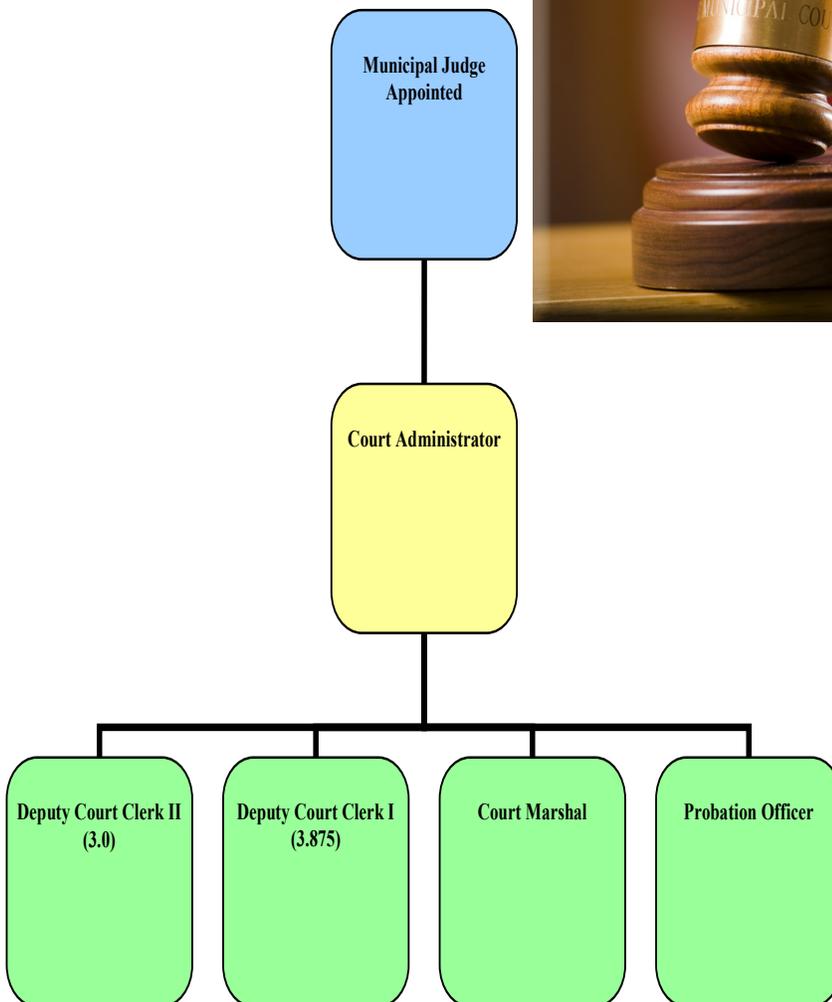


Municipal Court

About Municipal Court

The Municipal Court is a limited jurisdiction court of record established to hear and resolve City Charter and ordinance violations for the City of Wheat Ridge. The Court has jurisdiction over traffic violations and local ordinances that include theft, assault, damage to property, harassment, code and animal violations, and domestic violence matters. Most criminal matters carry up to a \$1000 fine and up to one year in jail. The Court Clerk’s Office is open full-time Monday through Friday. Court is in session three days per week, and trials to jury are in addition to regular Court days. The Court acts as a check and balance on the legislative and executive branches of government. The Court’s sentencing philosophy is to rehabilitate the defendant, to protect the public, and to provide restitution to victims.



**2012
Budget
Highlights**

- Implement and finalize online payments
- Increase scanning capabilities

**MUNICIPAL
COURT**

Municipal Court



DID YOU KNOW

Defendants may perfect the right to a jury trial and have up to six Wheat Ridge citizens determine the outcome of a case?

Municipal Court

Overview

- Adjudicate misdemeanors, traffic, juvenile, domestic violence, nuisance, code, abatement, animal control, and sales tax cases
- Conduct 147 Court sessions annually
- Process domestic violence violations on a fast-track basis
- Monitor special domestic violence counseling program and monitor compliance with probation and general sentencing
- Collect revenues for fines, costs, judgments, defaults, and services
- Process escrow funds for restitution, jury demands, and bonds
- Appoint attorneys for indigent defendants in criminal cases
- Create, maintain, and distribute an average of 6000 annual filings
- Process prisoners by video arraignment or in Court as applicable
- Issue bench warrants and outstanding judgments

2011 Achievements

- Upgraded audio-video communications system for non-transport prisoner hearings
- Redistributed responsibilities for vacant positions among existing staff; recruited and hired a Deputy Court Clerk I
- Utilized a private collection agency to collect outstanding fines, costs, and restitution
- Implemented a process to accept credit card payments by phone
- Monitored number of prisoners and length of prison sentences
- Increased security by installation of a portable scanner for screening of briefcases, purses, and small bags
- Followed new Domestic Violence Board standards
- Redesigned front counter to increase customer service, efficiency, and ergonomics
- Researched accessing statistical data from the Department of Labor as an additional tool to assess actual income of parties requesting waiver of fees, court appointed attorney, or extension to pay

2012 Objectives

- Implement and finalize online payment capabilities
- Scan case files directly into Court Management Program
- Increase screening capabilities of parties appearing for Court; increase Court Marshal presence and availability
- Research improvement of work stations to improve efficiency, storage, and ergonomics
- Implement capability of remote interpreter usage in Courtroom
- Develop and implement uniform sentencing sheet
- Improve safety, lighting, and appearance of Courtroom

Municipal Court

Staffing and Financial Summary

	2009 Authorized	2010 Authorized	2011 Authorized	2012 Authorized
Municipal Judge	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted	Contracted
Court Administrator	1	1	1	1
Deputy Court Clerk II	2.875	2.875	3	3
Deputy Court Clerk I	4	4	3.875	3.875
Probation Officer	1	1	1	1
Court Marshal	1	1	1	1.26
TOTAL	9.875	9.875	9.875	10.135

	2010 Actual	2011 Adjusted	2011 Estimated	2012 Adopted
Personnel Services	\$657,337	\$676,550	\$667,865	\$694,491
Materials & Supplies	\$11,625	\$19,704	\$19,150	\$25,400
Other Services & Charges	\$15,144	\$27,085	\$23,235	\$27,400
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$684,106	\$723,339	\$710,250	\$747,291

Total 2012 Budget by Object

