

UTAH STATE COURTS



Board of Justice Court Judges

Update to the Judicial Council
April 24, 2023

Overview of the Justice Courts

- 107 Justice Courts
 - Down from 109 following the dissolution of:
 - Big Water Justice Court and
 - Enterprise Justice Court
- 68 judges
 - With the addition of:
 - Lisa Garner in Draper and Herriman
 - Kelly Laws in Blanding
 - 53 males (78%), 15 females (22%)
 - 51 with law degrees (75%), 17 without (25%)
 - 24 full-time (35%), 44 part-time (65%)



UTAH STATE COURTS

Overview of the Justice Courts

Workload	Multiple Courts	Judgeships
1.0 or greater	24 (35%)	19 (17%)
0.50 – 0.99	21 (31%)	21 (18%)
0.10 – 0.49	18 (27%)	50 (44%)
Less than 0.10	5 (7%)	24 (21%)
Total	68 (100%)	114 (100%)

Goals for the Current Year

- Strengthen data integrity
 - Classify justice courts differently
 - Review the judicial workload formula
 - Finish the clerical workload study
 - Develop some policies to be more consistent with data entry—particularly as it pertains to case dispositions.
- Collect salary data for justice court clerks
- Develop a plan to eliminate Accounting Model II



HB 210

- Clarifies that a justice court is part of the state judiciary
- Addresses the independence of a justice court from other branches of government for a municipality or county
- Amends the eligibility requirements for a justice court judge so that, going forward, applicants can apply from anywhere in the state but will be required to have a law degree
- Amends provisions regarding the salary of a justice court judge so that full-time justice court judges must be paid at least 70% of what a district court judge's salary (which, as of July 1, 2023, will be \$203,700)
- Creates a legislative task force to develop additional recommendations for Justice Court Reform

Clerks' Conference

- JoDe Neer as Justice Court Employee of the Year
- Logan Justice Court as Justice Court of the Year
- 181 clerks who had completed all training required in 2022
 - To date, clerk certification has allowed
 - 390 clerks to complete
 - 9930 modules
 - in 32 different courses since it was launched in January 2022



Judges' Conference

- Roger Tew with the Friend of the Court Award
- Judge Paul Farr with a Service Award
- Judge Mark McIff as Justice Court Judge of the Year



UTAH STATE COURTS



Questions?