

**By Jan Rahn**

*Managing Editor*

Former Keith County Attorney Blake Edwards is to appear in Dawson County District Court on Sept. 22 for arraignment on three felony charges for alleged theft by unlawful taking.

Edwards allegedly mishandled funds from Keith County's Diversion Program during the time he served as the county's attorney from January 2007 through December 2010.

He is charged with one count of allegedly taking between \$500-\$1,500 and two counts of allegedly taking more than \$1,500.

On Aug. 22, District Judge James E. Doyle filed his response to a plea in abatement hearing held July 18 via phone in his chambers in the Dawson County Courthouse in Lexington. Doyle denied the defendant's plea and set the arraignment hearing the latter part of September.