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FOURTH DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

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PRESIDING JUDGE SAMUEL MCVEY

Judge Samuel D. McVey was appointed to the Fourth District Court in April 2004 by Gov. Olene Walker. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. Judge McVey graduated with distinction from the United States Naval Academy and the Naval War College. He received a law degree magna cum laude from Brigham Young University Law School and was admitted to the Utah State Bar that year as well as the California Bar. He was Order of the Coif and law review note and comment editor in law school. Judge McVey is a retired Marine Colonel. He was a partner in the law firm of Kirton & McConkie and volunteered as a judge pro tem. Judge McVey received the Outstanding Young Military Lawyer Award from the American Bar Association and the Legion of Merit from the Marines. Judge McVey has served on various Utah State Bar and American Bar Association committees. He was chair of the Bar Section on Energy, Natural Resources and Environmental Law and was the section's 2006 Distinguished Service Award recipient. He served as chair of the Standing Committee on Judicial Outreach and is currently the presiding judge of the Fourth District. 9/11

[Return to Top](#)**ASSOCIATE PRESIDING JUDGE DAVID N. MORTENSEN**

Judge David N. Mortensen was appointed to the Fourth District Court in September 2006 by Gov. Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. Judge Mortensen graduated from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University in 1993. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Mortensen was in private practice as a trial attorney. He is a member of the A. Sherman Christensen Inn of Court (America Inns of Court I) and serves on the Utah State Bar Fee Arbitration Committee. Judge Mortensen is a member of the Utah Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Evidence and a member of the Board of District Court Judges. 8/09

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JUDGE JAMES BRADY

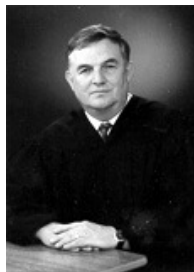
Judge M. James Brady was appointed to the Fourth District Court in May 2010 by Gov. Gary Herbert. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. Judge Brady graduated from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University in 1982. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Brady was in private practice as a trial attorney with the firm of Bradford & Brady for 26 years. He served as a Deputy City Attorney for Provo (1982-1984) as City Attorney for Mapleton (1990-2003), and later served as on the Mapleton City Council (2005-2006) and as Mayor of Mapleton (2006-2007). He served on the Utah County Board of Adjustment for many years, and as chairman of the Board of Adjustment for a few of those years. He currently serves as judge in Juab and Millard counties, and also hears matters in specialty courts in Juab, Millard and Utah counties. 3/11

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JUDGE LYNN W. DAVIS

Judge Lynn W. Davis was appointed to the Fourth Circuit Court in April 1987 and the Fourth District Court in June 1992 by Governor Norman H. Bangerter. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah and Wasatch counties. He received a law degree from J. Reuben Clark College of Law at Brigham Young University (BYU) in 1976. From 1976 to 1979, Judge Davis was in private practice and served as a deputy Utah County Attorney from 1979 to 1987. He is a past chair of the Board of Circuit Court Judges and is chair of the Board of District Court Judges. Judge Davis has received the Utah State Bar Judge of the Year Award, the Excellence in Public Service Award, the Utah State Bar Distinguished Service Award, the Freedom of Information Award, and was recently named a 2007 Honored Alumnus at BYU. He is the chair of the Utah State Court Interpreter and Translation Panel and also serves on a national Advisory Committee on Court Interpretation. 05/08

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JUDGE DONALD J. EYRE, JR.

Judge Donald J. Eyre, Jr., was appointed to the Fourth District Court in November 1994 by Gov. Michael O. Leavitt. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. He received a law degree from the University of Utah College of Law in 1976 and was in private practice from 1976 until his appointment to the bench. Judge Eyre was appointed Nephi City attorney in 1978 and concurrently served as Juab County attorney from 1979 until his appointment to the bench. He served on the Jury Education Committee, the Justice Court Standards Committee, and the Children and Family Law Standing Committee. Judge Eyre

served as the presiding judge of the Fourth District Court from 1999 to 2000, and on the Board of District Court Judges from 2000 to 2003. In 2004, he helped establish drug courts in Juab and Millard counties. He served on the Utah Judicial Council from 2008 to 2011. 9/11

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JUDGE STEVEN L. HANSEN



Judge Steven L. Hansen was appointed to the Fourth District Court in August 1993 by Gov. Michael O. Leavitt. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. Judge Hansen received a law degree from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University in 1976. He was a law clerk at the Utah Supreme Court in 1976, after which he went into private law practice. He was Wasatch County Attorney from 1986 until his appointment to the bench. Judge Hansen served as presiding judge of the Fourth District Court from 1998 to 1999. In addition, he served on the Board of District Court Judges and on the Judicial Performance Evaluation Committee and as judge for Wasatch County Drug Court and Utah County Mental Health Court. Judge Hansen currently serves on the Grand Jury panel for the State of Utah. 9/09

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JUDGE FRED D. HOWARD



Judge Fred D. Howard was appointed to the Fourth District Court in July 1995 by Gov. Michael O. Leavitt. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. He received a law degree from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University in 1979. Before his appointment to the bench, Judge Howard was a partner with the law firm of Howard, Lewis & Petersen. In addition, he served as deputy county attorney for Carbon County from 1979 to 1982. Judge Howard serves as counselor of the A. Sherman Christensen Inn of the American Inns of Court. He has served as presiding judge of the Fourth District Court, on the Board of District Court Judges, and on the Utah Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Professional Conduct. 09/08

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JUDGE CHRISTINE S. JOHNSON

Judge Christine S. Johnson was appointed to the Fourth District Court in October 2008 by Gov. Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. She serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. Judge Johnson received her Juris Doctor in 1996 from the J. Reuben Clark School of Law at Brigham Young University. She worked as a judicial clerk in the Fourth Judicial District before beginning her practice as a criminal



defense attorney at the Utah County Public Defenders Association in 1997. Judge Johnson was ultimately designated as that office's deputy director and served in that capacity from 1999 through 2003. She was employed as the assistant city attorney and city prosecutor at Spanish Fork City from 2003 until her appointment to the bench. Judge Johnson serves on the Standing Committee on Judicial Branch Education, which oversees the continuing education of judges and court staff in Utah. 9/09

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JUDGE CLAUDIA LAYCOCK



Judge Claudia Laycock was appointed to the Fourth District Court in January 2001. She serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. She graduated from Brigham Young University in 1974 and then taught at Dixon Junior High School in Provo. She received a law degree from Brigham Young University and was admitted to the Utah State Bar in 1985. She practiced law in Provo for three years with Aldrich, Nelson, Weight & Esplin, specializing in criminal defense and family law. She joined the Utah County Attorney's Office in 1988 as a prosecutor, remaining there until her appointment to the bench. Prior to her appointment, she served on the board of the Women and Children in Crisis Center in Provo for 12 years. Judge Laycock served on the Standing Committee on Judicial Branch Education for six years, the Utah Supreme Court's Code of Judicial Conduct Committee for two years, and now serves on the Utah State Bar's Mentor Training and Resource Committee. 9/11

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JUDGE THOMAS LOW



Judge Thomas Low was appointed to the Fourth District Court in December 2009 by Gov. Gary R. Herbert. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. Judge Low graduated with a bachelor of arts degree and juris doctorate from Brigham Young University. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Low served as the Wasatch County Attorney. He also served as a Deputy Wasatch County Attorney, where he prosecuted felony cases, and as an attorney in private practice in Provo. Judge Low was named County Attorney of the Year in November 2008, and was identified as a member of the 2009 Utah Legal Elite by Utah Business magazine. 2/10

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JUDGE DAROLD J. MCDADE

Judge Darold J. McDade was appointed to the Fourth District Court in July 2007 by Gov. Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. He serves Juab,



Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. He graduated from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University in 1990. Prior to his appointment to the bench, he was a section chief in the Provo section of the Utah Attorney General's Office, Child and Family Support Division, representing the Office of Recovery Services. He served as a volunteer judge pro tem in the Fourth District Court-Small Claims Division-from 2004 to 2007. Judge McDade was also an elected member of the Pleasant Grove City Council from 2000 to 2007 and is a member of the Navajo Nation Bar Association. 7/07

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JUDGE DEREK P. PULLAN



Judge Derek P. Pullan was appointed to the Fourth District Court in September 2003 by Gov. Michael O. Leavitt. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. He received a law degree from Brigham Young University's J. Reuben Clark Law School in 1993, graduating cum laude. Judge Pullan worked as a law clerk at the Utah Supreme Court from 1993 to 1994. He served as a deputy county attorney in Washington and Wasatch counties from 1994 to 1999. Judge Pullan was appointed and subsequently elected to serve as the Wasatch County Attorney from 1999 to 2003. As county attorney, he acted as the elected felony prosecutor and as legal counsel to the county legislative body and executive branch. Judge Pullan was elected presiding judge in 2007 and served two terms. He is an adjunct professor at J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University where he teaches the law of evidence. Judge Pullan has been a member of the Utah Supreme Court Committee on the Civil Rules of Procedure since 2008. During the past three years, that committee has proposed substantial revisions to the civil rules aimed at reducing the cost of litigation and providing increased access to the courts. 7/11

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JUDGE JAMES R. TAYLOR



Judge James R. Taylor was appointed to the Fourth District Court in February 1999 by Gov. Michael O. Leavitt. He serves Juab, Millard, Utah, and Wasatch counties. Judge Taylor has presided over an adult Drug Court in Utah County since 2002. He is an adjunct professor at Utah Valley State College and was named Adjunct Professor of the Year of the School of Business in 2006. Judge Taylor was president of the A. Sherman Christensen American Inn of Court I from April 2006 through April 2007. He was the presiding judge for the Fourth District Court from July 2004 through July 2006. Judge Taylor was a Joseph Fielding Smith Scholar at Brigham Young University in 1973. He received a law degree from the University of Utah College of Law in 1980

and was the Spanish Fork City Attorney from 1982 until 1987. At the time of his appointment to the bench, Judge Taylor was the interim division chief of the Criminal Division of the Utah County Attorney's Office. Judge Taylor previously served on the Utah State Children's Justice Advisory Board as a prosecution member, vice-chairman, and, after being appointed to the bench, as a judicial representative. 8/08

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