

Judicial Department Annual Report for 2013

Services: Providing judicial services to the Tribal community in accordance with the Tribal Law and Order Code, as set forth in Article VI, Section 1(h) of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Tribe which empowers the Fallon Business Council to promulgate and enforce ordinances governing all people within its jurisdiction.

Accomplishments in 2013:

- The Fallon Tribal Court held Court 46 times in 2013. A total of 133 cases were filed, consisting of 32 Criminal, 24 Traffic, 11 Juvenile, and 66 Civil filings, including 22 Temporary Protection Orders.
- The Fallon Tribal Court of Appeals heard 3 appeals from the lower court.
- The Fallon Tribal Court experienced turnover with nearly every position in 2013. Hannah Arthur was hired in April as Clerk of the Court, replacing Nathan G. Strong who had left that position at the end of 2012. Longtime Chief Tribal Judge F. Woodside Wright resigned in February; Bill Kockenmeister, who served on the Fallon Tribal Court of Appeals and as the Judge Pro Tem under Judge Wright, accepted the position as Chief Tribal Judge. The Central Nevada Wellness Court replaced its Coordinator with Josh Cabral, hired in August following the resignation of Tom Goodson in May. Nathan G. Strong returned as Acting Court Administrator in August when Carmen Crutcher left that position. The Fallon Business Council will be filling that position in early 2014.

Goals for 2014:

- Begin using the computerized Court Case Management system for all future case files and begin data entry of past cases.
- Work aggressively to implement a large number of the 21 Recommendations following Findings presented in the Tribal Court Assessment provided June 10, 2011 by Coochise Consulting, LLC., including but not limited to a complete overhaul of all written policies and procedures and establishment of a formal Tribal Bar Association.
- Advertise for and contract with a Pro Tem Judge to serve under Chief Tribal Judge Kockenmeister.
- Advertise for and contract with Justices in order to expand the Court of Appeals Justice pool; currently only two of the requisite three are seated.

Staff:

- Nathan G. Strong, Acting Court Administrator
- Hannah Arthur, Clerk of the Court
- Josh Cabral, Wellness Court Coordinator/Probation Officer
- Charlene Dressler, Defense Advocate

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- Bill Kockenmeister, Chief Tribal Judge
- Thomas R.C. Wilson, Prosecutor
- Patricia Barnes, Chief Justice, Court of Appeals
- David Humke, Associate Justice, Court of Appeals