

# UTAH STATE COURTS



## Board of Justice Court Judges

Update to the Judicial Council  
September 13, 2022

# Agenda

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- Overview of the Justice Courts
- Review Last Year's Goals
- Other Updates
- Questions



# Overview of the Justice Courts

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- 109 Justice Courts
  - Down from 110 following the dissolution of the Stockton Justice Court in July
- 73 judges
  - Down from 76 due to the departure of
    - Judge Stevan Ridge, who resigned in June from Utah County
    - Judge Steven Stream, who retired in July from Emery County, and
    - Judge Greg Bown, who retired in July from Riverton
  - Upcoming Retirements
    - Judge Ken Armstrong from Santa Clara
    - Judge Daniel Bertch from Draper
    - Judge Roy Brown from Wayne County
    - Judge Jack Cox from Sanpete County
    - Judge Sherlynn Fenstermaker from Springville
    - Judge Peter Thompson from Big Water, and
    - Judge Margaret Miller from Iron County
  - 57 male, 16 female
  - 53 lawyers, 20 non-lawyers



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- Continue to Provide Subject-Matter Expertise for Justice Court Reform
- Recommend Improvements to the Judicial Selection Process for Justice Courts
- Study Payment Options for Justice Court Patrons and Making Recommendations for Improvement
- Develop a Workload Study for Justice Court Clerks



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# Clerk Certification

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- Launched in January 2022
- Over 300 justice court staff have completed
- More than 3,000 courses



# Revised Operating Standards

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- The judge shall be available to conduct court business as needed, performing all duties required and exercising ultimate responsibility for the administration of justice as an independent branch of government
- The court shall provide interpreters as required by Rule 3-306.04 of the Code of Judicial Administration
- Clerks' education hours shall be reported to the AOC on an annual basis
- The appointment of the clerk(s) assigned to serve the court shall be subject to the judge's approval, who may participate in the interview and personnel evaluation process for the clerk(s) at his or her discretion
- Court staff shall be certified as contemplated by Rule 3-303 of the Code of Judicial Administration
- Any interlocal agreement relating to court operations, as amended to date, shall be provided to the Justice Court Administrator
- The court shall accept credit and debit cards through a system that integrates with CORIS, and
- The court shall have access to UCJIS

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Questions?