

Colorado Springs Municipal Court 2012 Annual Report



Letter from the Court Administrator:

City of Colorado Springs Municipal Court

I am pleased to once again report on the work and activities of the City of Colorado Springs Municipal Court. The 2012 Annual Report is a reflection of the many hours spent to promote the Court's mission and specific goals of community and traffic safety, justice, fairness and due process.

In 2012, the Court focused on several key areas including development of court performance measures, City's Total Classification and Compensation study, courthouse security upgrades and enhancements, and initial planning for replacement of the Court's JIS case management system. Significant progress has been made on each of these projects and initiatives in the past year. Despite adverse impacts of the economic downturn, the Court continues to provide a high quality of judicial services and support to its customers. Based on Municipal Court Performance Survey results, the Court received either "excellent" or "good" ratings from 85.8% of respondents.

The Court maintains an open and effective relationship with the City's Executive and Legislative Branches of Government. This unique and collaborative approach is important in ensuring a just and functional judicial system. I would like to thank Mayor Bach and Members of City Council for their assistance and support of the City Court system.

Finally, I want to extend appreciation to our judges and staff. Their commitment and contributions to make this a model system for this community is an important part to our success as an organization. This work could not be accomplished without their dedicated service and support.

Very truly yours,

Richard Lewis
Court Administrator/Clerk of Court

Municipal Court Location:
Downtown (Colorado Springs)
224 E. Kiowa Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80901-2169





Court Leadership

HayDen W. Kane, II
Presiding Judge

Richard Lewis
Court Administrator/Clerk of Court

Municipal Court Mission

The Municipal Court's mission is to enhance the quality of life of the citizens of Colorado Springs by promoting public safety, traffic safety, and respect for the administration of justice by applying sanctions for violations of municipal ordinances. We are a limited jurisdiction court of record that hears and adjudicates misdemeanor, traffic and parking violations for adult/juvenile offenders. Services provided include intake processes, case management, revenue collection (by-product of court sanctioning process), and probation services.

City of Colorado Springs/Municipal Court Facts and Figures

Judicial Officers and Staff

12 Judges (all part-time)
4 Court Referees (all part-time)
36.5 FTE Positions

2011 Budget and Collections

Budget Allocation: \$3,507,530
Expenses: \$3,302,897
Collections: \$6,267,886

Colorado Springs Demographics

U.S. Census Bureau, State and County Quick Facts

2011 City Population (Incorporated Area): 416,427
Percent of EL Paso County's population living in incorporated area of Colorado Springs: 66.9%
City of Colorado Spring's population increased 15.4% from 2000 to 2010
Land Area: 194.5 Square Miles
Median Household Income 2006-2010: \$53,074

Five Year Caseload Trend
(Summons and Complaint Forms/Parking Tickets Filed)
2008-2012

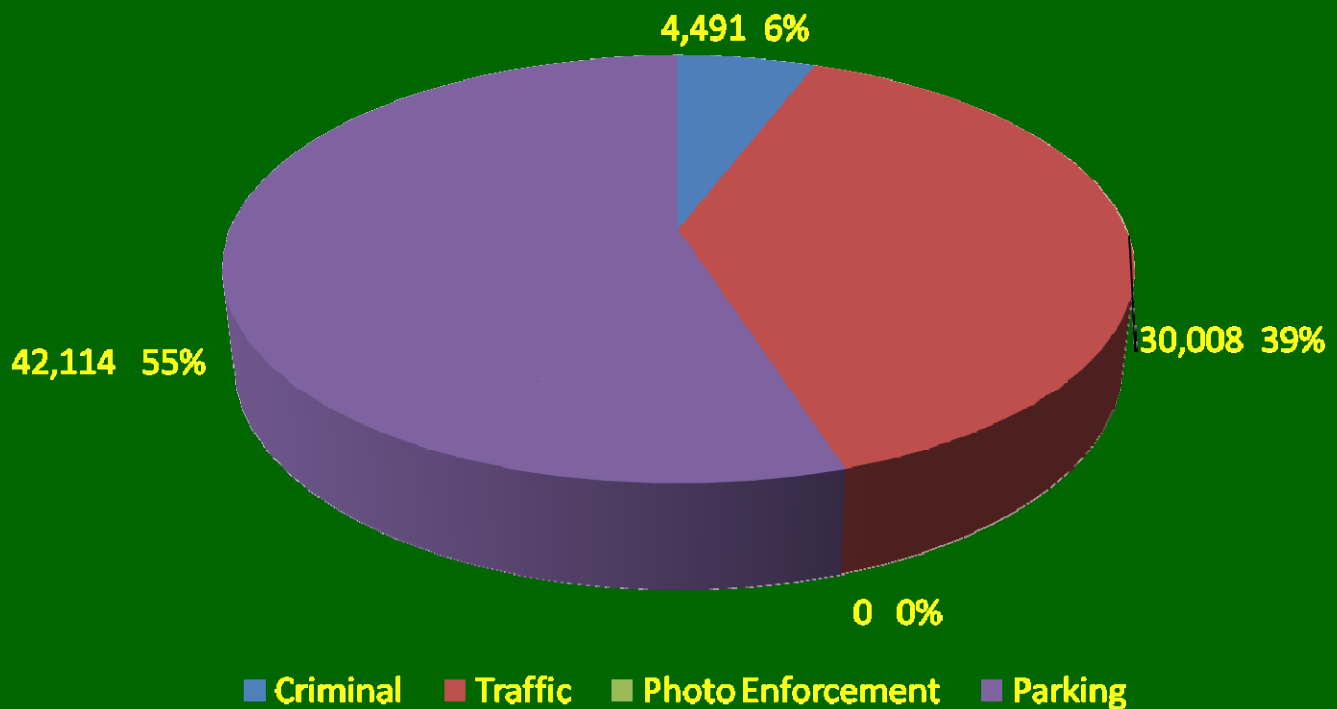
2008	113,056
2009	93,847
2010	93,656
2011	97,174
2012	76,613

Summons and Complaint Forms Filed
(Criminal & Traffic)
2008-2012

2008	51,745
2009	42,857
2010	43,227
2011	48,423
2012	34,499

Summons and Complaint Forms Filed (Criminal & Traffic)

2012 = 76,613



Summons and Complaint Forms/Parking Tickets Filed By Case Type 2008-2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Parking	61,311	50,990	50,429	48,751	42,114
Traffic	44,995	36,572	37,541	43,143	30,008
Criminal	6,750	6,285	5,686	5,280	4,491
Total	113,056	93,847	93,656	97,174	76,613

Comparison of Case Filings by Case Type 2011 and 2012

	2011	2012	% Change
Criminal	5,280	4,491	-14.9%
Traffic	31,398	30,008	-4.4%
Parking	48,751	42,114	-13.6%
Photo Enforcement	11,745	0	-100%

Comparison of Case Filings by Case Type 2011 and 2012

	2011	2012	% Change
Misdemeanor	5,280	4,491	-14.9
Traffic	31,398	30,008	-4.4
Parking	48,751	42,114	-13.6
Total	85,429	76,613	-10.3
Photo Enforcement	11,745	0	-
Total All	97,174	76,613	-21.2

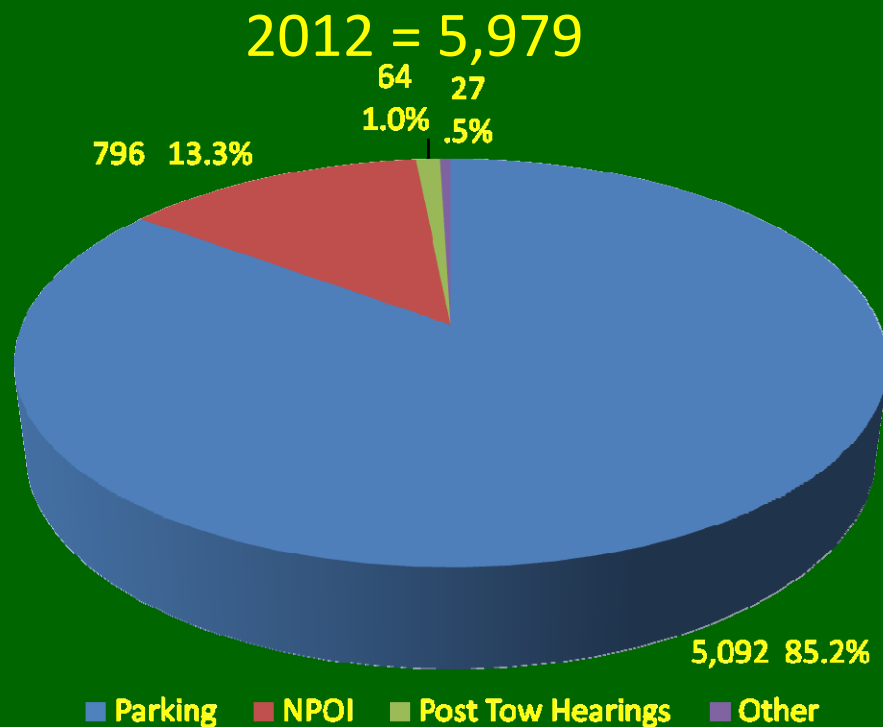
Comparison of Court Proceedings and Activities 2011 and 2012

	2011	2012	% Change
Hearings Scheduled	38,524	35,242	-8.5
-Pre Disposition	31,194	28,601	-8.3
-Post Disposition	4,683	4,465	-4.7
-Other	2,647	2,176	-17.8
FTA Warrants Issued	4,511	4,701	4.2
FTP Warrants Issued	1,447	1,407	-2.8
Warrants Served	4,580	4,763	4.0
Bench Trials	248	207	-16.5
Jury Trials	28	19	-32.1

Comparison of Probation Department Workloads and Activities

	2011	2012	% Change
New Probation Services	20,889	15,247	-27.0
Presentence Investigations	223	175	-21.5
Pending Probation Cases (Open Warrants, Absconder)	1,286	1,213	-5.7
Attorney Appointments	843	832	-1.3

Court Referee Hearings by Type and Percentage



Comparison of Court Referee Hearings (Formal and Informal) 2011 and 2012

	2011	2012	% Change
NPOI	940	796	-15.3
Traffic	30	5	-83.3
Parking	5,447	5,092	-6.5
Dog Violations	11	12	9.0
Exhaust/Emissions	3	1	-66.7
Noise	5	0	-
Post Tow Hearings	55	64	16.4
Miscellaneous	34	6	-82.4
Total	6,525	5,976	-8.4
Photo Enforcement	483	3	-99.4
Total All	7,008	5,979	-14.7

Achievements

In 2012, the Municipal Court was involved in the following projects:

Court Organization and Structure

- Development of Court Performance Process and Measures

Case Management

- Court Cost Increase

Human Resources

- City Total Classification and Compensation Study
- Court Referee Performance Evaluation Process

Information Technology

- Wireless Access Points
- Request for Information (RFI) Case Management Software Replacement
- Court/Jail Audio-Video Link Upgrade
- Collaboration with CSPD on E-Citation project
- JIS JAVA6 Application Upgrade

Facilities and Security

- Marshal's Office Security Equipment Upgrades
- Court Administration Office/Probation Department Security Upgrades

Probation Services

- New contracts for Spanish Interpreters
- Coordinated with State Courts for use of LOTS (Languages Other Than Spanish) interpreters
- Counseling request for proposal was completed

Public Comments

In 2012, the Court worked to revise the existing process for gathering public feedback on the Court's performance. This process was intended to align the Court's anticipated and desired performance and service outcomes with the City's strategic planning and budget process. Specifically, the Court will begin collecting information on perceptions related to access to justice; fairness, equality and integrity; and public trust and confidence. The Court will realize the benefits of this effort as new data is secured and analyzed in 2013.

In the meantime, the court continues to see a high level of satisfaction among its customers. Based on public comment cards received in 2012, 85.8% of respondents had an overall court experience that was either "excellent" or "good". In 2012, only 14.2% of respondents considered their experience at the Court to be "fair" or "poor".

The Court received the following comments from citizens in Colorado Springs this past year:

- "Very pleased with entire court process."
- "Professional, articulate and complete"
- "Friendly and efficient—My first ticket in Colorado Springs, but I'm overwhelmed with how friendly and courteous the staff are. And yes, I did still have to pay all my fines."
- "Your overall attitude toward people is that of great customer service. Quality one meets with dedication, not judgmental or superior mind set. Thank you!"
- "Very helpful staff and judges. I am very pleased with the outcome of my case."
- "Since I walked into the courthouse, everyone was extremely nice."