



Chief Judge Directive 25-01
Procedure Regarding Movement of Search Warrants from
Administrative Files to Criminal Files

Pursuant to the Colorado Rules of Criminal Procedure, it is the duty of all peace officers to make due return of any search warrant after its execution. Crim. P. 41(d)(5)(IV). A search warrant, and a copy of the return, inventory, and all other documents in connection therewith, including any affidavit in application for the warrant, shall be filed with the clerk of court for the county of origin. Crim. P. 41(f).

It is the practice of the courts in the 11th Judicial District to house all search warrants in an administrative file. However, the courts in the 11th Judicial District do not have a uniform procedure for when a search warrant, copy of the return or inventory should be filed into the criminal case associated with a defendant charged as a result of the investigation that gave rise to the search warrant.

THE COURT HEREBY ORDERS:

Any search warrant will remain in the administrative file for the 11th Judicial District unless and until a copy of the return and inventory has been filed into the administrative file **and** a complaint or other charging document seeking to initiate the prosecution of any defendant under the Colorado Rules of Criminal Procedure has been filed in the criminal case associated with that defendant. At this time, any associated search warrant affidavit, search warrant and return and inventory will be filed into that defendant's criminal case without need for any further court order.

Nothing in this Chief Judge Directive is intended to preclude or prohibit any judicial officer in the 11th Judicial District from individually ordering or requesting that a search warrant be filed into a criminal case sooner than what this CJD directs, including upon the request of the defendant named in that case.

Done March 11th, 2025, in Fairplay, Colorado

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Hunter", written over a white background.

Amanda Hunter, Chief Judge