

# El Paso County Attorney's Office



*2015 Critical Needs Presentation  
November 6, 2014*

# *County Attorney's Office critical budget needs for 2015*

**1 Assistant County Attorney FTE\* – approximately \$90,000 (plus benefits)**

**1 Paralegal FTE to support the EPSO attorney – approximately \$50,000 (plus benefits)**

Additional dollars for **operational expenses** due to new staff members and increasing expenditures associated with training and technology (\$25,000)

\*NOT the EPSO attorney

# *Role of the County Attorney's Office*

- State law requires the County Attorney's Office to represent the interests of the BoCC as an **organization**, its administrative departments, and appointed boards.
- The County Attorney's Office also represents the interests of **individual** elected and appointed officials and departments in a variety of civil legal matters.

# WHAT WE DO

- • **Land Use** – water reviews, planning, dispute resolution, real estate purchases and sales
- **Litigation** – Federal, State and administrative Courts, EEOC and unemployment hearings, DOJ
- **Employment matters** – EPC policies and discipline; RIF's; unemployment hearings; investigations
- **Sheriff's Office** –academy instruction, patrol and jail
- **Assessor - Treasurer** – taxes, tax disputes and appeals
- **CAR/Elections** – ballot measures, electioneering, election counts, election litigation
- **Coroner** – indigent bodies, military death notifications
- **Procurement** – contract review, assistance with RFP protests
- **Document drafting and review** – contracts; IGA's, MOU's, easements, deeds, real estate transactions, leases, COP's
- **Provide legal advice special projects** on diverse topics such as transportation and condemnation, search and seizure and jail law and First Amendment issues, etc.

# County Attorney's Office staffing levels 2004 - 2014

- **County Attorney's office has expanded by one attorney in the last decade**
- *2004 to 2012 – 8 FTE's --5 attorneys and 3 staff*
- *2009 CAT assumed all civil litigation and legal risk management in house*
- *2012 litigation attorney via interdepartmental transfer*
- *2012 – 2014 –6 attorneys and 3 FT staff and 1 PT staff 15 hours/week*

# Legal Services assumed since 2008 in addition to litigation

- **Fountain Creek Watershed District (2008)**
- **Fairgrounds Corporation (2010)**
- **Pikes Peak Workforce Center (2010)**
- **Oil and Gas LGD (2011)**
- **Legal services to PID's – Districts 1, 2, and 3, Pioneer Village Roads, Stratmoor Valley Streetlights, etc. (2012)**
- **Emergency Services Agency (2013)**
- **Special Projects– i.e Stormwater**

# El Paso County Attorney's Civil Office 2014

**Amy Folsom**  
County Attorney  
75% Civil/25% Admin/DHS

CAT DHS  
8 Attorneys 13 Staff

## Senior Assistant County Attorneys

**Cole Emmons**  
40% DOT  
30% Land use  
15% Real Estate

**Lori Seago**  
70% Land use  
10% Parks  
20% other

**Diana May**  
50% Litigation  
40% Employment

**Kenny Hodges**  
50% Litigation  
30% Spl. projects

## Assistant County Attorneys

**Steve Klaffky**  
20% Land use  
20% Elected off.  
50% Spl. projects

## County Attorney staff

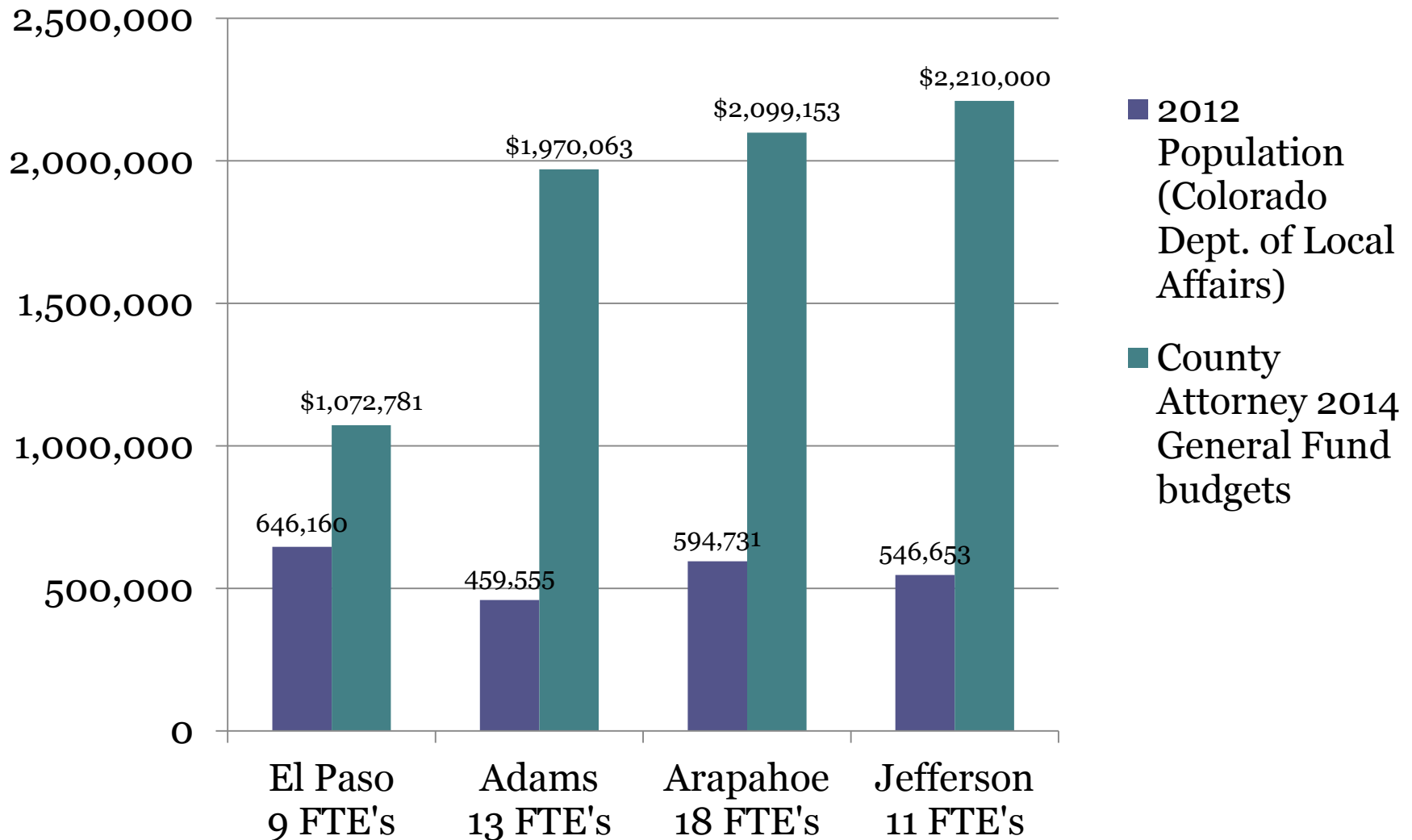
**Casey Campbell**  
Paralegal

**Edi Anderson**  
All Office  
Administrator -  
Paralegal

**Norma DeHerrera**  
Paralegal I

DHS Support staff

# County Attorney's Office - population, staffing and budget comparisons





# 2015 critical legal services

- Employment law services
- Land Use
- Litigation/Risk Management
- Special Projects
- EPSO Secondary assignment
- Department of Health (2015)

# Employment law services

## ---reactive to proactive

- Employees have the right to be free from hostility and discrimination and the taxpayers have a right to expect quality work
- It's becoming easier and easier to sue
- EPC must develop and maintain County wide consistency in both **policy and practice**
- Promoting **greater coordination with non-board elected officials**
- Coordinating with EBMS to draft **internal procedures** which facilitate cost effective internal workplace investigations
- Assist EBMS with development of **comprehensive management training**

# Land Use Services- reactive to proactive

- County Attorney is viewed as an impediment to growth and development
- Economic growth and development is vital to the strength of our community and CAT must have the resources on hand to be a proactive facilitator
- **Most legal “problems” in land use applications are best solved early in the process**

# *Identified critical legal services*

- Litigation/Risk Management
  - Currently a 2 person job
- BoCC Special Regional Projects
  - We want them
- EPSO Secondary assignment
  - 1.5 person job for foreseeable future
- Department of Health
  - .15-.2 person job

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**Steve Klaffky**  
20% Land use  
20% Elected off.  
50% Spl. projects

**Attorney FTE**  
40% Employment  
30% Land use  
20% Health Dept. &  
other  
\$90,000 + benefits

**Attorney FTE—  
assigned @ EPSCO**  
100% Sheriff's Office  
(No add'l dollars  
from General Fund)

## County Attorney staff

**Casey  
Campbell**  
Paralegal

**Edi Anderson**  
All Office  
Administrator -  
Paralegal

**Norma  
DeHerrera**  
Paralegal I

**Paralegal FTE**  
\$50,000 +  
benefits

DHS Support staff

*Questions?*

