

AMANDA BAILHACHE

January 5, 2025

Town of Erie

Attention: Danielle Trujillo, Court Administrator

Re: Application for Municipal Judge & Local Licensing Authority for the Town of Erie

Dear Mayor Moore and Members of Town Council,

I am privileged to submit my application for the position of Municipal Judge and Local Licensing Authority for the Town of Erie. For the last 5 years I have proudly served as municipal judge for the cities of Lafayette, Northglenn and Federal Heights. Prior to that I was honored to serve in the public sector as a public defender for 13 years, during that time I became a wife, a Lafayette homeowner, and a mother to two lively and loving little boys. Both of my boys play baseball with Coal Creek Little League, which serves the Erie and Lafayette communities. After having lived in Lafayette since 2007, Erie has become a place where I've formed relationships and built meaningful ties, making it feel like an extension of my own neighborhood. I feel a strong connection to Erie, and my familiarity with the area allows me to bring a unique perspective and commitment to the Municipal Court.

I believe Municipal Courts are more than a place where people are prosecuted. The focus of the Courts where I serve is on improving the lives of those who appear, while fostering compliance with the law and ensuring safe and secure neighborhoods. I have extensive experience working with a diverse cross section of local communities ranging from my time working with the Big Brother/Big Sister Program in Washington DC to representing extremely mentally ill clients who have been hospitalized in Colorado. As a woman of Chinese and Hispanic descent I am familiar with the challenges faced by many litigants. My cultural competencies have assisted me in communicating with those that appear before me in Court, as well as working with my former clients and community members who come from different ethnic, educational and socioeconomic backgrounds. Through representing thousands of clients, I know how a person feels when they first enter the criminal justice system.

All of these experiences have enhanced my patience, compassion and open-mindedness. I understand the impact that the legal system has on all parties involved with a case. The Erie Municipal Court is a place where the judge has the opportunity to take care of its community and have a true impact on those who live, work or spend time in the Town.

In November, I submitted my resignation to the City of Northglenn, as I was looking to spend more time with my family. However, when I learned that Judge Teresa Ablao decided to retire, I was excited at the prospect of being able to serve the Town of Erie, my extended community, as the Municipal Judge. My schedules in Lafayette and Federal Heights do not conflict with Erie's needs and will still allow me to spend more time with my family.

The Request for Proposals for the Town of Erie Municipal Judge stated that interested applicants must provide their cost proposal, including detail on billing structure and rates. I am most interested in serving as a judge for the Town of Erie because of my strong interest in the position, and I am confident that we can agree on an appropriate compensation agreement if I am offered the position. A suggestion is that I be paid a flat rate monthly for my services as a Municipal Judge and an hourly rate for Local Liquor Licensing Authority services. A suggested range would be between \$2,100 to \$2,500 per month for Municipal Court services; and \$120 to \$160 per hour for Local Liquor Licensing Authority services.

My career long dedication to public service has shaped me to be the type of judicial officer that will make Erie and its citizens proud to have as its municipal judge. I thank you for this opportunity and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Amanda Bailhache

Enclosures:

- Resume
- List of references for the past five years

AMANDA BAILHACHE



LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Northglenn Municipal Court, Northglenn, CO

June 2019 – February 2025

Presiding Municipal Judge

- Preside over all cases arising under the municipal code of the City of Northglenn; cases are criminal, traffic and non-traffic municipal code violations for both adults and juveniles, including animal control and zoning violations.
- Conduct trials to the court and hearings required to adjudicate cases, including arraignment, motion and pre-trial hearings, sentencing hearings, review hearings and hearings on motions to revoke.
- Issue written orders and legal findings.
- Assist with the management and administration of the Municipal Court.

Federal Heights Municipal Court, Federal Heights, CO

January 2020 – Present

Presiding Municipal Judge & Hearing Officer for the Local Liquor Licensing Authority

- Preside over all cases arising under the municipal code of the City of Federal Heights; cases are criminal, traffic and non-traffic municipal code violations for both adults and juveniles, including animal control and zoning violations.
- Conduct trials to the court and hearings required to adjudicate cases, including arraignment, motion and pre-trial hearings, sentencing hearings, review hearings and hearings on motions to revoke.
- Issue written orders and legal findings.
- Assist with the management and administration of the Municipal Court.
- Conduct hearings and issue decision regarding liquor licensing.

Lafayette Municipal Court, Lafayette, CO

January 2021 – Present

Presiding Municipal Judge

- Preside over all cases arising under the municipal code of the City of Lafayette; cases are criminal, traffic and non-traffic municipal code violations for both adults and juveniles, including animal control and zoning violations.
- Conduct trials to the court and hearings required to adjudicate cases, including arraignment, motion and pre-trial hearings, sentencing hearings, review hearings and hearings on motions to revoke.
- Issue written orders and legal findings.
- Assist with the management and administration of the Municipal Court.

Lakewood Municipal Court, Lakewood, CO

June 2019 – December 2020

Relief Judge

- Adjudicate criminal, traffic and non-traffic municipal ordinance violations for both adults and juveniles, including domestic violence, animal control, sales tax and zoning violations.
- Conduct trials to the court and hearings required to adjudicate cases, including arraignment, motion and pre-trial hearings, sentencing hearings, review hearings and hearings on motions to revoke.

Colorado State Public Defender, Boulder, CO

May 2006 — June 2019

Lead Deputy State Public Defender

- Responsible for representation of indigent clients charged with felonies, including homicides, crimes against persons, property and economic crimes.
- Public Defender representative for the Blue/Green AITC Dockets
- Assisted in the supervision of new Deputy Public Defenders handling county court case loads.
- Supervised and oversaw the intern program for the Boulder Regional Public Defender's Office.

Colorado State Public Defender, Boulder, CO

Summer 2005

Student Attorney

- Volunteer Intern assigned to the Boulder Regional Public Defender's Office.
- Appeared in court on behalf of juvenile clients under the Student Practice Act.

17th Judicial District, Domestic Division, Brighton, CO

Summer 2005

Legal Intern to the Family Court Facilitator

- Performed legal research on various issues pertaining to child support, parenting time, etc.
- Reviewed *pro se* filings and motions.

Sierra Club Environmental Law Program, Boulder, CO

August 2004 — April 2006

Legal Assistant

- Researched Federal environmental legislation, case law and findings of fact.
- Assisted with drafting, editing and formatting of motions, responses & academic articles.

LAW RELATED PRESENTATIONS & TEACHING EXPERIENCE**CU National Lawyers Guild's Anti Mass Incarceration Week Kick-Off Panel**

February 26, 2018

Panelist

- Sat on a three-person panel with John Lauer from the Boulder District Attorney's Office and Kristy Martinez from the Korey Wise Innocence Project at CU.
- Discussed the pre-incarceration factors that contribute to mass incarceration, post-incarceration barriers to re-entry, and current legislation geared toward combating issues involving both pre- and post-incarceration.

Trial Advocacy Intersession Class, University of Colorado School of Law

January 2016 - Present

Instructor

- Guided law student preparation for trial skills exercises
- Reviewed and critiqued students trial skills exercises

Colorado Law's Annual Summer Employment Transition ProgramSpring 2016,
2017*Supervising Attorney*

- Assigned students with a legal question that students could research and answer in about 4-6 hours.
- Reviewed students written memos and provided them with feedback, addressing the students' quality of the written work, research abilities and professionalism

Colorado State Public Defender Boot Camp*Mentor*

- Mentored two Boot Campers for Colorado State Public Defender's Boot Camp.

Boulder Regional Public Defender's Office

Summer 2011 – Present

Intern Trainer

- Collaborated on curriculum and schedule for summer intern training.
- Present various trainings to summer interns, including client representation and post-conviction motions.
- Instruction and critique of trial skills.

Colorado State Public Defender Annual ConferenceSeptember
2010*Faculty*

- Presented workshop "Go Ahead Make My Defense – Colorado's Home Owner's Protection Act"
- Developed presentation format and curriculum, power point presentation and sample motions

Temple Grandin School, Boulder, CO*Presenter*

- Presentation to high school students about being a Public Defender and the Constitutional right to counsel in the United States.

Peak to Peak High School, Lafayette, CO*Presenter*

- Presentation to high school students about being a Public Defender and the Constitutional right to counsel in the United States.

PROFESSIONAL & PUBLIC SERVICE**Municipal Court Representative, 17th Judicial District's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council** 2021 - Present

- The CJCC is a collaborative council made up of subject matter experts and influential members of the community who recognize and honor the complexity of the criminal justice system. The mission of the council is to provide an ongoing forum for top leaders from justice agencies, local government offices, and community partners to prioritize public safety and criminal justice reform in an effective and equitable way.

Judicial Representative & Secretary, North Metro Youth Diversion Program 2019 - 2024

- The Community Diversion Board oversees the North Metro Youth Diversion Program, the primary goal of the program is to reduce and prevent alcohol, marijuana and other drug offenses among youth in. Related goals are to strengthen community norms and standards across Adams County relating to youth substance abuse, and to promote uniform enforcement of these juvenile offenses.

Colorado Law Mentor Program 2020

- Mentor for Colorado Law's pilot one-on-one mentoring program.

Public Defender Representative, Longmont LEAD/CORE Steering Committee 2019

- Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion, a program that works towards decreasing criminal behavior and improving community safety by connecting low-level drug offenders to harm reduction-based intervention and community-based supportive resources.

Public Defender Representative, Longmont LEAD Operational Work Group 2019

- Update and discuss the status of clients participating in the LEAD program

Public Defender Representative, Access to Justice Committee, Boulder County 2019

- A workgroup of criminal justice partners administered by the Boulder County District Attorney's Office addressing issues that impact community members and those involved in the criminal justice system

Participant, JD Pathways, University of Colorado – School of Law January 2012-2017, 2019

- Answer questions about the Colorado State Public Defender's Office, the application process, training programs and internship programs.
- Conduct mock interviews with law students

Representative, DU/CU Government & Public Interest Career Fair November 2012, 2013, 2014

- Answer questions about the Colorado State Public Defender's Office, the application process, training programs and internship programs.

Mock Trial Judge, Reilly Pozner Trial Challenge September 2013

- Judge and give constructive critique to second and third year law students.

DUI Integrated Treatment Court (DITC) Steering Committee July 2010-November 2012

Public Defender Representative

Boulder Community Corrections Board 2010-2012

Public Defender Representative

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS
Colorado Municipal Judges Association 2019 - Present

Vice President

Colorado Women's Bar Association 2018 - Present

Judicial Due Diligence Committee (2018-2020)

- Perform due diligence for the CWBA on judicial nominees for judicial vacancies

Boulder County Bar Association 2018 - Present

Adams Broomfield Bar Association 2020 - Present

Colorado Bar Association

2020 - Present

EDUCATION

University of Colorado- School of Law

January 2004 – August 2005

- Juris Doctor, August 2005
- Immigration Clinic

Tulane University Law School

Fall 2002 – Spring 2003

- Juris Doctor Candidate

University of Colorado

January 1998 – May 2000

- Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, May 2000
- Completed 17 hours of course work in the School of Education

American University

Fall 1996 – Fall 1997


AMANDA BAILHACHE




REFERENCES

Court Administrators/Clerks:


Jason Johnson, Court Supervisor
City of Northglenn
50 West Community Center Drive
Northglenn, CO 80234



Lucy Martinez, Court Administrator
City of Federal Heights
2380 W. 90th Ave.
Federal Heights, CO 80260



Molly Chagnon, Court Clerk
City of Lafayette
451 N. 111th St.
Lafayette, CO 80026




Genevieve Rotella, Court Administrator
City of Lafayette
451 N. 111th St.
Lafayette, CO 80026




City Clerks:

Patti Lowell, City Clerk/Director of Administrative Services
City of Federal Heights
2380 W. 90th Ave.
Federal Heights, CO 80260



Lynnette Beck, City Clerk
City of Lafayette
1290 S. Public Road
Lafayette, CO 80026



City Prosecutors:

Alex Ausmus

Prosecutor for the Town of Erie, City of Northglenn, and City of Federal Heights

Ausmus Law Firm PC

6020 Greenwood Plaza Blvd. Suite 100

Greenwood Village, CO 80111



Christy Ausmus

Prosecutor for the Town of Erie and City of Northglenn

Ausmus Law Firm PC

6020 Greenwood Plaza Blvd. Suite 100

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Tricia McCarthy

Prosecutor for City of Federal Heights and City of Lafayette

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