



2022 Budget Presentation Office of the County Attorney

Diana K. May, County Attorney

October 19, 2021

Organizational Chart County Attorney

County Attorney



Civil Division

9 attorneys
8 support staff

Represent BoCC, elected officials, departments and offices, litigation, land use, real estate, employment, risk management, EPSO, general county legal support

Human Services Division

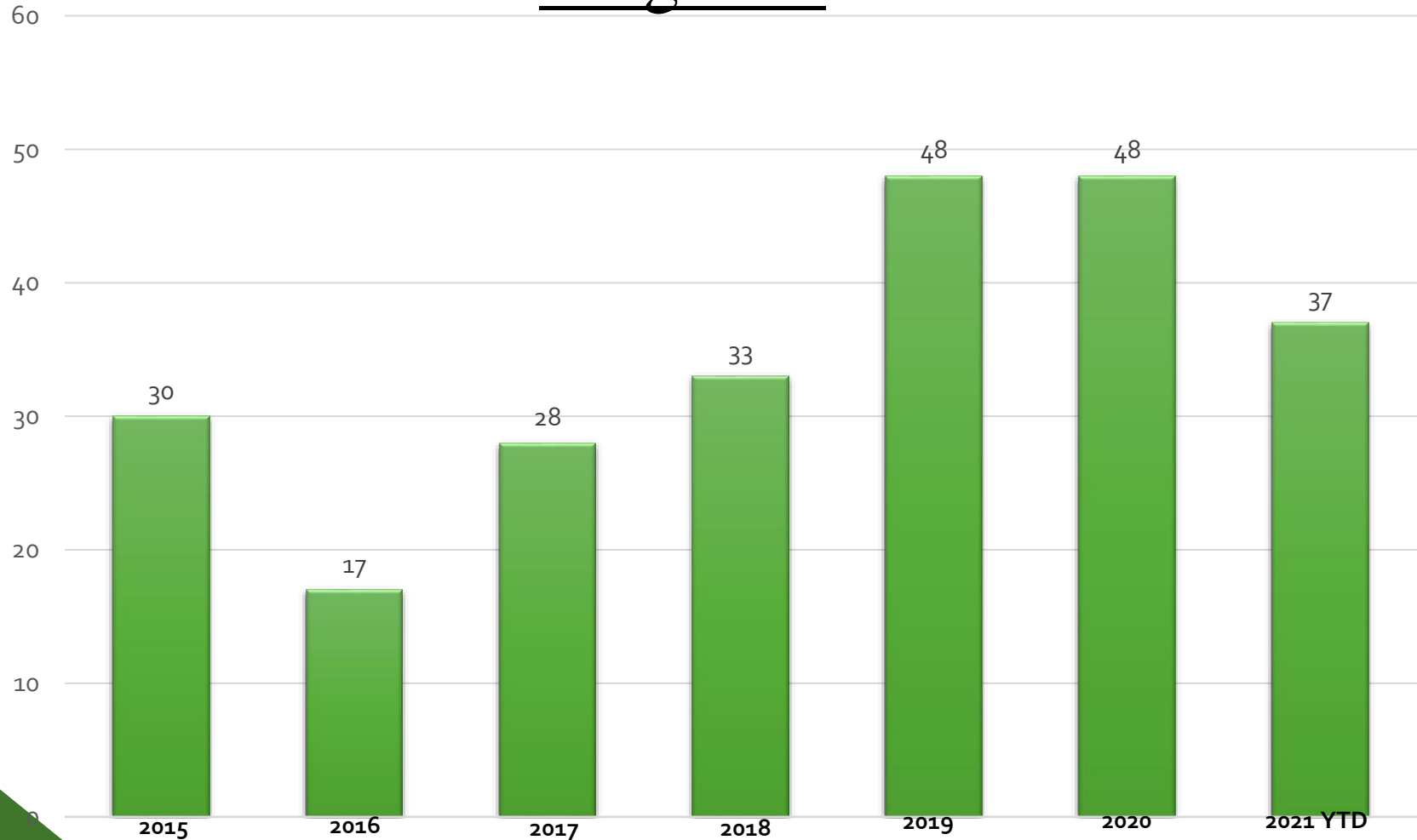
14 attorneys
20 support staff

Dependency & neglect cases, Juvenile Delinquency, Adult Protection, Substance abuse and mental health civil commitments, and DHS legal support



Budgetary Highlights

Litigation



2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021 YTD

Office of the County Attorney

3



Budgetary Highlights

Litigation

- Litigation cases:
 - 37 new cases 2021 YTD
 - **Plus an additional 25 ongoing cases**
 - 23 older cases were also closed in 2021 YTD
 - 3 Attorneys cover litigation cases which includes First Assistant
 - Trends:
 - More complex cases
 - Fewer MTDM granted - trend
 - More complicated discovery
 - Pro Se Cases - Judges allowing more to move forward
 - Trials: (3) in 2021; 1 set early 2022



Budgetary Highlights

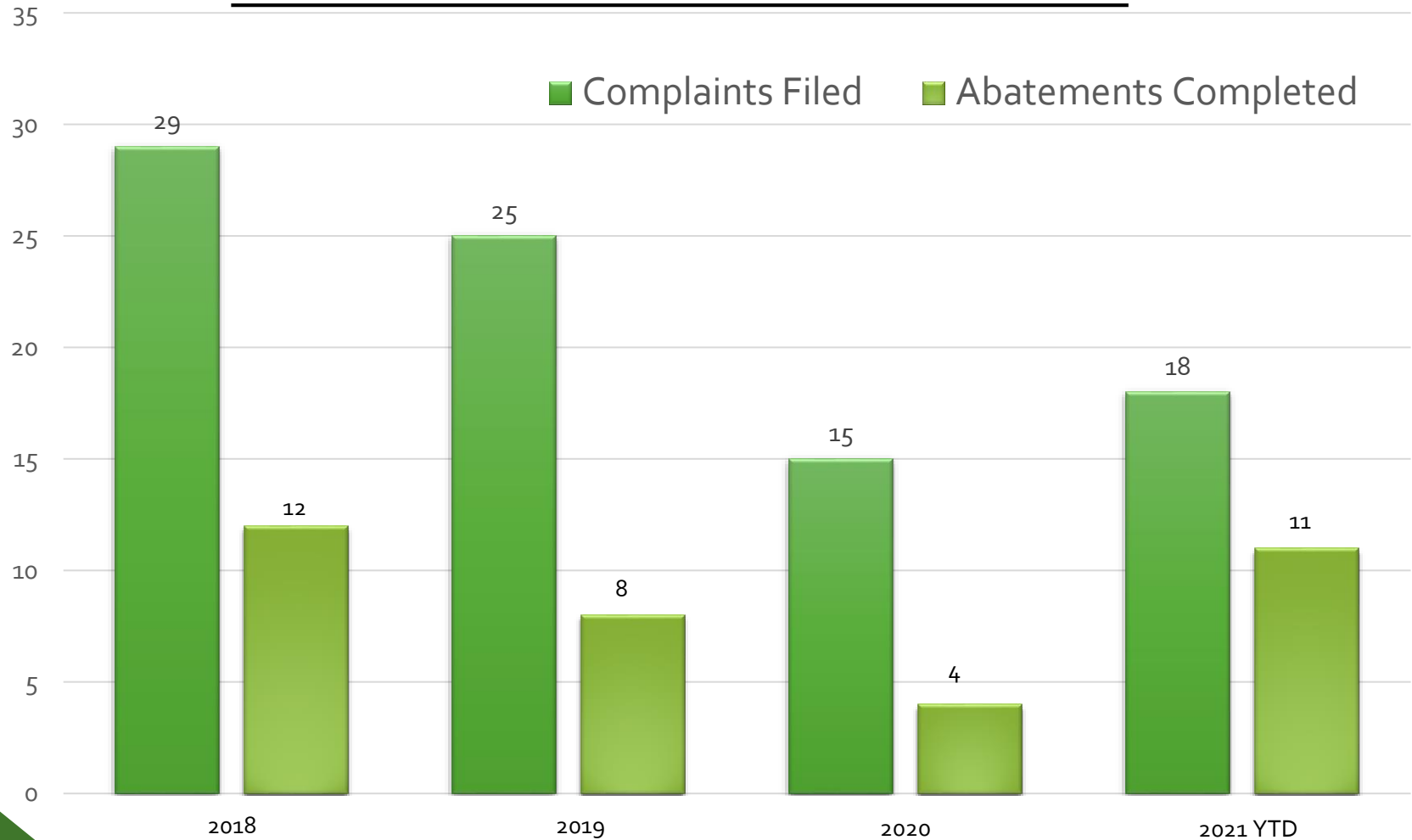
Employment

- Challenges: Extremely busy year in employment
 - EPSO Title VII Investigations: 2021 YTD - 15 cases reviewed and 9 in-house investigations (2020 - 17 cases reviewed and 3 investigations; 2019 - 2 investigations)
 - 6 Termination Appeals 2021 YTD (significant review by our office)
 - 8 Unemployment Hearings 2021 YTD
 - Significantly more hearings than past years (2020 - 7 hearings; 2019 - 13 hearings)
 - EEOC/CCRD cases - 5 cases prepared and filed in 2021 (none in previous two years)
 - 1 Attorney assigned to Employment matters
 - Additional Budget Highlights:
 - 2 pending employment litigation cases pending trial
 - Weekly meetings and daily questions on employment matters
 - Frequent Policy review
 - Covid-related employment questions



Budgetary Highlights

Land Use – Code Enforcement



Budgetary Highlights

Land Use – Code Enforcement

- More efficient system between PCD and CAT re: triage of code enforcement cases/ongoing communication and meetings
- Complaints filed 2021 YTD - 18 (2020 -15, 2019 - 25)
 - 2 cases pending from previous years
 - **There are a total of 80 code enforcement cases awaiting referral from PCD to our office**
 - 1 Attorney assigned to Code Enforcement
- Abatements completed 2021 YTD - 11 (2020 - 4, 2019 - 8)
 - Filing of an additional 5 abatements is pending
 - There are a total of 21 abatements awaiting referral from PCD – subject to funding
- Additional Highlights:
 - Total dollar amount of \$66,000 utilized from abatement fund - liens filed for reimbursement from homeowners
 - 60 code enforcement letters sent by CAT in last 5 months to induce compliance
 - Several contempt matters pending
 - High profile cases in 2021: 106 Bradley, Space Village Ave.,721 Widefield 1099 Kachina, and 6125 Night Train



Budgetary Highlights

Land Use – Subdivisions

- 9th year of CAT providing on-site legal services at Planning Dept.
- Attendance at all Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment hearings

	PC Hearings	PC Agenda Items	BOA Hearings	BOA Agenda Items
2021 YTD	15	53	5	7
2020	20	63	4	6
2019	18	68	8	11

- Litigation: Courage to Change and Disler 106 Action
- Increase in land use applications/subdivision reviews/reviews of water sufficiency
- Water Reviews: 2021 YTD = 32, 2020 = 35, 2019 = 32
- 2 Attorneys assigned to Land Use



Budgetary Highlights

- Critical Needs request to the Board:
 - 1 new attorney
 - Litigation Attorney
 - Justification is due to on-going complexity of litigation and pending trials, and increase in employment, code enforcement, and land use matters
 - County population growth continuing to impact volume of workload in the area of Public Works/roads, Sheriff's Office/CJC, DHS, and Public Health



Base Budget and Critical Needs



El Paso County, Colorado
 Financial Services/Budget
 2016 - 2022 Historical Budget Information - County Attorney

10/1/2021

<u>2016 Budget - OAB</u>	<u>2016 On going changes</u>	<u>2017 Budget - OAB</u>	<u>2017 On going changes</u>	<u>2018 Budget - OAB</u>	<u>2018 On going changes</u>	<u>2019 Budget - OAB</u>	<u>2019 On going changes</u>	<u>2020 Budget - OAB</u>	<u>2020 On-going changes</u>	<u>2021 Budget - OAB</u>	<u>2021 On-going changes</u>	<u>2022 Base budget</u>	<u>2022 Critical Needs/Requests</u>	<u>2022 PBB</u>
													10,000	
													183,075	
1,081,128	82,675	1,163,803	44,496	1,208,299	53,990	1,262,289	112,627	1,374,916	(18,437)	1,356,479	5,000	1,361,479	193,075	1,554,554

Office of the County Attorney



LIMERICK!

The CAT team's so busy, you'll hear,
It's hard to find time for some cheer.
But with just one more lawyer
We'd have something for ya:
A much better poem next year.



Questions?

