United States District Court District of Colorado

PRESS RELEASE January 23, 2018

Better Access to the Federal Courts for Southeast Colorado

To provide improved federal court access for the residents of Southeastern Colorado, the United States District Court for the District of Colorado is pleased to announce the adoption of a Pilot Program to relocate a full-time magistrate judge to the Court's Colorado Springs facility located at 212 N. Wahsatch Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. The Court is concluding renovations to this facility and it is anticipated that Magistrate Judge Kathleen M. Tafoya will relocate to the Colorado Springs courthouse the week of February 5, 2018.

Upon her relocation, Magistrate Judge Tafoya will be assigned the majority of the civil cases that originate from the Pueblo jury division, either directly or in the referral role. Magistrate Judge Tafoya will conduct most assigned proceedings from the Colorado Springs courthouse. The Court also anticipates trying civil matters arising in the Pueblo jury division within that division. Magistrate Judge Tafoya will be removed from the district's criminal duty rotation; however, she will be assigned the entire Colorado Springs-based petty offense criminal docket, which in the past has been handled by rotating magistrate judges traveling from Denver. Felony criminal matters will continue to be presided over in Denver. Additionally, the United States Bankruptcy Court will also periodically conduct proceedings in the Colorado Springs facility.

The renovations to the facility include upgrades that will more comfortably accommodate jurors for civil jury trials as well as enhanced security features that include full-time court security officers employed by the United States Marshals Service.

Additional details about this Pilot Program and the United States District Court for the District of Colorado is available at: <u>http://www.cod.uscourts.gov</u>

Please contact Jeffrey P. Colwell, Clerk of Court, if you have any questions.

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