

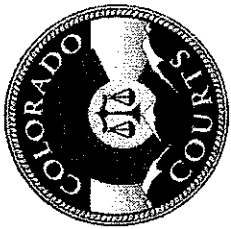
Judicial Department Presentation to the Long Term Fiscal Stability Commission

July 28, 2009



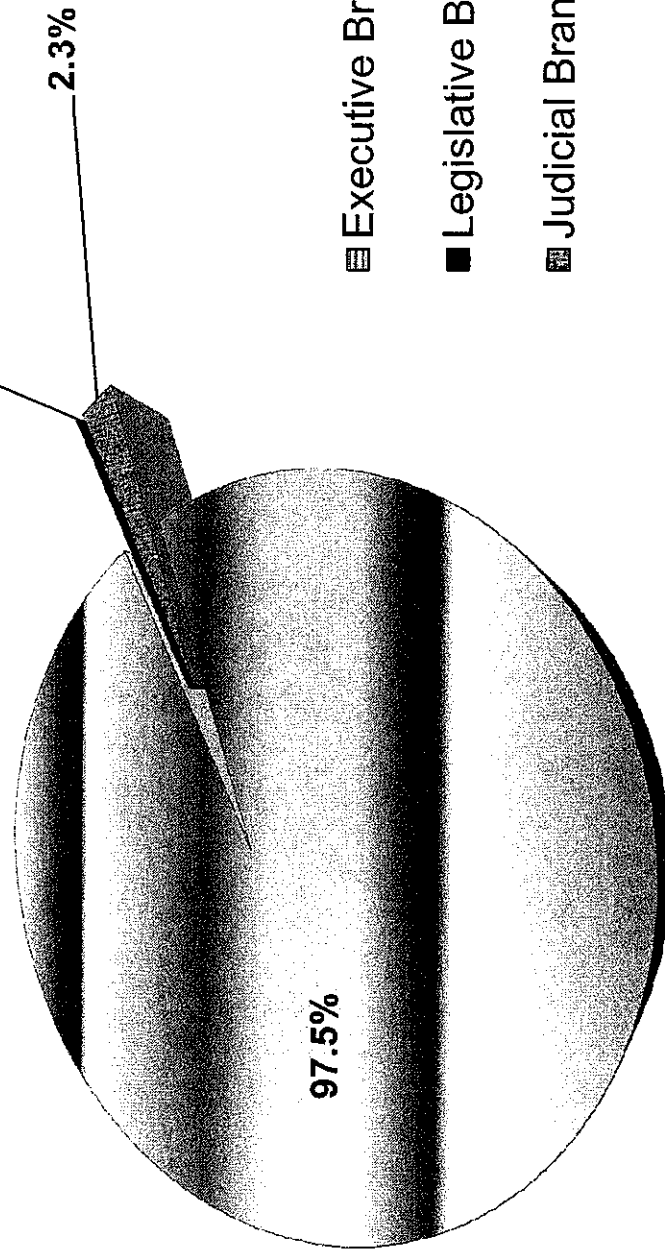
Branch Overview

- Third Branch of Government
- Caseload Driven—by constitutional and statutory requirements
- 311 judges handle over $\frac{3}{4}$ million case filed per year
- Approximately 90,000 offenders on probation in Colorado.
- 128 locations in 22 Districts
- All 64 Counties of the State

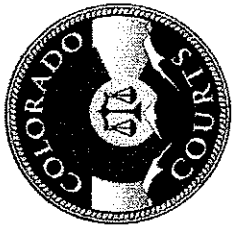


Budget Overview

FY2008 Statewide
Total Appropriations

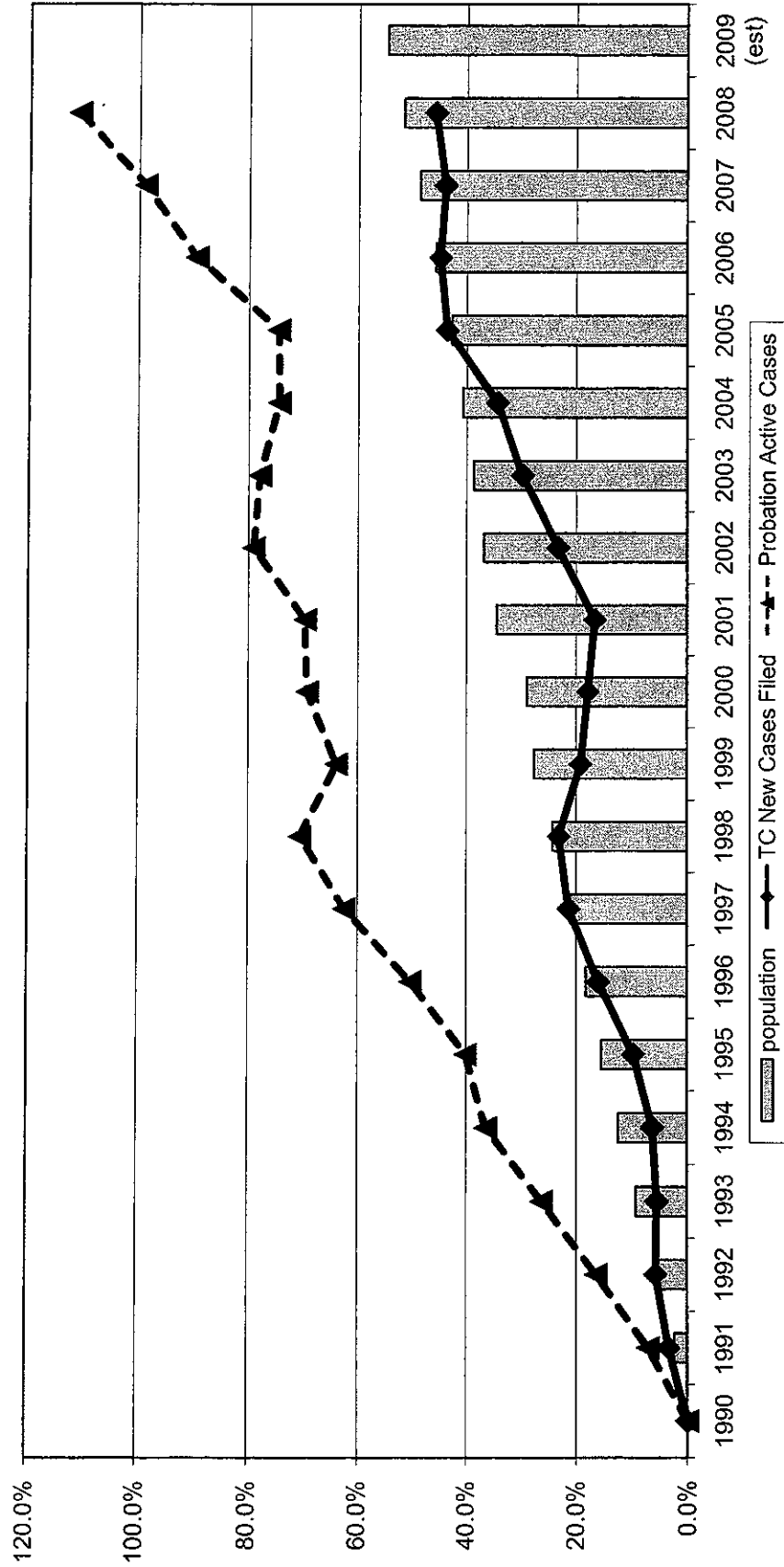


- Executive Branch
- Legislative Branch
- Judicial Branch



Budget Overview

Figure 1. Colorado Population Growth Compared to Trial Court and Probation Case Growth 1990-2008

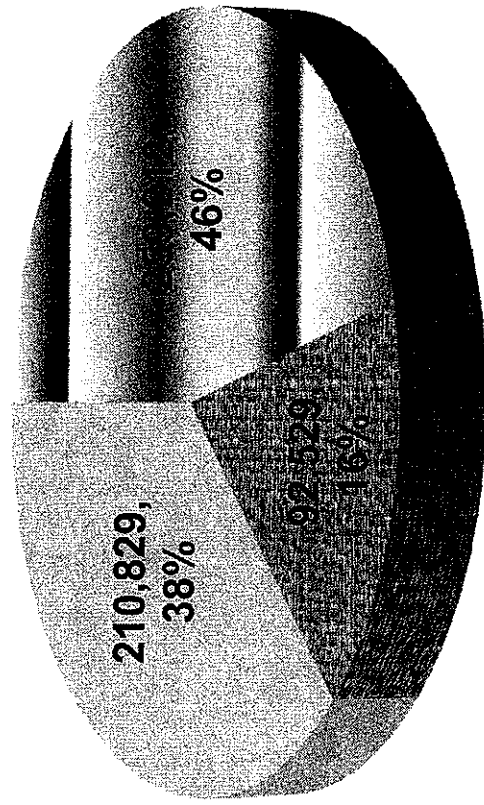


County Court

Over 550,000 new County Court cases are filed per year in Colorado. These cases include:

- Traffic matters—ranging from low level infractions up to DUI cases.
- Criminal offenses—lower level assault, drug, and domestic violence cases.
- Civil matters—primarily businesses collecting unpaid debts less than \$15,000, restraining orders, and evictions.

New County Court Case Filings: FY 2008



☐ Traffic Cases

☐ Criminal Offenses

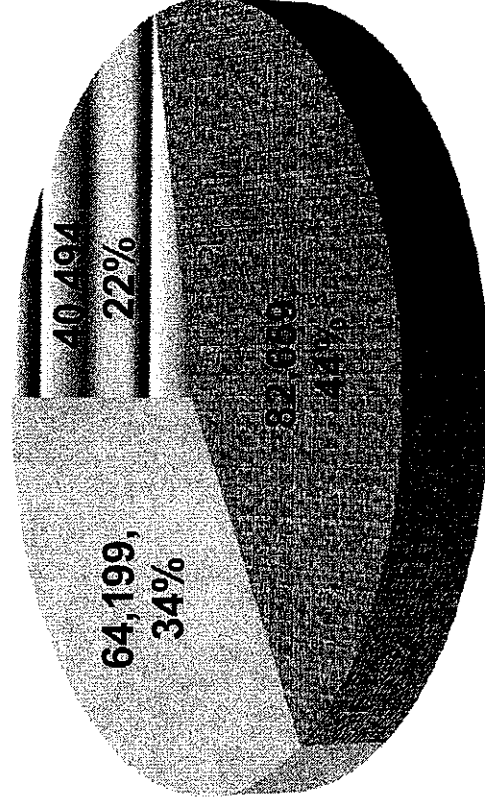
☐ Civil Filings

District Court

Nearly 200,000 new District Court cases are filed per year in Colorado. These cases include:

- Felony Criminal offenses—the most serious crimes including sex assault, burglary, kidnapping, higher level drug offenses and murder.
- Civil matters—primarily resolution of business disputes and foreclosures.
- Family cases—divorces, adoptions, child neglect, guardianships for at-risk adults and children, and protection of the mentally ill.

New District Court Case Filings: FY 2008



■ Felony Criminal

■ Family Cases

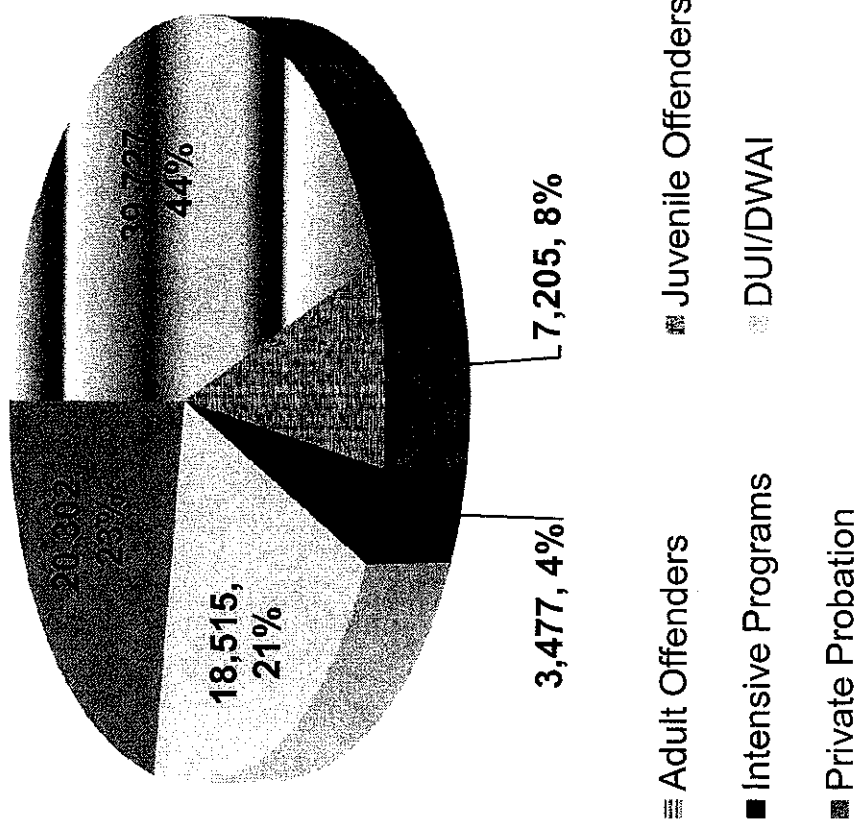
■ Civil

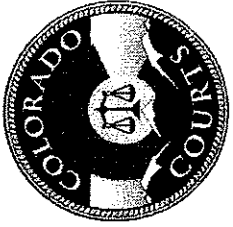
Probation

Approximately 90,000 offenders are actively supervised on probation in Colorado.

- Efficient use of resources: offenders supervised based on assessed risk to the community.
- Critical information to the courts: presentence reports for over 45,000 offenders per year.
- Focused on what works: active use of evidence based practices.
- Committed to the community: post-sentencing services for victims.

Active Probation Caseload: FY 2008





Efficiency and Innovation

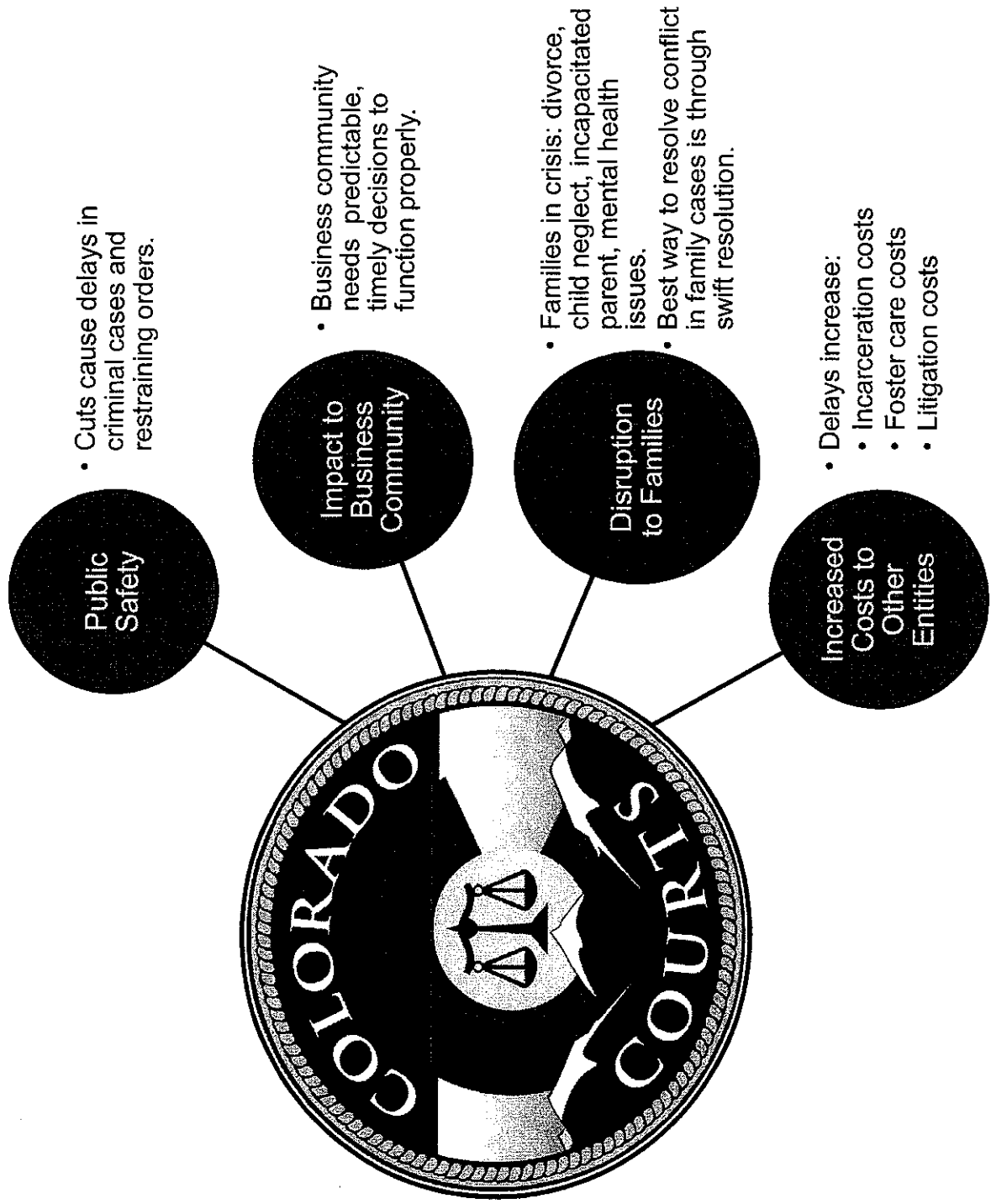
- **Implemented:**
 - Drug Courts
 - Technology initiatives.
 - Data sharing with state agencies
 - E-filing: file paperwork electronically
 - Pay fines online
 - Automated transfer of drug testing and treatment results
 - Caseload management efficiencies.
 - Consolidation of treatment funds
 - Court interpreter call-in center.
 - Centralization of key administrative functions.



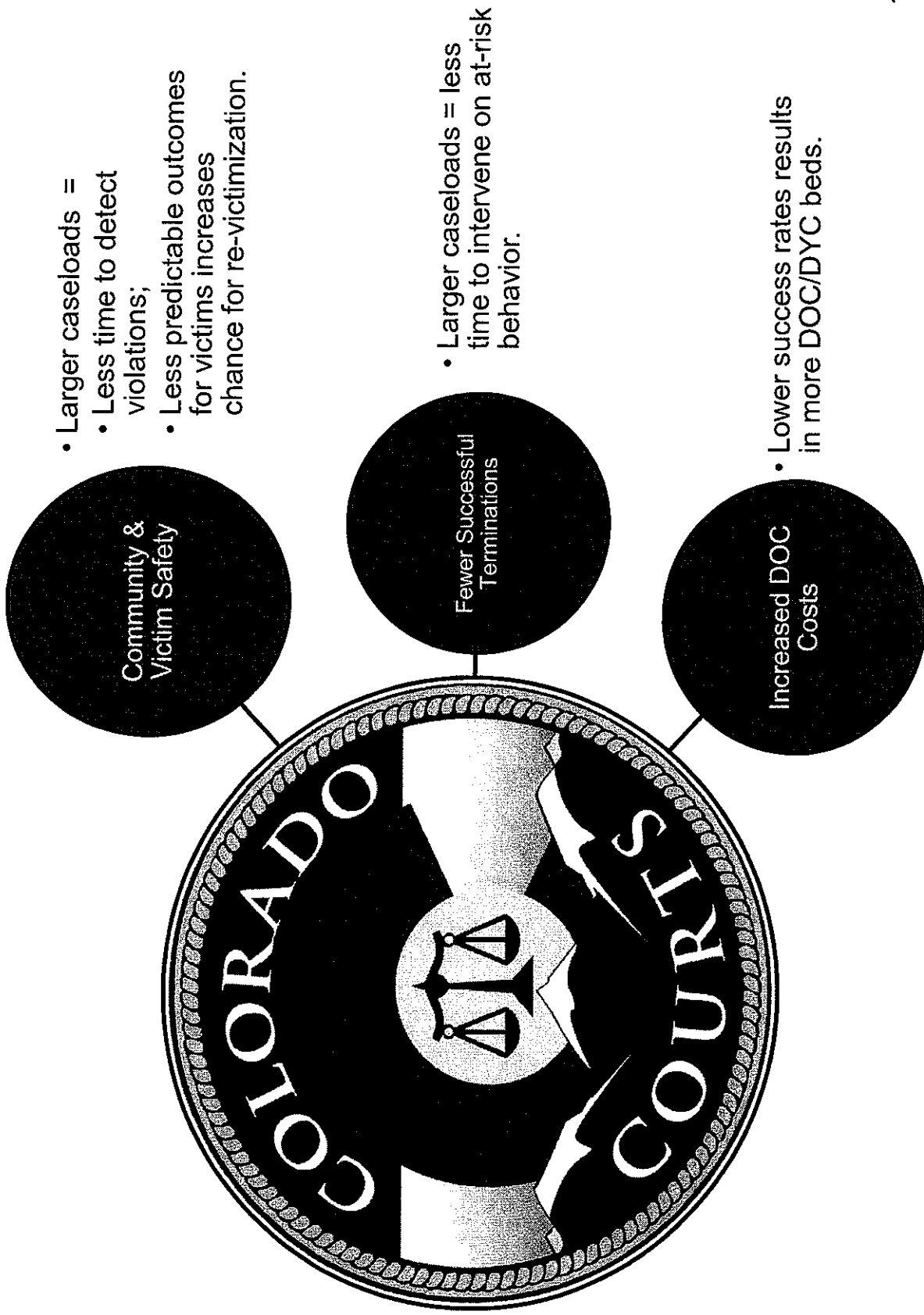
Efficiency and Innovation

- In Process:
 - Statewide implementation of Motivational Interviewing training
 - Expand Problem Solving Court approach to other appropriate subject areas
 - Redevelopment of Judicial Branch management information system.
 - More thoroughly integrated evidence based practices into probation case management.

General Impact of Cuts on the Courts



General Impact of Cuts on Probation



Suggestions:

Focus on What Works

- Invest in IT development that promotes efficiency and effectiveness.
- Expand the use of the problem solving court model where appropriate.
- Sentencing Reform: expand community based sentencing options that occur between regular probation and DOC/DYC.
- Encourage state government to employ evidence based practice standards when prioritizing programs.

Probation Can be an Effective, Low Cost Alternative to Prison

Offender Costs by Sanction: 2008

