the To'Hajiilee community.

Care Coordinator and Court Administrator met with other Navajo Nation programs, non-profits and other tribal programs at the Tribal Leaders Summit held on March 20-21, 2019. The event was hosted by the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women. Data was shared with the audience of tribal sex trafficking and for the Navajo Nation, we did see data regarding sex trafficking by county in New Mexico. We also heard about best practices. In a group led by Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne, we discussed gaps in services for our Navajo Nation. We also learned more about rates of Intimate Partner Violence by classification or groups (i.e. LGBT) and about how important it is to work together to address violence particularly for the children and community. We made some good partnerships for future educational initiatives.

Judge William J.J. Platero is assigned to three courts. We expanded our Wellness Court to Ramah because they have more criminal cases. Care Coordinator will be working with the communities to develop a steering committee and begin planning. We will continue to plan with our To'Hajiilee resource partners and our Naasgo Hozho Whindzin partners in Alamo. Due to limited staff, Court Administrator was unable to have monthly resource meetings. With the hiring of Ms. Yonnie, we will certainly see more meetings occur between the three communities. For this quarter, Alamo Resource Meetings occurred on: 2/11/19 and 3/25/19. We had one To'Hajiilee Resource Meeting on February 22, 2019.

Staff Attorney Alisha R. Thompson held one-on-one consultations with 7 members of the To'Hajiilee community and 11 members of the Alamo community to discuss pro se filings and other legal information. In addition, Ms. Thompson provided legal advice and recommendations during work sessions for the ongoing configuration of JustWare, the revision of the Standard Operating Procedures for the Probation and Parole Office as well as Case Management. Ms. Thompson also participated in the Staff Attorney Meeting, Quarterly Judicial Conference, Alamo Resource Meeting and a "P5" meeting to plan for the implementation for the District's USDOJ grant work. ●

Peacemaking Program



Bi-Culture Training Manager Elaine Henderson speaking to the Law and Order Committee at the Judicial Branch's orientation to the committee on March 8, 2019.

Peacemaking delivered on our core programs of providing direct services and supporting the work of Community-Based Peacemakers, exceeding all of our performance goals.

Our work on the Peacemaking Youth Education and Apprenticeship Program (“PYEAP”) continues to be a high focus this quarter.

During this quarter, we continued implementation of the plan by presenting the revised Memorandum of Understanding between Peacemaking and participating schools and making presentations to school boards and other officials to get MOUs signed and the program in place. We are close to meeting our overall goal, which is to work with at least 40 schools involved in the PYEAP activities. We completed reviewing the curriculum as part of our continuous improvement process and have published the revised curriculum. Core program activities are on the schedule set in our Strategic Plan.

Peacemaking continues to fulfill our responsibilities of providing services to other agencies, Branches of government, and the Navajo Nation through policy engagement, work with schools, presentations to Chapters, and participa-

tion in community and cultural events. Traditional Program Specialists have attended many Chapter and community meetings and presented cultural and Peacemaking information to hundreds of Diné in various settings.

The Program Coordinator’s special projects included community and stakeholder outreach, and community and specialized education. On January 14, the Program Coordinator moderated a 2-hour forum broadcast on KTNN. The advisory committee met to finalize the PYEAP curriculum revisions, orientation was provided for the Judicial Branch, and training was completed for Navajo Nation and Department of Justice attorneys. The Program Coordinator is supporting the Judicial Branch strategic planning process with the skills used for the PYEAP strategic plan, and following the SMART planning methods.

Other outreach has been successful. Peacemaking staff attended three meetings with the Judicial Conduct Commission, each attended by about 15 people. 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. About 40 people attended the Judicial Branch Strategic Planning work session, and 20 attended a ceremony where peacemaking represented the Judicial Branch. 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 Peacemaking sessions and counseling. Again during the Second Quarter, Community-Based Peacemakers were used in several Judicial Districts for Peacemaking Sessions, as well as Life Value Engagements. The focus continues to be strengthening the family and maintaining family unity when possible. Some community-based Peacemakers have been resistant or unable to participate because reimbursements of their *yeel* and travel expenses are being processed so slowly, a hardship is being created for them.

There is still a significant disparity among Judicial Districts' use of and referrals to Peacemaking. Some Districts refer several cases per month or more, while others make few or no referrals, or their referrals are sporadic.

There continues to be some confusion about use of Peacemaking when the matter in question requires a final resolution that is formalized with a court order. It may be appropriate for Peacemaking and the Judges to work together to develop a standard procedure for these matters, which include probate, divorce, and others.

Conduct most work at or near peacemaking facilities. Lack of availability of Judicial Branch vehicles continues to be an impediment our ability to do our work, particularly in some of the more remote Chapters. Traditional Program Specialists are using their own vehicles, including without reimbursement when necessary. Peacemaking services are scheduled near the District office, or in schools or other facilities that are relatively easy for everyone to access. Lack of available transportation is a hardship for the employees and limits their ability to perform their work.

The condition and capacity of buildings is also a limitation in some Districts. Peacemaking hogans are not available or in adequate condition in all Districts, and some TPS

are sharing facilities with District or Probation and Parole staff. The lack of privacy for everyone is a mutual impediment.

Focus on the youth. MOUs have been completed with almost 40 schools, which is the total goal for the new PYEAP grant. The process of installing these MOUs has raised awareness among administrators and school boards, and helped to build stronger collaborative relationships between Peacemaking and the schools.

Maintain our professionalism. Most staff members have completed FMIS training. Those who have not are scheduled to do so shortly. We have initiated monthly conference call meetings for all TPS and many staff members to keep everyone well-informed about issues and to share resources. We will continue quarterly or semi-annual in-person meetings to deepen our sharing of skills, coordination around the goals of our strategic plan, and to solve problems.

The performance evaluation process will allow for encouragement of successful behaviors and coaching for those that are impediments to high quality services.

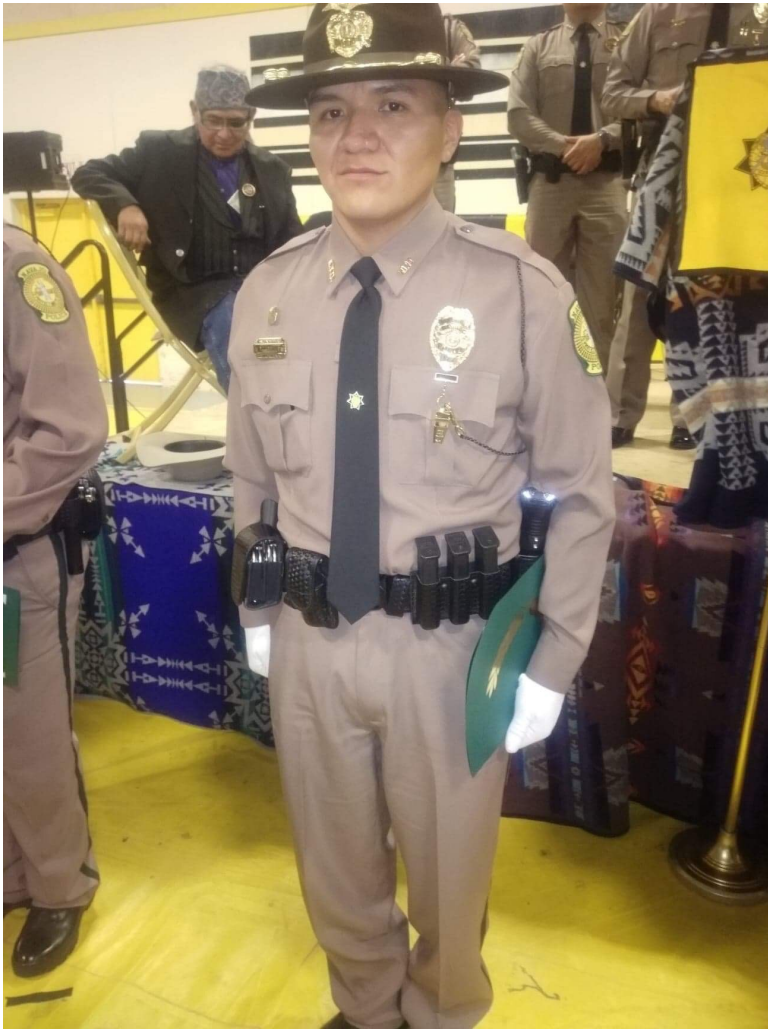
Advance our mission. The benefits of having worked together to define and develop our PYEAP strategic plan are continuing to be reflected in strong focus on our goals. Improved teamwork among the Traditional Program Specialists has been reflected in their ability to cover for and train each other as variations in workload create peaks and valleys. Obstacles of funding for travel and meetings, physical facilities, lack of equipment in some Districts, and the temporary relocation of Judicial and Probation employees has created obstacles, and in some instances conflict over availability of facilities and resources. We have been successful in negotiating specific issues, but the occurrence of conflict demonstrates stress and fatigue over these problems for Peacemaking staff and their colleagues in the Judicial Branch.

Joe Sandoval, the Traditional Researcher, assists judges, colleagues from Peacemaking and other agencies, and education professionals with translations of Navajo phrases and concepts, and as a "floater" to assist TPS in various offices with particular issues or overload. His move from Chinle to Window Rock is has been completed and will improve access to the traditional library and other services.

Elaine Henderson, the Bi-Cultural Training Specialist, continues to work on improvements to our professionalism and efficiency in addition to her support with information about traditional culture. She has been providing training for Peacemaking new staff, filling in during absences with services, and working closely with other agencies to coordinate Peacemaking assisting with direct referrals from the Division of Social Services.

The Peacemaking Program prioritized work based on goals set by the Navajo Nation Council and the Judicial Branch. These are some examples from the judicial dis-

Notable People



On February 22, 2019 in Chinle, Ariz., the 53rd Class of the Navajo Nation Police Academy graduated and were sworn in as Navajo Nation Police Officers by Judge Cynthia Thompson. One of the graduates is Page Begay, who prior to joining the Academy was a Bailiff for the Kayenta Judicial District. Officer Begay is pictured after he was sworn in and his parents pinned his badge on him. Congratulations Officer Begay!
By Bobby Talk, Office Technician, Chinle Judicial District Court



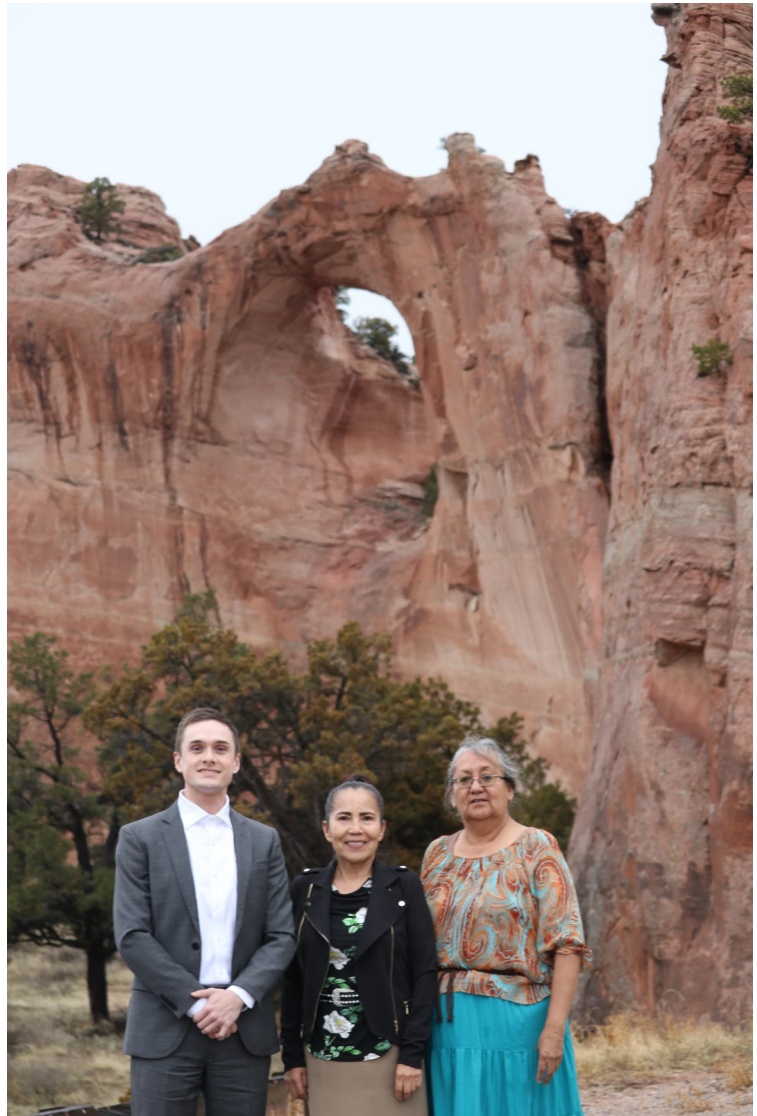
The Supreme Court hosted two students from the Boston College Law School on their spring break from March 4-8, 2019. They are pictured here with other law school classmates who were assigned elsewhere in Window Rock. Left to right: Michael Tomasini, Zane Fernandez, Rebecca Langsolm, and Brett Gannon.



Thank you to Navajo Nation Facilities Maintenance workers Wilson Lopez, Maintenance Technician; Charles Pat, Maintenance Technician, Sheldon Yazzie; and Jonathan James, Locksmith and Senior Painter (not pictured) for the work they did on the Supreme Court hearing room throughout the quarter.



**Facilities Maintenance
Department**



"I'm so grateful to have spent the week with the Navajo Nation Supreme Court. Everyone was kind to me and generous with their knowledge.

I learned that the legal system here values tradition as its foundation, and strives first to make people whole through peacemaking. I hope to bring this approach into my work as an attorney, and into my everyday life." - Nick Cross, a law student from American University Washington College of Law who assisted the Supreme Court during his spring break in March.

Supreme Court



Justice Eleanor Shirley administers the oath of office to new chapter officials Larry A. Anderson Sr., Fred Footracer, and Ben C. Smith on February 28, 2019, .

Justice and Judge Vacancies. The Navajo Nation now has nine (9) Judicial District Judge and one (1) Associate Justice vacant positions.

Oaths of Office. On January 15, 2019 Justice Eleanor Shirley and Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne administered the oath of office to Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, Navajo Nation Council Delegates, Board of Election Supervisors, Board of Education and Kayenta Township Commissioners.

Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne administered the oath of office to Speaker Seth Damon at the Navajo Nation Council Winter Session on January 28, 2019.

On February 28, 2019, Navajo Nation Supreme Court Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley administered the oath of office to new chapter officials Larry A. Anderson Sr., Fort Defiance chapter president; Fred Footracer, Houck chapter president; and Ben C. Smith, Oaksprings chapter president. Apache County Superior Court Judge Michael Latham and Apache County Attorney Michael B. Whiting also attended the oath of office ceremony.

On March 04, 2019 Chief Justice Jayne administered the oath of office to Navajo Nation Office of the Prosecutor

Marie R. James, Prosecutor.

On March 07, 2019 Associate Justice Shirley administered the oath of office to Kin Dah Lichii Chapter President Larry L. Curtis, Sr. and Greasewood Springs Chapter Community School Board member Ruth A. Logan.

On March 11, 2019, Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley administered the oath of office to new prosecutor Vernon Jackson.

On March 12, 2019 Associate Justice Shirley administered the oath of office to Ganado Chapter President Marcarlo Roanhorse.

Branch Meetings, Trainings, and Judicial Conferences

The Supreme Court scheduled several deliberation meetings and decided a number of Supreme Court cases on January 30, 2019, January 31, 2019, February 15, 2019, February 26, 2019, March 15, 2019 and March 22, 2019, resulting in about 20 case closures by orders, memorandum decisions or opinions. Case disposition continues pursuant to appellate court rules and the Supreme Court's Case Disposition Policy.

Chief Justice Jayne attended the Mandatory FMIS Training

in Twin Arrows, on January 1 through January 5, 2019. Chief Justice accomplished and completed the FMIS 6B Rollout. Chief Justice Jayne has completed all required FMIS 6B inquires Common Foundation, Inquiry, 6B Procurement and Accounts Payable.

Chief Justice Jayne attended monthly Retirement Plan Administration Committee (RPAC) meetings in Window Rock, Arizona, as the Judicial Branch representative to the Committee. The Chief Justice has a seat on this committee which develops and sustains the Retirement Plan for Navajo Nation employees and its affiliates.

On January 16, 2019, the Chief Justice and LaVerne H. Garnenez attended the Navajo Nation Bar Association Board of Bar Commissioners Meeting in Window Rock, Arizona. The Chief Justice conveyed concern over the low admission rates of advocates admitted in the Navajo Nation Bar Association. The Chief Justice urged the Board to examine the decline and put forth initiatives to increase passage rates of advocates, who have been of service to the Navajo people for years.

On February 5, 2019, staff attended the Traditional Narratives and Teaching of Dawn Boy presentation by Judicial Hearing Officer Victor Clyde.

On February 20, 2019, staff attended a JustWare training and implementation meeting. Training was aimed at new staff on the procedure for entering data and generating receipts in conjunction with digital case management at the Supreme Court.

On February 26-28, 2019, staff attended a conference on the implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act. The conference focused on funding and programming changes as the result of new legislation and reinterpretation of rules and regulations by the Children's Bureau.

The Supreme Court held one Status Conference on March 15, 2019, to address jurisdictional filing concerns in employment appeals in SC-CV-01-19.

Chief Justice held the Quarterly Judicial Conference in Kayenta, Arizona, on March 1, 2019, to develop future policies for performance evaluations; complaint protocol; judges training; strategic planning; 6B Rollout and management plan.

The Supreme Court hosted two students from the Boston College Law School from March 4-8, 2019, and one student from American University Washington College of Law from March 11-15, 2019. The students assisted with various legal memorandums.

On March 7, 2019, staff attended a Peacemaking training on Navajo traditional teaching.

On March 15, 2019, staff attended a Peacemaking training on responsibilities under the Navajo clan system.

On January 14-15, 2019 and March 14-15, 2019, staff attended the Judicial Conduct Commission Meeting in Window Rock, Arizona. In consultation with JCC members, staff developed a written test to be administered to

candidates for judges and justices. JCC members also refined interview questions.

Chief Justice Jayne attended the Judicial Conduct Commission meeting in Albuquerque, N.M., on March 14, 2019, to discuss training for judges. Chief Justice provided proposal to JCC for future instructors for judge's trainings and developed training schedule and topics for judges.

Chief Justice Jayne attended the 6th Annual Tribal Leaders Summit conducted by the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women at Santa Ana Star Casino & Hotel in Albuquerque New Mexico. Chief Justice participated to recruit attorneys and judges and to promote Navajo Nation Judicial Branch, as well as to seek solutions for Navajo Nation District Courts.

On March 21, 2019, staff met with the Chief Probation Officer of the Office of Probation and Parole Services to discuss the need to adopt one form for Pro Bono Appointment requests to verify the completion of indigency assessments. The Supreme Court is in the process of developing written procedures to standardize pro bono appointments.

The Supreme Court is in on-going discussions is addressing pro bono appointments of counsels as requested by courts of the Navajo Nation. Initial correspondence with the Navajo Nation Bar Association, which handles pro hac vice admissions, resulted in the development of a comprehensive pro bono listing. Re-structuring of the Office of Pro Bono Services and pro bono service in general remains in discussion.

Legislative Meetings On January 11, 2019, the government relations officer attended the orientation to the 24th Navajo Nation Council held by the Law and Order Committee. Issues related to the Judicial Branch and the Navajo Nation justice system were presented by various speakers at the orientation.

JoAnn B. Jayne, Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation, delivered her quarterly message to the 24th Navajo Nation Council on January 28, 2019. She told the Council that the Judicial Branch is looking forward to working with the new Council Delegates, Law and Order Committee, and the new President and Vice President. The Chief Justice's report was accepted with a vote of 22 in favor and none opposed.

Government relations officer attended Navajo Nation Council session January 28-29, 2019.

Government relations officer attended Naabikiyati Committee meeting January 30, 2019.

Government relations officer attended Navajo Nation Council special session and Naabikiyati Committee special meeting on February 11, 2019.

Government relations officer attended Navajo Nation Council work session on February 13, 2019.

Government relations officer attended Budget and Finance Committee meeting on February 19, 2019

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Human Trafficking Prevention Walk on January 25, 2019.

Government relations officer attended Law and Order Committee meetings on February 25, March 11, and March 18, 2019.

Chief Justice Jayne, Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley, government relations officer and Judicial Branch staff attended the Law and Order Committee special meeting on March 8, 2019, where the Judicial Branch presented an orientation to the new Committee.

Other. Chief Justice, Associate Justice and government relations officer attended the Navajo Nation Leadership meeting on March 22, 2019, at Twin Arrows, Arizona. Vice President Myron Lizer presented the priorities of the Nez-Lizer administration and the four standing committees of the Navajo Nation Council presented their priorities. Chief Justice Jayne presented the priorities and recommendations on behalf of the Judicial Branch.

Chief Justice Jayne and staff attended Arizona State, Tribal & Federal Court Forum on January 24 - 26, 2019. There was discussion of Indian Child Welfare Act process between Arizona and Tribal Courts, implementation of wellness and healing courts in state, municipal and tribal courts, *pro hac vice* and reciprocity for the purpose of representing the tribal interests in ICWA proceedings in state courts.

The Chief Justice and the governmental relations officer traveled to Santa Fe, New Mexico, for the state legislature's American Indian Day on February 1, 2019. They met with

several lawmakers including Senator John Pinto, Representative Anthony Allison, and Congresswoman Deb Haaland and also met with the new Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham to educate her on our judicial court system.

The Chief Justice and the governmental relations officer traveled to Santa Fe, New Mexico, on February 14, 2019, with Navajo Nation leadership to provide assistance and support in educating the governor's staff and state legislators on our courts' needs and priorities. Due to efforts by the Navajo Nation leadership, funds were a part of New Mexico Senate Bill 280 that included \$1.2 million to plan for a judicial complex in Tse Bonito and \$3.15 million for a judicial/public safety complex for Shiprock. The bill passed the State Senate on March 13, 2019, and the House of Representatives on March 15, 2019.

On March 26, 2019, legal staff met by teleconference with the Deputy Director of the Supreme Court of New Mexico's Administrative Office of the Courts to learn more about their structure and policies concerning court services. Discussions will continue.

On January 25 2019, the government relations officer took part in a walk sponsored by the Division of Social Services Strengthening Families Program to bring awareness to human trafficking prevention. Community members expressed their concerns with the issue of human trafficking at the event in Window Rock.

The government relations officer attended the Employee

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Housing Committee meetings on January 4, February 5, March 7, and March 18, 2019 as the Judicial Branch representative.

A two-hour radio forum sponsored by the Judicial Conduct Commission on KTNN radio station aired on January 14, 2019. Judicial Conduct Commission Chairman Robert Yazzie, Vice Chairman Manley Begay, Commission mem-

bers Troy Eid and Judy Apachee, Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne, Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley and Peacemaking Coordinator Roman Bitsue each provided public education on the Judicial Branch on topics such as the history of the courts, the need for judges, the peacemaking program, and the vision for the branch. The government relations officer assisted with this initiative. ●

Peacemaking Program

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tricts.

Alamo. This TPS is focusing on youth services and has provided assistance with truancy, delinquency, substance abuse, and other issues for youth and families.

Chinle. The TPS is working with Department of Corrections to set up a regular class for inmates on traditional values and other culturally-based information.

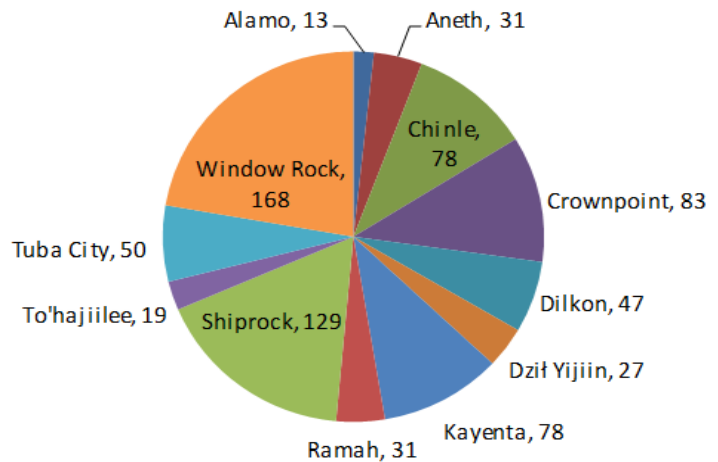
Crownpoint. The court is regularly referring probate and land-related matters to Peacemaking with consistently successful outcomes.

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. The TPS and Peacemakers have been working together on case management, strategy, and staffing, particularly in a case where family members have filed protective orders against each other related to a single incident. A Peacemaker is assisting with the MOU with the school for PYEAP, which is being reviewed by Pinon Unified and Black Mesa School Districts.

Kayenta. The Court's workload was reduced by Peacemaking counseling, including using Community-Based Peacemakers. Topics include domestic relations and substance abuse. Talking Circles with youth and staff at Monument Valley High School are continuing successfully. Lack of a hogan for Peacemaking continues to be an impediment.

Ramah. Peacemakers from this area have been active with family issues, supplying guidance and problem resolution skills for families in which unlawful use of firearms, endangerment of children, and alcohol abuse have been severe problems. Peacemaker Ira Burbank provided insights for Peacemakers serving adults and youth at the December 21 meeting and luncheon, supporting the leadership presentation made by the Ramah TPS. 4 of the 13 youth

Peacemaking Program Caseload



who completed the PYEAP curriculum in 2016 have graduated from high school and are going on to college, and have expressed a desire to become Peacemakers by working with a Peacemaker mentor. The Pine Hill School principal desires to work with Peacemaking for truancy and behavioral issues.

Shiprock. Life Value Engagements were a frequent activity in Shiprock District this quarter, with 23 cases from family and district courts, schools, and walk-ins. Prevention services were used to address truancy at Nizhoni Elementary School with 35 students attending. Truancy services were discussed with Nizhoni Elementary, Tsi'Bit'ta' Elementary, Shiprock High School, Eva B. Stokely, Career Prep, and Northwest School students and staff.

Tuba City. Tuba City TPS has been managing a high caseload, in part because people are incarcerated in this community so some referrals are made from other districts to provide services to incarcerated persons. The TPS has managed 41 Group Life Value Engagements, 44 Individual LVE, and 7 counseling sessions involving traditional teaching. Matters included: Guardianship of a Minor, Probate, Guardianship of an Adult, Information on local Traditional Practitioners, Land Disputes, Temporary Protection Order, Custody & Visitation of Minor Children, Declaration of a Name, Issues & Concerns of Chapter Government, Correction of Record, Truancy Referrals and/or just to talk about things that bother them. The TPS has also been active with community groups, Chapter, other service providers, and administrative meetings. ●

Judicial Conduct Commission

The Judicial Conduct Commission held two work sessions and two meetings with one being held in Window Rock, Navajo Nation, and, the other, in Albuquerque, N.M. The work sessions were held January 14 and March 14, 2019, and the meetings were held January 15 and March 15, 2019. In these work sessions, the Commission discussed its delegated duties to screen and recommend applicants for judges and justices. In this work, the Commissioners prepared applicant interview questions and a written test with the assistance of Judicial Branch staff. They also discussed and planned training for judges to take place within this calendar year.

The Judicial Conduct Commission provided information about the Judicial Branch to the public through a two-hour radio forum on KTNN on January 14, 2019. Chairman Robert Yazzie, Vice

Chairman Manley Begay, Commission members Troy Eid and Judy Apachee, Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne, Associate Justice Eleanor Shirley and Peacemaking Coordinator Roman Bitsuie each spoke about topics such as: history of the courts, importance of an independent court system, need for more judges, peacemaking program, and the vision for the Judicial Branch.

The Judicial Conduct Commission members Robert Yazzie, Troy Eid, Manley Begay and Judy Apachee attended the Inauguration Ceremony for the Navajo Nation President, Vice President and 24th Navajo Nation Council on January 15, 2019.

The Judicial Conduct Commission Chairman Yazzie attended the 13th Annual Yikaii Yizhchi Conference conducted by the Institute for Diné Culture, Philosophy and Government from February 27 through March 1, 2019. The training included presentations on emotional, spiritual, and mental health through holistic healing by traditional counselor Mr. Ernest Begay; holistic healing through teaching of Yikaii Yizhchi principles by Dr. Wilson Aronlith; and holistic healing through ceremonies by Mr. Avery Denny.

Karen Francis, Government Relations Officer, and Chief Justice JoAnn Jayne presented on the Judicial Conduct Commission to the Quarterly Judicial Conference on March 1, 2019 at Kayenta, Arizona.

The Judicial Conduct Commission sponsored the development



JCC members Dr. Manley Begay, Troy Eid and Judy Apachee recording a forum at KTNN radio studio January 14, 2019

and printing of educational posters on behalf of the Judicial Branch. The posters feature the Chief Justices of the Supreme Court and the sitting judges. These posters will be given out to the public to more inform them about the Judicial Branch and our judges.

Judicial Branch staff who assisted the Commission this quarter included: Karen Francis, government relations officer; Alisha Thompson, staff attorney; Jordan Hale, staff attorney; LaVerne Garnenez, law clerk; Roman Bitsuie, peacemaking coordinator; Marquerita Lincoln, human resources technician; and Paulette Begay, financial technician.

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. ●