# Justice Court

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Davis County Justice Court is to provide the people with an open, fair, efficient and independent system for the advancement of justice under the law.

### Prior Year Inputs/Outputs

**FTE (2020):**

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic we have 1495 less cases that have been filed by law enforcement/prosecution. Which has resulted in a decrease of the revenue collected by the court. Also, the court has not been allowed to process any small claims cases.

Since 3/12/20 the court has been open and working every day. The court has handled 2,804 cases in 103 court days (Approximately 27 cases per day).

The court has been fortunate to operate at almost full staff capacity since the COVID-19 pandemic began.

### Core Functions & Services

The core function of any court, including the Davis County Justice Court, is to provide an impartial forum for the resolution of disputes.

Over time, this fundamental responsibility has been expanded to encompass other areas of importance, including but not limited to the following: ensuring access to the court process for all who seek it; managing the business of the court in a manner that promotes efficiency, transparency and the opportunity for fair and timely disposition of cases filed; and, exercising leadership among other justice-related agencies to develop strategies that join the interest of all three branches of government, recognizing that the court cannot operate in isolation, while, at the same time, must maintain its independence.

The core function of the Davis County Justice Court affects Davis County citizens by giving them a safe and orderly forum to resolve disputes with other citizens. No citizen or visitor is denied access to the court's process. Because the court manages its business efficiently and transparently Davis County citizens have the opportunity for fair and timely disposition of their disputes. Finally, working in conjunction with other justice-related agencies, i.e., prosecutors, public defenders, and law enforcement agencies, the court has and is developing strategies that join the interests of all three branches of Davis County and local government for the benefit of citizens.

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## Current Year Projected Outcomes

This year we were required to hire and train 2 new clerks. We were successful in identifying and hiring 2 clerks that have been developing into high quality employees. We worked through the state's remodel of our courtroom and, with the help of the county, had a new sound system installed. All of the court clerks have been working to scan our old files and have them entered into the CORIS system. In conjunction with our scanning efforts and with commission assistance we have also communicated with other jurisdictions to have old records removed from the county possession/storage and returned to the city where they should have been originally retained.

## Next Year Budget Initiatives

We had some of our 2020 expenditure requests granted during this year. Thank you for your consideration and help with these matters. However, we still need some of the equipment requests to be renewed, considered and approved. We have also asked for some new software that will help us keep our For The Record (FTR) system updated and running efficiently. Finally, we would still like the commission and human resources to evaluate the salaries of our court clerks as they compare to "in-county" like services as opposed to "out-of-county" services. That way we are not likely to lose clerks in the system to other departments. We would also like to keep the unused "overtime" that was allotted for this year for next year. It has not all been used due to the COVID-19 pandemic.