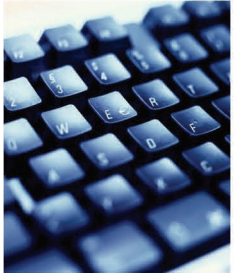


Nebraska Supreme Court Technology Committee



Strategic Plan

2006 - 2011

Revised June 2009

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1 Introduction

In January 2006 the Nebraska Supreme Court set in motion a new Technology Committee to help guide the Supreme Court with its deployment of information technology. One of the outcomes of this decision was the creation of a Strategic Planning subcommittee. This document reflects the work of that subcommittee.

Section One of the Strategic Plan covers the Court's technology planning in three areas, Where We Are, Work In Progress and What We Would Like to Do. Section Two is the Technology Committee's Mission Statement. Section Three covers the six high level goals. These goals are further identified and defined in Section Four of the Strategic Plan as Enabling Technology Goals. In Section Five of the Strategic Plan, Benchmark Areas for measuring the progress toward the goals are defined.

- *The Strategic Planning Subcommittee has updated the Technology Strategic Plan for 2009 through 2011. The majority of the changes are located in Sections 1 and Section 5 of the Strategic Plan, Benchmark Areas. Five year benchmarks have been removed as a new plan will be developed in two years. The subcommittee met several times in early 2009 to update and make revisions to the plan. All changes to the original 2006 version of the plan have been captured in italics for ease of review.*

1.1 Where We Are

This section provides a brief snapshot of where the courts are with regard to technology use and deployment in 2006.

- *This section was updated in 2009 to reflect the work that was completed since 2006 and the original plan's approval.*

1.1.1 Supreme Court

The Nebraska Supreme Court is the state's court of last resort. Its decisions are binding on all trial courts, as well as the Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court is composed of a Chief Justice and six Associate Justices representing the six Judicial Districts of the State. The Chief Justice represents the State at large and also serves as the executive head of the Nebraska Judicial Branch.

The Supreme Court and the Clerk of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals utilize an IBM i-Series mid-range system as a server for their case management system. The Supreme Court Justices and staff use leased personal computers, printers and monitors that are replaced on a three-year basis. These personal computers operate in a Windows Server 2003 environment.

The Supreme Court recently used a variety of technologies in hearing a high-profile case. This particular case was broadcast live via a video feed from the courtroom to the

Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission's control room in the Capitol. The court also allowed the use of state-of-the-art evidence presentation equipment in the court during the trial. The Supreme Court utilized the Court's web site to provide the very latest information on court filings involved with this case to the public.

The Court has recently updated scanning and document conversion equipment to take advantage of optical character recognition technologies to improve staff productivity.

In 2005 wireless network access was added in the Nebraska State Library and the Court's Consultation room. The Nebraska State Library installed a Public Access Internet work station, becoming the only Public Access for Internet service in the Capitol.

The Court has added virtual private network (VPN) access to the local area network to allow for access from remote locations when needed.

- *In 2006 the Supreme Court adopted Neb. Ct. R. §§ 6-401 to 6-418 Electronic Filing in Trial Courts. The following URL will connect to this Rule:*
<http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/rules/html/Ch6/art4/>
- *In December 2006 the Supreme Court installed state-of-the-art presentation equipment using a mobile cart. The equipment is available for oral arguments and for other court functions and presentations.*
- *In 2008 the Supreme Court modified Neb. Ct. R. §§ 6-1521 Protection of personal and financial information in civil court records. The rule prevents birth dates, Social Security numbers, and financial account numbers of all persons, including minor children from being included in court records generally available to the public. The following URL will connect to this Rule:*
<http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/rules/html/Ch6/art6/>
- *In August 2008 the Nebraska State Library installed an automated card catalog system providing patrons the ability to conduct searches and checkout over the Internet. The following URL will take one to the Nebraska State Library web site:*
<http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/state-library/index.shtml?sub15>
- *In January 2009 the Technology Committee began using a wiki to communicate and collaborate with committee members. The wiki is a virtual site on the Internet that allows for shared files, calendars, blogs and project management that can be a password protected private site or a public site.*
- *In January 2009 the Supreme Court added the capability for video and audio webcasting of Oral Arguments through the Nebraska Educational*

Telecommunications system and the Internet. The broadcast can be viewed at the following URL:

<http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/oral-arguments/livevideo.shtml>

1.1.2 Court of Appeals

The Nebraska Court of Appeals is the state's intermediate appellate court. There are currently six judges, who sit in panels or divisions of three judges each. The task of the Court of Appeals is to provide the citizens of Nebraska with clear, impartial and timely resolution of appealed orders and judgments as provided by law.

The Court of Appeals is generally the first court to hear appeals of judgments and orders in criminal, juvenile, civil, domestic relations and probate matters. In addition, the Court of Appeals has appellate jurisdiction over decisions originating in a number of state administrative boards and agencies. Its determination of an appeal is final unless the Nebraska Supreme Court agrees to hear the matter.

The Court of Appeals operates on the same IBM i-Series mid-range system with the Supreme Court. The Court of Appeals has four remote locations that operate from a network base as stand-alone offices.

The Court of Appeals Judges and staff use leased personal computers, printers and monitors that are replaced on a three-year basis. These personal computers operate in a Windows Server 2003 environment.

- *In January 2009 the Court of Appeals added the capability for video and audio webcasting of Oral Arguments through the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications system and the Internet. The broadcast can be viewed at the following URL:*

<http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/oral-arguments/livevideo.shtml>

- *In December 2008 the Court of Appeals began piloting a SharePoint application to improve communications and collaboration within the court. SharePoint is similar to a wiki but is a more robust Microsoft application.*
- *Virtual Private Networking services (VPN's) were added to the remote offices of the Court of Appeals. This application allows for all of the Court of Appeals Judges and staff to be using the central server and email just as if they were located in Lincoln including data backups and storage.*

1.1.3 Trial Courts

District Courts

Twelve district court judicial districts serve the state's ninety-three counties and fifty-five district court judges serve within these judicial districts. Judges are required to preside at trials before the court and sit as the judge and fact finder in bench trials. Judges must hear and rule on pre-trial discovery motions, pre-trial and trial evidentiary matters, pre-trial and trial matters relating to rules on pleadings, practice and procedure before the courts. In matters tried before a jury, a judge must supervise and make rulings on jury selection issues, prepare and deliver proper jury instructions and decide matters which arise during jury deliberations.

Douglas County District Court

The Douglas County 4th District Court and staff use county owned personal computers, printers, and monitors that are generally budgeted for replacement on a four-year basis. The Judges, administrative staff and Drug Court also use notebook computers which are also budgeted for replacement on a four-year basis. These personal computers and notebooks operate in a Microsoft Windows 2003 Active Directory network environment primarily over a wireless network infrastructure. The court's desktops and notebooks are standardized on Windows 2000 or greater and Microsoft Office 2003 including email and calendaring which is shared between Judge, Bailiff and Court Reporter.

Case Information and Management: The Douglas County 4th District Court uses the Douglas County Criminal Justice Information System for case management (Douglas County Case Management System "DCCMS"); Lotus Notes Database for Electronic Docketing; Oracle accounting for financial management; and IBM Content Manager to view archived Clerk of the District Court files. The DCCMS includes all Douglas County Clerk of Court records including case history and document filings, case scheduling information, and case financials. To access the DCCMS the courts use Attachmate 6.7 or greater terminal emulator that is loaded on all Court personal computers providing access to the mainframe system. The Douglas County Criminal Justice Information System consists of integrated information from various criminal justice organizations as well as Douglas County departments. The Douglas County Criminal Justice Information System is supported by DOT.Comm which provides all development, maintenance and support. This integrated system includes interfaces with state agencies to exchange data. In addition, DOT.Comm on behalf of the county provides a fee based subscription service called CPAN to the public.

Electronic Docketing System: The Douglas County 4th District Court utilizes a Lotus Notes database program, Electronic Docketing System (EDS) to electronically record docket sheet information. The EDS electronically transmits docket sheet information to the Clerk of Court and to Douglas County Attorneys, Public Defenders and other criminal justice partners who are on the Douglas County Network. EDS can also be accessed by the public on computers located in the Clerk of Court office.

Content Manager Software: The Douglas County 4th District Court has electronic access to the Clerk of Court's case files. All case files and case related documents from 1997 to date are scanned for archival purposes using the IBM Content Manager Program. The

court can view these scanned files using Content Manager which is installed on desktop PCs.

Web Page: The Douglas County 4th District Court has a Web Site developed and supported by DOT.Comm. The web site provides information about the Court and its divisions including Conciliation and Mediation Services, Drug Court, Child Support Referees, Library and Administration. The web site can be viewed at www.dc4dc.com.

CaseviewII/Real Time Reporting: The Douglas County 4th District Court provides notebook computers to Judges for use in the courtroom and many Judges use the notebooks to view court reporter's real time translation of the testimony live on CaseviewII software.

Notebook Computers: Douglas County 4th District Court Judges are provided with notebook computers for use in the courtroom, for travel and to work at home. From the courtroom the notebooks access the Douglas County network with a wireless connection and have Microsoft Communicator software for Judges to electronically communicate with the Bailiff when the Judge is in the courtroom as well as internet access for electronic legal research and access to EDS and Content Manager Files. For travel and work at home the notebooks have wireless cards and upon request Judges are provided access to their work desktop through a VPN program ENKOO.

Drug Court Case Management Software: Douglas County 4th District Court uses case management software developed by Analyst International.

Since the approval of this plan in late 2006 many projects and updates have been worked on for the District Courts.

- *In 2006 JUSTICE was modified to be able to accept fee payments for the Problem Solving Courts. This avoided the problem of keeping funds in the Problem Solving courts and created a tracking and financial accounting mechanism in JUSTICE.*
- *E-filing was piloted in 2007 by the Lancaster District Court. There are currently 11 District Courts that use the E-filing application. 35 of 61 Civil sub-types and all Criminal sub-types are available for use with E-filing.*
- *In January 2009 JUSTICE an Interpreter Screen to assist courts in tracking cases requiring Interpreters.*
- *Scanning was added in 57 District Courts. There are currently 70 District Courts scanning. Images are available for viewing with a subscription to Nebraska.gov*
- *Court Case Calendar Search application with Nebraska.gov. This application allows anyone with Internet access to search JUSTICE Case Scheduler for hearing dates by name or date. 75 District Courts use JUSTICE Case Scheduler.*

- *Limited Representation fields were added to JUSTICE allowing for this type of representation.*
- *Modifications were made to JUSTICE in 2008 to assist Court Reporters with Exhibits and Bills of Exception. Exhibit information is available for viewing with a subscription to Nebraska.gov.*
- *An interface with the Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Vital Statistics was developed and implemented in July 2008. This application allows for the automated transmission of Vital Statistics data from the District Court to DHHS BVS on a monthly basis.*
- *A dedicated video conferencing system was installed in the Johnson County District Court with the Nebraska Department of Corrections facility outside of Tecumseh, Nebraska. This application allows for inmate hearings to be conducted without transporting the inmate to the courthouse. This represents a savings in time to transport as well as protects the public.*

Separate Juvenile District Courts

Nebraska has three separate juvenile courts located in Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy counties. In the remaining counties, juvenile matters are heard in the county courts. Separate juvenile courts are courts of record and handle matters involving neglected, dependent, and delinquent children. The separate juvenile courts also have jurisdiction in domestic relations cases where the care, support, or custody of minor children is an issue. The three separate juvenile courts have the same jurisdiction and employ the same procedures as the county courts acting as juvenile courts.

Separate Juvenile Court judges now serve in counties having populations of seventy-five thousand or more. There are currently ten separate juvenile judges sitting in Nebraska's three largest counties: five in Douglas, three in Lancaster and two in Sarpy.

Lancaster and Sarpy County Separate Juvenile District Courts use JUSTICE as their case and financial management system. Efforts are ongoing to provide additional features and functions in JUSTICE to meet the federal guidelines of the American Safe Families Act (ASFA). In 2006 JUSTICE upgraded the reports connected with Juvenile cases to provide Judges and court staff with faster and more accurate data. A data feed from The Health and Human Services NFOCUS group was provided to update court information on wards of the State of Nebraska.

- *Juvenile Docket was launched in January 2008 there are 82 Juvenile and County Courts using this application. This application allows for real-time case data entry to occur in the courtroom, eliminating the need to record manually and then enter data in the Clerk's office.*

- *Juvenile Docket for 3A's was launched in January 2009, there are 44 Juvenile and County Courts using this application.*

County Courts

There are fifty-nine county judges in twelve county court districts. Jurisdiction of these courts is established by state law which provides that county courts have exclusive original jurisdiction in estate cases, probate matters, guardianship, and conservatorship cases, actions based on a violation of a city or village ordinance, juvenile court matters in counties without a separate juvenile court, adoptions, and eminent domain proceedings. There are approximately three hundred and seventy-five full-time equivalent employment positions in the county court system in addition to the fifty-nine county judges. At minimum there is a clerk magistrate or judicial administrator in each county who is assigned to act as the clerk of the court and court administrator.

The Nebraska District and County courts use the Judicial Users System To Improve Court Efficiency (JUSTICE) system for their case and financial management systems. Currently All District and County courts with the exception of the Douglas County District Court and Separate Juvenile District Court use JUSTICE.

In 2005 JUSTICE handled 395,741 County Court cases, 27,597 District Court cases and 2,699 Separate Juvenile District Court cases or 96.04% of Nebraska's trial court caseload.

- *In 2008 JUSTICE handled 426,639 County Court cases, 26,857 District Court cases and 3,248 Separate Juvenile Court cases or 96.08% of Nebraska's trial court cases.*

The JUSTICE system consists of an IBM i-Series mid-range computer located in every county seat and networked to a central i-Series computer located in Lincoln. A variety of terminals, printers and personal computers are connected locally in each county seat. The network and hardware are leased by the State Court Administrator's Office from the State of Nebraska's, Office of the Chief Information Officer's, Intergovernmental Data Services Division.

JUSTICE is supported by seven Business Analysts who provide system support, training, court on-site visits and help desk support. JUSTICE is maintained by four contract Technical Analysts. The Technical Analysts provide maintenance and development of the programming code used in JUSTICE applications.

The Lancaster District Court initiated a project to develop the capability for a court to scan, store, index, and retrieve documents filed with the court using the JUSTICE case management system. As a result of this project, JUSTICE was modified to allow a court to link an image of a document to an action recorded in JUSTICE, and to later retrieve that document image by selecting the action from the register of actions. Although the system was developed to meet the requirements of the Lancaster County District Court, the system was designed to allow any court using the JUSTICE case management system

to link a document image to an action recorded in JUSTICE. The Lancaster document image project uses the same technology that was developed to support electronic filing. There are currently thirteen District Courts and one County Court using imaging in their courts.

JUSTICE provides data to many other state agencies including Department of Motor Vehicles, State Patrol, Health and Human Services NFOCUS and CHARTS systems, Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, via a direct data inter-exchange. The State Attorney General's Office, Secretary of State's Office and many County Attorney Offices access JUSTICE data through the Nebraska.gov web portal.

JUSTICE provides a fee based subscription service to the public through the State of Nebraska's web portal Nebraska.gov.

Since the approval of this plan in late 2006 many projects and updates have been worked on for the County Courts.

- *Docket was launched in March 2006. This application allows for real-time case data entry to occur in the courtroom, eliminating the need to record manually and then enter data in the Clerk's office. The application also allows for the use of an electronic signature for Judges and Clerk Magistrates and electronic court seals. 89 County Courts are using this application.*
- *In 2007 E-filing was piloted in the Sarpy County Court, currently there are 15 County Courts using the E-filing Application. 16 of 23 Civil sub-types and all Criminal sub-types are available for use with E-filing. In 2008 Sarpy County Court received 5,549 new Civil sub-type filings, 2,060 or 37.1% were electronically filed.*
- *67 County Courts were added to the scanning application in JUSTICE. Currently there are 68 County Courts scanning court documents. These images are available for viewing via a subscription with Nebraska.gov.*
- *In September 2007 the Cass County Court piloted E-payment. This application allows for a defendant to pay a waivable citation using a credit card over the Internet. Currently this application is available in all 93 County Courts. Since inception this application has collected over \$3,000,000.00 and has been used over 23,000 times. It is estimated that each E-payment saves the court 3 – 5 minutes of staff time.*
- *Court Case Calendar Search application with Nebraska.gov. This application allows anyone with Internet access to search JUSTICE Case Scheduler for hearing dates by name or date. All 93 County Courts use JUSTICE Case Scheduler.*

- *Digital Recorders are in use in 56 County Courts. The digital recorders replace the aging analog recorders for recording court proceedings. There are 22 Digital Recorders on order for an additional 22 County Courts as of May 2009.*
- *Remote Video Interpreter/hearings are occurring in several County Courts. The application uses inexpensive web cameras and Skype allowing for point-to-point video conferences.*
- *Thin clients and personal computers have been installed in most courts replacing the green screen terminals. At the end of June 2009 there are less than 30 green screen terminals in use. The new devices will be replaced on an ongoing basis every three to four years.*
- *Bandwidth increases were completed in March 2009 to 38 County Courthouses to bring them up to minimum video connectivity standards. The increase bandwidth is on a best effort basis and should allow for the use of remote video interpreters, remote video arraignments as well as training functions.*

1.1.4 Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court

The Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court is composed of seven judges who are initially appointed by the governor and who then remain on the bench for successive six-year terms upon approval of the electorate. Every two years one of the judges is elected as presiding judge by the judges of the court, subject to approval of the Supreme Court. Four judges are located in the State Capitol in Lincoln and three judges are located in the Hall of Justice in Omaha. A judge will travel to any county in the state where an accident occurred to hear a disputed case. A case is first heard by a single judge and, if appealed, the case is then heard by a review panel of three judges of the court. The review is based on the record created at the original hearing, and no new evidence may be introduced. The next level of appeal is to the Nebraska Court of Appeals and ultimately a case may go to the Nebraska Supreme Court.

For administrative purposes, the judges and staff of the court are organized into two operating divisions and eight operating sections. The adjudication division, under the direction of the presiding judge, includes the judges, the Office of the Clerk of the Court, and the Judicial Support Section. The administration division, under the direction of the court administrator, includes the remaining sections as identified below. The court administrator also serves as the chief administrative officer for the court.

This court *has* invested substantial time and effort to properly analyze and strategize the possibilities for moving towards a “paperless” court. This work included an extensive analysis of the possibility of collaboration with the Nebraska Supreme Court in its efforts to increase ability to electronically file and store documents and information on a statewide basis. That effort at collaboration showed that extensive collaboration was not possible because of extensive differences in the specific missions of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court and all other courts of the state of Nebraska. Some of the differences in mission relate to significant agency type functions of the court arising from

statutory obligations in the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act. These functions relate to coverage and claims enforcement, re-education and retraining oversight, dissemination of information, and the process used to review and approve or disapprove applications for lump sum settlements. Another key difference is that the court's statewide jurisdiction requires statewide judicial mobility, which significantly complicates scheduling and information dissemination on a case-by-case basis.

As a result, the *court has developed its own IT staff which is* a positive resource as this court steadily moves forward on IT issues in order to satisfy our client base. This client base includes attorneys representing parties to contested cases, employers (including self-insured employers,) insurance companies, third party administrators, and injured employees without contested cases on file. Without question, all of these clients support this court's advancement toward electronic filing of documents, storage of those documents and information contained therein, management of that information, and dissemination of decisions, orders, and other administrative information back to the very clients involved in the information input. The mandate for continued, decisive, and productive movement towards a paperless court is clear.

To productively meet this mandate the court is engaged in extensive and detailed business process re-engineering efforts across all sections of the court *with the* broad goal of being paperless by the end of the *2011/2012 biennial budget, or June 30, 2013.*

As this re-engineering effort precedes *the successes in one section sets the stage for success in other sections. The re-engineering of the Vocational Rehabilitation section included the implementation of* a message composer system that allows direct filing of documents in the court's Oracle database *before transmittal by mail, email, or electronic fax (Efax).*

The beneficial impact of the Vocational Rehabilitation Section's efforts at message composing and document management *will have* a clear positive impact on efforts made in Coverage and Claims to improve insurance coverage enforcement. Satisfying the statutory mandate for monitored insurance coverage and application of related enforcement efforts increases the need for efficient and effective tracking of bi-directional communication. The benefits of better message composing, storage, and dissemination, carries with it the requirement that Coverage and Claims be able to document, track, and reply to specific questions, requests for proof of coverage, and other related enforcement matters. This creates a significant need for inter-active Telephonic Response Systems and computerized Call Tracking to proceed with increased enforcement and maintain a "paperless" capability. This court is not in a position to hire new people to expand enforcement activity.

It is also fundamentally clear that an analysis of the adjudication section of the court involves defining workflow, and deciding if a change in workflow is appropriate depending upon what software and hardware solutions are implemented. The only way to correctly choose between any proposed implementation of computerized solutions is to track workflow and anticipate or define the inputs required to reach the targeted result

while keeping the analysis in a "people" perspective. Any change must not merely make paperless the actual daily work process the court is engaged in at present. That may be the end attained, but broad solution sets must be reviewed prior to implementation.

1.1.5 Problem Solving Courts

Drug courts in Nebraska were officially recognized by the State Legislature in January of 2003 with passage of Legislative Bill 454 (LB 454). In April of 2006, the Legislature and Governor approved an appropriations request through Legislative Bill 1060 (LB1060) to assist and implement a statewide system of problem-solving courts.

Nebraska, like many other states, has come to view drug courts and other problem-solving courts as an effective means of addressing substance abuse, domestic violence, mental health issues, child abuse and neglect, and other contributors that lead to crime and associated negative behaviors. Problem-solving courts uniquely combine common and established practices such as drug testing, enhanced supervision, substance abuse and mental health treatment, and judicial monitoring to better address the needs of the offender, the community and the justice system. Available resources and professionals within a community require each court to tailor programs and procedures to meet local needs and realities.

The Nebraska Supreme Court recommends that each of the 12 judicial districts of the State of Nebraska establish problem-solving courts which shall include *graduated sanctions and rewards, treatment services, close court monitoring and supervision of progress, and educational or vocational counseling as appropriate* in addition to requirements established by each local jurisdiction.

The Goals of Problem-Solving Courts

The goals of problem-solving courts in Nebraska are:

- To redirect their participants out of the court system;
- To reduce the incidence of the problems that brought the participant into the court system—i.e. substance abuse, domestic violence, child abuse/neglect;
- To hold participants accountable for their behavior; and
- To reduce re-entry into the court system

All problem-solving courts are based upon fundamental principles that both define them and account for their success. These principles initially served as the foundation of drug courts throughout the country and are now being successfully adapted by other problem-solving courts. Known as the 10 Key Components, these principles are strongly recommended by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs, with little modification, to serve as the framework for drug courts.

10 Key Components

- Drug courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.
- Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.

- Eligible participants are identified early and placed promptly in the drug court program.
- Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.
- Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.
- A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to participant compliance.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with each drug court participant is essential.
- Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.
- Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation, and operations.
- Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court effectiveness.

Currently there are sixteen Problem Solving Courts operating in Nebraska. From a technology viewpoint these courts are operating on a variety of servers and software applications. Douglas County supports a server operated by the County's DotComm organization. Sarpy County operates a server, supported by their information technology group. The remaining counties and courts operate on a single server located in Kearney at the University of Nebraska – Kearney.

As of May 2009 there are 26 Problem Solving Courts.

The software used by the Problem Solving Courts creates routine reports on their clients.

1.1.6 Administrative Office of the Courts

The Nebraska Constitution gives general administrative authority over all courts to the Supreme Court and to the Chief Justice as executive head of the judicial branch. The Administrative Office of the Courts provides most services to the court system including developing plans for improvement of the judicial system, serving as a central source of information about the courts, and developing coordination within the branch and with other state agencies.

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) currently operates on a Windows 2003 server using leased personal computers, printers and monitors. The hardware is refreshed on a three year basis. The AOC is supported by a Network Administrator and a Computer Support Technician. These positions also provide support for the Supreme Court, Clerk of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Reporter's Office, Nebraska State Library, Probation and Counsel for Discipline.

The AOC completed bids for Digital Audio recorders in 2006. The intent is to begin replacement of the aging analog audio recorders in the county courtrooms.

The AOC created "Fill-In" forms for the Judicial Vacancy Application Package available on the Supreme Court web site. A revised Acceptable Use Policy was created and distributed to all courts in June 2006.

The AOC moved the Windows 2003 server to a more secure (both in a physical and network environment) location. The new location provides an automated backup of data on a daily basis and eliminates the use of tape. The new location provides clean power with generator and battery emergency power.

The AOC participated with several meetings of the State Government Council of the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. The AOC's Office joined the Court Information Technology Officers Consortium (CITOC) in January 2006. Membership in this group will help the AOC stay current with technology activities and solutions around the United States.

The AOC staff has the opportunity to expand their knowledge in various areas of their field through Computer Based Training which is available through the Internet for access at any time. Also, informational flyers have been provided to staff to help improve skills in the areas of day to day computer software usage.

- *The Supreme Court's new web site was launched in February 2007. Many changes were made to the web site, fill-in forms were added, federal and state web site guidelines were met and additional information was provided on the new web site. All trial courts now have a web presence and have a link on the new web site.*

<http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/index.shtml>

- *JUSTICE Procedure Manuals were placed online in 2007 eliminating printing and postage for updates and provides access to all court staff through a password protect web page.*
- *ReadyTalk web conferencing as well as Adobe Connect are now being used for training, meetings with committees, judges and court staff. This application allows for the use of a remote desktop which is viewable by up to 15 web conference attendees using ReadyTalk or hundreds attending a webinar through Adobe Connect.*
- *The Lotus Notes email system was changed to Microsoft Exchange in September 2008 for the Appellate Courts, Trial Courts, AOC and Probation. The Court Reporters were added in April 2009.*
- *Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP's) have been developed and put in to place for the AOC. A Trial Court COOP template was developed and is in use in 79 County Courts.*
- *Completed the installation of a Windows Server Update System (WSUS) into service. This server is used to keep client PC's up-to-date with Microsoft patches.*

- *The AOC completed work with the Counsel for Discipline’s office to create a history file of discipline actions and place the file on the Court’s web site. This provides the public a place to review attorney discipline actions.*
- *Office of Dispute Resolution - Mediator Data Base Management System:*
 - *Launched April 2009*
 - *Provides a web interface that allows individuals to submit an application for approval as a Parenting Act mediator to the office of Dispute Resolution to establish a profile in the system.*
 - *Provides a web interface that allows staff of Office of Dispute Resolution to check applicant’s information on-line.*
 - *Provide a web interface that allows approved mediators to submit continuing education to the Office of Dispute Resolution for approval.*

1.1.7 Probation

Nebraska Probation’s service system includes juvenile intake, traditional probation, and intensive supervision (ISP) probation statewide in addition to its collaboration with the Department of Correctional Services in the Work Ethic Camp. Specialized substance abuse, drug court, other problem solving courts and domestic violence and sex offender supervision services, as well as juvenile-specific probation services, are offered in select areas of the state.

The Probation System’s 15 probation districts will merge effective July 1, 2009 and will then be commensurate with the District Court Judicial Districts. The Probation System will then be composed with 12 probation districts, 2 are juvenile probation exclusively, and 2 are adult probation exclusively.

Each probation district has a principal office, and there are 32 satellite offices that augment the principal offices. Probation personnel consist of line staff probation officers, specialized probation officers, techs, intake officers, support staff, supervisors, coordinators, chief deputies, and a chief probation officer who is responsible for the overall district/region management. Staff allocation is primarily determined measuring task-oriented workloads rather than counting caseloads.

The Office of Probation Administration has a separate Strategic Plan that includes their information technology goals from 2006 to 2011.

1.2 Work In Progress

This section describes the current technology work in progress in 2006.

This section was updated in June 2009 to reflect the current work in progress.

1.2.1 Supreme Court

The Supreme Court is testing the use of digital audio recorders to replace the analog tape recoding equipment in the courtroom. The advantage of this system is that the digital audio file can be stored electronically and accessed simultaneously by many judges and staff to listen. The file can also be sent as a file attachment to remote users.

Work continues on virtual private network (VPN's) connections that could be used in the event of a disaster or business continuity applications.

The Nebraska State Library is working through the Library Automation committee to automate the card catalog and delivery of Internet based card catalog service for providing patrons' easy access and searching of the library's collections.

Work on a web site redesign for the Supreme Court is well underway. This is a cooperative project involving the AOC's Public Information Office and the Information Technology staff along with Nebraska.gov. The redesigned web site will have new pages created for JUSTICE clients, and the Specialty Courts. One new service will be Real Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds. This service will allow members of the court community and the public to subscribe to select web pages to be notified when a change or update has occurred. The rules and opinions web pages are expected to offer the RSS feeds.

- *Work continues on migrating the Appellate Courts from the RPG coded case management systems to a system supported by JUSTICE Technical Analysts.*
- *Work on providing a 24 month archive of web broadcasts of oral arguments is in development with the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications System.*
- *Work on using a remote video cart for special video broadcasts/conferences from the Capitol to the State's education networks.*

1.2.2 Court of Appeals

The Court of Appeals is testing the use of digital audio recorders to replace the analog tape recoding equipment in the courtroom. The advantage of this system is that the digital audio file can be stored electronically and accessed simultaneously by many judges and staff to listen. The file can also be sent as a file attachment to remote users.

Work continues on using virtual private network connections to connect the remote Court of Appeals offices into the Supreme Court server. This provides better backup of data and centralizes data in one location for security and disaster recovery services.

- *Automated Case Tracking and Reports for Court of Appeals – This project is on hold until the conversion of the NSC/COA has been complete. This is a request from Judge Irwin to automate case tracking and reporting in the Court of Appeals.*
- *Work on providing a 12 month archive of web broadcasts of oral arguments is in development with the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications System.*

1.2.3 Trial Courts

In 2006 a new application for JUSTICE was completed and placed into production. Docket is a JUSTICE system application which provides interactive programs designed to record judicial proceedings in the courtroom thereby creating a printed record for a judge to digitally sign and issue.

A new printer application was developed and placed into production in late June 2006. The new application will provide the ability to use laser printers in an enhanced manner and provide for the use of a digital signature on JUSTICE documentation.

District and County Court Judges were given the opportunity to receive new personal computers in 2006. Desktop and Tablet PC's were distributed in the April-July 2006 timeframe.

Statewide Statistic Reports were automated in JUSTICE in 2006. No longer do Clerk Magistrates and Clerks of the District Court need to manually run and mail in these statistical reports.

Work continues on a variety of Problem Log issues in JUSTICE. Working with the Automation Committee the JUSTICE Business Analysts were able to pare down a large list of problem logs and prioritize them for 2006.

The AOC continues to work with State of Nebraska's, Office of the Chief Information Officer's, Information Services Division on obtaining better hardware for the JUSTICE users.

Work continues on a phased approach for the use of digital recorders to replace the analog tape devices in the County Courts.

Computer Based Training (CBT) was launched in the spring of 2006. CBT provides training courses on personal computer software (Windows, Word, PowerPoint, Excel, etc) and information technology applications via the Internet. District and County Court judges and staff need only a personal computer and Internet access to take advantage of this service. The service is available 24 hours per day and can be used from the office or from home.

- *District Court E-Payment – This project extends the E-payment capability to the District Courts using a web based application similar to the County Court E-Payment system. E-check will be added as well as Time Payment and the capability to pay garnishments, judgments and for miscellaneous payments with the District Court using a credit card through the Nebraska.gov interface. Timeframe July 2009*
- *E-filing expansion is continuing to add District Courts to the JUSTICE E-filing application.*
 - *Judge Review – This will add the ability for judges to review proposed orders and accept, edit or reject them in the E-filing application.*
 - *Automation of Summons – This will allow the ability of an E-filer to choose a method of service when e-filing a case and when the filing is accepted by the clerk in Clerk Review a summons will be generated in JUSTICE and automatically emailed to the filer for the purpose of using it in certified mail to a party on the case.*
 - *Automation of Service Returns – This application will automate the return of service from the Lancaster and Sarpy County Sheriffs Office to JUSTICE through Nebraska.gov and will result in the return being sent electronically instead of paper. This application is in use by the Colfax County Sheriff's Office.*
 - *Bulk Filing – This will allow debt collection e-filers the ability to file cases directly from their firm case management system into JUSTICE through Nebraska.gov without the need to rekey party and case information into the E-filing application.*
- *Print-to-PDF, this is a JUSTICE application that allows a court to create and electronic document (PDF) within the case file. This allows for increased productivity for court staff that no longer needs to print a document then bar code and scan the document back into JUSTICE.*
- *Use of technology to increase collaboration and communications within Judicial Districts – Currently the County Court 10th Judicial District is using a wiki to share calendars and keep Judges and Clerk Magistrates informed. This district is also using web cameras and Skype to explore various ways to keep the courts open and available for the citizens. The County Court 5th and 11th Judicial Districts are now using Skype and web cameras.*
- *Complete the installation of Digital Recorders in all 93 County Courts.*
- *Complete the installation of scanning/imaging in all District Courts, Separate Juvenile Courts and County Courts.*

- *Continue the expansion of the use of the Interpreter application in JUSTICE.*
- *Personal computers and printers are now being replaced on a three to four year schedule by the Office of the CIO's Intergovernmental Data Services division. All green screen terminals will be replaced by July 2009. The terminals have been replaced with personal computers or thin clients.*
- *A new project has been assigned to the Courtroom Enhancement subcommittee to define minimum guidelines for technology and equipment to be used in the Trial Courts courtrooms.*
- *The JUSTICE Automation Advisory Committee has approved the request to form an exploratory group to look at creating an Electronic Juror Management system similar to Douglas County District Court's with Nebraska.gov for the District Courts.*

Douglas County District Court

Automated Jury Management: The Douglas County 4th District Court has recently purchased "ACS Juror" software and is partnering with the Douglas County Court the Clerk of the District Court and Douglas County Jury Commissioner to implement the electronic jury management system. This system automates the jury process from creation of a jury pool up to payment of the juror after service is complete. The software is scheduled to begin printing summonses in August 2006 for jurors scheduled to report in October 2006. ASC Juror has an E-Juror component that will be added to the software in the future. E -Juror will allow a prospective juror to use the internet to answer their summons and prepare to serve on jury duty.

Case Management Software: The Douglas County Drug Court case management software is being modified by the developer, Analyst International (AI), for use in the Douglas County 4th District Court Young Adult Court and the Douglas County 4th District Court Conciliation and Mediation Services Office.

Web Page: The content and user friendliness of the Douglas County 4th District Court Web Page continues to be monitored and upgraded.

Standardized Court Orders: EDS is being modified to include an automated order feature allowing entries to generate orders in a word processing format.

Access to Scanned Court Files: In conjunction with the adoption of District Court Local Rule 4-16 limiting the removal of court files from the Clerk of Court office, the Douglas County 4th District Court is working with the Clerk of Court and DOT.Comm to provide the public access to scanned court files with content manager on computers located in the Clerk of Court office and Law Library and is also exploring providing the public remote access to the scanned files over the internet.

- *Douglas County District Court Migration – This is a project to migrate the Douglas County District Court and Separate Juvenile Court over the JUSTICE case and financial management system. Staffs are actively engaged in this project with recurring weekly meetings with the stakeholders in Douglas County. Desk audits have been completed. An AOC Project Manager has been contracted along with an NCSC Project Manager for Douglas County. A schedule is in the final development stage and should be ready by July 2009. A contract programmer has been assigned full-time to the project. DHHS CHARTS has been contacted and an agreement is in process. Current estimates are for completion in the 1st quarter 2010.*

Separate Juvenile District Courts

Work on JUSTICE to better meet the needs of the Juvenile Courts continues. Court Improvement Project (CIP) funding is being requested to assist the Court in updating JUSTICE to allow for better and more reliable data.

JUSTICE Juvenile Case Reporting Enhancements NFOCUS Ward Placement Information – This application would involve obtaining and developing a data feed from Nebraska’s Health and Human Services Department’s NFOCUS group. The data provided would be developed into additional reports for Judges. The data would provide the latest HHS Ward placement information to Judges and court staff. This report would speed up the review process a judge goes through for making decisions. Time period for development and production is August 2006 to October 2006.

JUSTICE Juvenile Case Reporting Enhancements Time Standards -

A second report to be developed is a report that measures Time Standards for Judges based on Federal Guidelines (American Safe Families Act) ASFA. This report would measure the time a judge is taking in the number of days for: a. adjudication of juveniles, b. time for dispositions, and c. days for review hearings. By using a report that actually measures a judge’s time in days when involving a juvenile case the Court will be in position to know which judges are meeting the ASFA guidelines and which judges need to be brought up to speed to improve their handling of juvenile cases. Level of effort for this application development is approximately 400 hours at \$75.00 per hour. Time period for development and production is October 2006 to February 2007.

Training Judges and Court Staff on New Applications - A JUSTICE Business Analyst specializing in County Court Case and Financial Management will provide in-depth training on Juvenile court issues. As the above projects are moved into production in JUSTICE; a JUSTICE Business Analyst will be spending time training Judges and court staff in how to use the new applications to keep better informed on the welfare of Nebraska’s HHS Ward placements. We estimate this will be approximately 1000 hours from October 2006 through June 2007. Training will be conducted in JUSTICE Training rooms in Lincoln and North Platte, Nebraska as well as on-site in District and County courts throughout Nebraska.

Attend Child Welfare Data Conference – Have one staff member attend the Children's Bureau's National Child Welfare Data Conference. Timeframe June 2007.

Planning further data collection/analysis and judicial performance measurement – The State Court Administrator for Information Technology, the Court Improvement Director, and the CIP Staff Attorney will be working closely with local court-agency collaborative groups to develop a long range plan that will work towards the goal of all Nebraska Courts having the ability to track individual cases, cases in the aggregate, outcomes for children, and the performance of judges. This planning will include close collaboration with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

- *Continuation of the deployment of Juvenile Docket and Juvenile Docket 3A to all 90 County Courts and 3 Separate Juvenile Courts.*
- *Continued staff attendance at the Children's Bureau's National Child Welfare Data Conference.*

1.2.4 Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court

- *In 2008 the court partnered with outside attorney offices to form a workgroup for the purpose of soliciting their involvement in the development of the E-Filing for Lump Sum Settlement. There has as been several meetings over the last year. The court has had a couple of internal development setbacks, but is getting back on track to deploy the first "alpha" version of the application for testing.*
- *The court in 2008 procured a workflow / business process management system (BPM) and is preparing for the integration of the system into its re-engineering efforts. The first major adjudication function that will use the BPM system is the internal Lump Sum Settlement system.*
- *In 2009, the court is in the final stages of procuring a managed file transfer (MFT) system. The receipt and delivery of information in ways that are both secure and timely is important to the success of the court. Information typically takes the form of letters and documents, but it not limited to just those forms. Email and Efax have been used by the court for electronic receipt and delivery, but each has deficiencies. Securely managed file transfer is an enhanced form of capture and delivery that will allow the court to set up drop-boxes (virtual front counters) and deliver electronic files that returns pickup acknowledgements (virtual deliver receipt confirmation). MFT will be used across all sections of the court.*

1.2.5 Problem Solving Courts

The Specialty Courts continues to look for hardware and software that will allow for consolidation of all of the Specialty Courts onto a single system. The proposed new system would have common reporting and data entry structures.

Possible collaboration with the Nebraska Probation Management Information System (NPMIS) is being researched. It appears the NPMIS system has many features and functions required by the Specialty Courts.

- *Throughout 2007 and 2008, collaboration with the Office of State Probation allowed for the creation of a statewide management information system for all problem-solving courts in Nebraska. The Problem-Solving Court Management Information System (PSCMIS) will be fully operational for all programs in June 2009. This system will not only allow for the comprehensive case management of problem-solving court participants, but also for the collection of standardized data for the purposes of quality reporting and evaluation. Recently, through assistance from the National Center for State Courts, performance measures were created for use by all programs to assess the quality of services and processes. The management of these performance measures will be incorporated into the PSCMIS as well.*

1.2.6 Administrative Office of the Courts

The AOC is working on Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity planning for the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals.

The AOC is working with the Counsel for Discipline's office to create a history file of discipline actions and place the file on the Court's web site. This will provide the public a place to review attorney discipline actions.

Information Technology goals that affect Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Clerk of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, Probation, Reporter's Office, Law Library and Counsel for Discipline.

Place a Windows Server Update System (WSUS) into service. This will be used to keep client PC's up-to-date with Microsoft patches.

Upgrade the Dynamic Host Control Protocol (DHCP) server - currently on a 5+ year old Dell server which could fail. DHCP is used to assign nodes on the network an IP address so they can communicate on the Local Area Network.

Move the Electronic In-Out (EIO) software onto a server box in place of a workstation. EIO is an application the AOC uses that helps track staff location, calendar times and conference room scheduling.

Research and implement procedures that allow software patches and upgrades to be pushed from the server to our clients.

Allow all remote offices to VPN into the Supreme Court's network. This work that carries over into fulfilling data backup and disaster recovery needs.

- *Judicial Branch Education - Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) for attorneys:*
 - *This application provides a web interface that allows attorneys to report required filings of CLE reports by lawyers.*
 - *Accepted fee payments by CLE sponsors – the CLE sponsors are the vendors who offer courses to lawyers.*
 - *Provide a web interface that allows CLE sponsors to submit CLE credits earned by lawyers.*

- *Judicial Branch Education - Events Pro*
 - *Provides a web interface that creates and holds a users demographic record information*
 - *Provides a web interface that allows JBE staff to schedule conferences and make hotel reservations for the conference and training participants, and also email the participants the confirmed information.*

- *Judicial Branch Education - Learning Management System*
 - *As part of this project, alternate Webinar/online conference scheduling software, Adobe Connect, has been acquired.*
 - *Adobe e-learning suite, software which will aid in converting digital video from the camcorder into web format has been purchased.*
 - *Setup Moodle training website with site builder.*

- *Statute and Table Updates – This is an ongoing project that maintains the tables in JUSTICE for User ID's, Statutes, etc. The State Patrol and the Nebraska Law Enforcement and Crime Commission rely on JUSTICE Statute tables as the tables in JUSTICE are always kept up to date.*

- *The Nebraska Legislature and the Governor passed and signed Legislative Bill 35 allowing from an increase in the Program 570 (JUSTICE Automation) Fee from \$6.00 per case filing to \$8.00 per case filing, effective August 30, 2009.*

- *Problem Log Prioritization and Assignments – Problem logs (PL's) are used within JUSTICE to track requested changes, corrections, modification, additions. These are kept in a database and logs are kept up to date by the JUSTICE Business Analysts (BA's). Paula Crouse coordinates the logs and assigns Problem Logs to the Technical Analysts (TA'S) for coding. The TA's code the changes and send the PL's back to the BA's for testing. Once tested the new programs or changes are placed in to production by the TA's.*

1.2.7 Probation

The Office of Probation Administration has a separate Strategic Plan that includes their information technology goals from 2006 to 2011.

1.3 What We Would Like To Do

This section briefly describes what we would like to do with technology in the courts going forward.

This section was updated in June 2009

1.3.1 Supreme Court

The Supreme Court will through the work of the Technology Committee move forward on a variety of technology issues and projects.

- *The Courtroom Enhancements Subcommittee will develop minimum courtroom technology standards for equipment, technology and network access that should be available in all trial court courtrooms in Nebraska.*
- *The Technology Committee will consider broadening the membership of the committee to include members from the other two branches of state government.*
- *The Technology Committee will continue to offer new technology applications to the courts for use in conducting court business. A few of these new applications may include but are not limited to:*
 - *Wiki's*
 - *Web Cameras*
 - *Skype or services like Skype*
 - *Electronic Service*

The Supreme Court will continue to make progress with the use of technology. Consolidation of systems to a single application that provides case and financial management services for all courts is the ultimate goal.

Integration of the existing Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Clerk's case management system with JUSTICE is a high priority and should occur within the next two years. This will provide additional benefits including public fee based access through Nebraska.gov and allow for seamless transfer of case management data from the District Courts.

Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plan development and adoption will occur within the next year for the Judicial Branch.

Research into national organizations and other State Judicial branches with regard to technology issues, rules and policies will be ongoing to assist the Technical Committee in development of solutions for Court's use of technology.

1.3.2 Court of Appeals

Integration of the existing Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Clerk's case management system with JUSTICE is a high priority and should occur within the next two years.

Work will continue to network the remote locations of the Court of Appeals into the Supreme Court local area network. This is for the purpose of better data backup and disaster recovery planning.

1.3.3 Trial Courts

District and County Courts will move forward on Electronic-filing and credit card payment of fines and fees. Digital Recorders will replace the analog tape recorders in County Courts.

Computer based technology training via the Internet will continue to be available for Trial Court Judges and court employees. It is a high priority that technology training is made available for court employees statewide.

Web site templates for Trial Courts will be developed and made available for courts to use. Disaster Recovery plans will be developed and tested in trial courts.

Planning will occur to assist the Small Claims and Pro Se filers in making for a better experience for doing business with the trial courts.

Providing additional personal computers for staff and upgrading or refreshing of older equipment are also on the list of improvements. A five year goal is to eliminate all green screen terminals in the trial courts.

Standards for technology use in a courtroom will be developed and adopted into court rules. Video Arraignment and Video Interpreter systems will be reviewed. More imaging systems will be placed into the trial courts.

Exploring the option of integrating the Douglas County District Court case management system to JUSTICE will take place. An interface between JUSTICE and the Nebraska Probation Management Information System (NPMIS) will be created to allow for the seamless flow of data from JUSTICE to NPMIS.

An evaluation of the long-term direction of JUSTICE will be completed using the Douglas County District Court Consultants Report from July 2008. This report studied both JUSTICE and the Douglas County District Court case management system and provided several recommendations. After the evaluation is completed recommendations will be given to the Technology Committee for guidance.

Douglas County District Court

The Douglas County 4th District Court will continue to work towards an E-filing system that will integrate/eliminate the EDS system and include a comprehensive court calendar. The Douglas County 4th District Court will continue to explore ways to provide electronic resources to Pro Se litigants seeking to understand and access the court system.

Separate Juvenile Courts

Replace the current paper delivery of Court Orders to the HHS NFOCUS Division, with electronically transmitted Court Orders from JUSTICE to HHS NFOCUS. This will cut down delivery time from days to hours and will reduce data entry errors into NFOCUS applications. The financial aspect for this project is to be determined. Timeframe is estimated to be July 2007 to December 2007.

Analyze the performance of the improvements made in FY 2006. This will be accomplished by establishing performance measures based upon a survey of Judges and court staff. The survey results will set a baseline for planning improvements going forward. . The financial aspect for this project is to be determined. Timeframe is estimated to be July 2007 to December 2008.

Explore the option of integrating the Douglas County Separate Juvenile District Court to JUSTICE. This will require a conversion cost estimate and working with Douglas County Dot.Comm to plan for a possible conversion of their court data to JUSTICE data. The financial aspect for this project is to be determined. Timeframe is estimated to be January 2008 to June 2008.

Attend Child Welfare Data Conference – Have one staff member attend the Children's Bureau's National Child Welfare Data Conference.

Continued development and assessment of progress regarding data collection/analysis and judicial performance measurement – The Deputy State Court Administrator for Information Technology, the Court Improvement Project Director, and the CIP Staff Attorney will be working closely with local court-agency collaborative groups to continue to work towards the long range goal of all Nebraska Courts having the ability to track individual cases, cases in the aggregate, outcomes for children, and the performance of judges. This planning will include close collaboration with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

- *Research will take place to allow for the automatic updating of Protection Orders through an electronic interface with the Nebraska State Patrol.*

1.3.4 Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court

The Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court has a separate Strategic Plan that includes information technology goals from 2006 to 2011.

1.3.5 Problem Solving Courts

Potential utilization of the Nebraska Probation Management System (NPMIS) as the default Specialty Court database system residing on a single server will be explored.

Work will continue to provide technology to the Problem Solving Courts that will enable their staff to be more productive and create better more useful reports with data collected.

- *Once full utilization of the Problem-Solving Court Management Information System (PSCMIS) is in place, additional enhancements to the system are needed. Long term goals include: interfacing the system with various other databases such as JUSTICE, NCJIS and NCIC; the addition of the ability to upload participant photos to assist court staff and law enforcement in identifying problem-solving court participants; and, increasing the ability to manage the unique needs of the family dependency courts.*
- *In the pursuit of having operational problem-solving courts in all 12 judicial districts, the introduction of technology into our most rural areas will be imperative. The 8th judicial district is currently in the initial planning stages of a drug court. It would be extremely beneficial to assist their effort with providing the necessary equipment (LCD television, webcams, and laptops) to hold remote hearings. This would allow for the reduction in the amount of time and travel required in such a rural area, thus saving money. A request for grant funds to assist with this venture has been made.*

1.3.6 Administrative Office of the Courts

The AOC work with Nebraska.gov to explore additional services via the state web portal.

The AOC will develop written policies on data sharing with other state agencies and on data security.

The AOC will continue to look for ways to get better technology out to all courts. Finding ways to provide training and educating staff on technology and the uses of technology to improve court processes is a very high priority.

1.3.7 Probation

The Office of Probation Administration has a separate Strategic Plan that includes their information technology goals from 2006 to 2011.

2 Mission Statement

To proactively represent the computing, communications, and information technology concerns of the judicial branch and legal community in visioning, policy setting, and strategic planning.

To provide timely input, advice, and feedback to the Chief Justice on policy, proposals, implementation projects, and other information technology related issues.

To be a catalyst within the judicial branch in adapting technology to meet the mission of the judiciary and the needs of the people of the State of Nebraska.

3 Business Goals

In Section Three of the Strategic Plan six high level goals have been developed. These goals are further identified and defined in Section Four of the Strategic Plan as Enabling Technology Goals. In Section Five of the Strategic Plan, Benchmark Areas for measuring the progress toward the goals are defined.

3.1 Technologies

Nebraska's courts will have equal distribution of technology and bandwidth across all courts. Equal distribution of technology and bandwidth will allow Nebraska's court system to provide a better experience for all citizens of Nebraska.

3.2 Standards

Through the use of standards Nebraska courts will make every effort for the uniform collection of information.

3.3 Jurisdictional Boundaries

Nebraska courts will use technology to identify and respond to trends that are challenging today's traditional jurisdictional boundaries, recognizing these efforts must consider existing laws, court rules and professional ethics. (The purpose of this goal is to recognize that through technology there are opportunities to cross geographical and jurisdictional boundaries. It is our intent to be mindful to review and suggest changes to relevant statutes and rules to restrict if appropriate.)

3.4 Technology Rules and Statutes

Nebraska courts will proactively explore and update court rules to be useful in working with technology advances.

3.5 JUSTICE

Nebraska courts will develop a long term plan for the JUSTICE case and financial management system.

3.6 Data Collection and Sharing

Nebraska courts will collect and share data in an appropriate manner.

4 Enabling Technology Goals

Section Four of the Strategic Plan contains Enabling Technology Goals that are drilled down and expanded into sub-goals and objectives.

4.1 Technologies

Nebraska's courts will have equal distribution of technology and bandwidth across all courts. Equal distribution of technology and bandwidth will allow Nebraska's court system to provide a better experience for all citizens of Nebraska.

4.1.1 Identify and define court technology improvements.

- 4.1.1.1 Utilize digital recorders to replace analog tape recorders in County courts.
- 4.1.1.2 Initiate Electronic Filing services in the trial courts
- 4.1.1.3 Establish the use of the E-Citation in more jurisdictions and accept credit card payments for paying fines and fees.
- 4.1.1.4 Establish the minimum hardware requirements for evidence presentation in trial courts.
- 4.1.1.5 Implement electronic or credit card payment in courts.
- 4.1.1.6 Implement electronic claim process in courts statewide.
- 4.1.1.7 Participate in planning for network and technology services in new or remodeled courtrooms in Nebraska
- 4.1.1.8 Plan for and participate in the implementation of video arraignment technology in trial courts.
- 4.1.1.9 Participate and plan for the use of Remote Video Interpreter services in Nebraska courts.

4.1.2 Create and define technology training for court staff.

- 4.1.2.1 Provide appropriate software (word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, and e-mail) for trial court staff.
- 4.1.2.2 Provide computer or web based technology training to court staff

4.1.3 Identify technology investments that move the courts toward a common system and use of technology.

- 4.1.3.1 Participate with Nebraska Information Technology Commission to obtain funding for court related technology projects throughout the state.
- 4.1.3.2 Participate in Court Improvement Project (CIP) funding for juvenile court projects.
- 4.1.3.3 Seek additional funding through a variety of grant applications.
- 4.1.4 Create centralized and uniform web site information standards and guidelines for trial courts.**
- 4.1.4.1 Plan and deploy standardized trial court web pages on the Supreme Court web site.
- 4.1.5 Identify appropriate communications bandwidth services for all courts.**
- 4.1.5.1 Work with the Office of the CIO, Network Services group to ensure the appropriate amount of bandwidth is available to all courts to engage in judicial proceedings.
- 4.1.5.2 Anticipate and plan for increased technical capabilities in courts, this includes but is not limited to use of the Internet, digital video, audio recordings, remote access to a court.
- 4.1.6 Explore outsourcing of technology applications through the use of electronic service providers or off-the-shelf software applications.**
- 4.1.6.1 Evaluate how other states are deploying systems for court and administrative use.
- 4.1.6.2 Participate with national organizations to explore the use of electronic service providers and off-the-shelf software.
- 4.1.7 Ensure that technology does not create a segment of society that is not able to participate in the judicial process. Plan for the “Pro Se” filer to use technology through public access.**
- 4.1.7.1 Plan for the “Pro Se” client when developing technical applications. Anticipate how the general public will communicate with the courts when deploying new technology.
- 4.1.8 Provide rural courts the same technical functionality as urban courts.**
- 4.1.8.1 Provide additional personal computer hardware for trial court staff.
- 4.1.8.2 Ensure an equal distribution of technology assets and functionality between rural and urban courts.
- 4.1.9 Plan and assist Specialty Courts use of technology.**

4.1.9.1 Work closely with the Specialty courts to appropriately invest in new technology that meets the needs of the courts.

4.1.9.2 Anticipate and plan for additional Specialty courts across Nebraska.

4.1.10 Set the correct level of expectation with regard to use of technology in the Judicial Branch.

4.1.10.1 Communicate with the Court Administrator and court staff to ensure the level of expectation is set correctly with regard to the use of technology in the judicial branch.

4.1.11 Create Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plans for the Judicial Branch.

4.1.11.1 Develop and implement a disaster recovery and business continuity plan for the judicial branch.

4.2 Standards

Through the use of standards Nebraska courts will make every effort for the uniform collection of information.

4.2.1 Identify the need and define courtroom technology standards.

4.2.1.1 Identify and define technology standards for Nebraska courts.

4.2.1.2 Where applicable use national technology standards.

4.2.1.3 Participate with national organizations in the development of technology standards.

4.3 Jurisdictional Boundaries

Nebraska courts will use technology to identify and respond to trends that are challenging today's traditional jurisdictional boundaries, recognizing these efforts must consider existing laws, court rules and professional ethics.

4.3.1 Understand the issues presented by pro se litigation, use technology to adapt.

4.3.1.1 Improve the filing experience for Small Claim Filers

4.3.1.2 Improve the filing experience for Pro Se Filers.

4.3.2 Understand and plan for efforts among lawyers to practice law in multiple jurisdictions subject to the requirements of State of Nebraska statutes, court rules and profession ethics.

4.3.2.1 Take notice of national trends with regard to jurisdictional boundary issues.

4.3.2.2 Work with the Nebraska State Bar Association to monitor developments in this area.

4.3.3 Understand and plan for the desire for litigants and lawyers to appear by telephone, video or the Internet in lieu of appearing in person at a courtroom.

4.3.3.1 Assist in the development of standards and policies on the use of video arraignment in Nebraska courts.

4.3.3.2 Initiate the use of a video interpreter service in a pilot court.

4.4 Technology Rules and Statutes

Nebraska courts will proactively explore and update court rules to be useful in working with technology issues.

4.4.1 Ensure that court rules are up-to-date with current technology practices

4.4.1.1 Ensure the Rules for Digital Signatures are adhered to when deploying this technology. Inform the Supreme Court when changes are necessary.

4.4.1.2 Ensure the Rules for E-Filing are adhered to when deploying this technology. Inform the Supreme Court when changes are necessary.

4.4.1.3 Ensure the Rules for Electronic Payment are adhered to when deploying this technology. Inform the Supreme Court when changes are necessary.

4.4.1.4 Ensure the Rules for Uniform Traffic Citation and Complaint form are adhered to when deploying this technology. Inform the Supreme Court when changes are necessary.

4.4.1.5 Ensure the Rules for Bill of Exceptions are adhered to when using technology. Inform the Supreme Court when changes are necessary.

4.4.1.6 Develop processes and procedures that allow for the highest level of protection and privacy of personal data

4.4.2 Work proactively with Judicial Branch committees on technology matters as they apply to suggested changes in State Statutes.

4.4.2.1 Meet with judicial branch committees on an as needed basis to plan and discuss technical matters as they apply to changes in state statutes.

4.4.3 Keep abreast of technology policy changes as they apply to court proceedings or processes by national judicial organizations.

4.4.3.1 Maintain an active interest and understanding of national judicial organizations' technology policy issues.

4.5 JUSTICE

Nebraska courts will develop a long term plan for the JUSTICE case and financial management system.

4.5.1 Evaluate the long term use or potential replacement of the JUSTICE financial and case management system.

- 4.5.1.1 Continue the replacement of terminals with personal computers for judges and court staff.
- 4.5.1.2 Implement continuous refreshing of older equipment/hardware on a scheduled three to four year basis.
- 4.5.1.3 Evaluate the JUSTICE case and financial management system for long term direction and change. What is the expected life of this system? What changes can be reasonably and appropriately made to improve the system? What type of user interface should be used for JUSTICE? Should an investment be made to change the user interface from a “green screen” format to be more of a web based look and feel?
- 4.5.1.4 Develop a plan to integrate JUSTICE with the Douglas County District Court.
- 4.5.1.5 Determine and develop system requirements to replace JUSTICE

4.5.2 Create a JUSTICE interface with Probation’s NPMIS and PSCMIS systems to allow data to be electronically transferred from JUSTICE to NPMIS and PSCMIS to reduce re-entering of data and creation of errors in the data.

- 4.5.2.1 Develop an interface between JUSTICE and NPMIS and PSCMIS.
- 4.5.2.2 Continue to explore other opportunities to share JUSTICE data with other governmental entities as appropriate.

4.6 Data Collection and Sharing

Nebraska courts will collect and share data in an appropriate manner.

4.6.1 Proactively be alert for the potential and actual misuse of collected data for court systems.

- 4.6.1.1 Ensure systems and applications are not compromised for the misuse of collected data.

4.6.2 Use technology appropriately.

- 4.6.2.1 Ensure systems and applications in use are utilized in an appropriate manner.

4.6.3 Proactively use redaction where possible on personal/private information in accordance with court rules and state statutes.

4.6.3.1 Redact personal/private information in accordance with court rules and state statutes.

4.6.4 Continue to expand court data sharing with other state agencies where appropriate.

4.6.4.1 Continue to expand JUSTICE data sharing with other state agencies where appropriate.

4.6.4.2 Continue to expand court data sharing with other state agencies where appropriate.

4.6.5 Continue to allow subscription based public access to court data via the Internet.

4.6.5.1 Use Nebraska.gov to provide subscription based public access to court data.

4.6.6 Expand subscription based public access to appellate court data via the Internet.

4.6.6.1 Expand public access to appellate court data with Nebraska.gov.

4.6.7 Encourage increased accountability through the use of technology.

4.6.7.1 Use technology to increase system and application accountability.

4.6.8 Insure the highest level of security for collected and shared data.

4.6.8.1 Monitor security issues on collected and shared data.

4.6.9 Stay current of new security matters regarding technology.

4.6.9.1 Increase knowledge of technical security issues and practices.

4.6.9.2 Participate with Nebraska Information Technology Commission's Information Security committee.

4.6.10 Be clear in the issue of "ownership of data" court filings and court generated data are owned by the court.

4.6.10.1 Establish clear delineation on the ownership of court generated data.

4.6.11 Develop a standard set of data elements to be used in data sharing applications.

4.6.11.1 Work with other judicial entities to develop a standard set of data elements to be used in the sharing of data.

4.6.12 When creating/changing forms in JUSTICE; engage the trial court judges and staff in the development phase.

4.6.12.1 Engage the JUSTICE Automation Committee when creating or changing forms in JUSTICE.

4.6.12.2 Engage the District Court Judges Association and the County Court Judges Association as appropriate when creating or changing forms in JUSTICE.

4.6.13 Use national resources when developing new processes do not rely solely on Nebraska based resources.

4.6.13.1 Explore on a national basis the use of new technology and processes for the judicial branch of government.

5 Benchmark Areas

Section Five contains the benchmark measurements for success for each on the sub-goals and objectives in Section Four.

This section was updated in 2009

5.1 Technologies

Nebraska's courts will have equal distribution of technology and bandwidth across all courts. Equal distribution of technology and bandwidth will allow Nebraska's court system to provide a better experience for all citizens of Nebraska.

5.1.1 Identify and define court technology improvements.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Replacing all analog recording devices in County Courts,
- Electronic Filing will be in place in 40 District Courts and 40 County Courts,
- The use of credit card payments will be expanded to all Trial Courts,
- Participate as appropriate in network and technology planning for new or remodeled courtrooms,
- Participate as appropriate with courts implementing remote video arraignment,
- Participate as appropriate with the implementation of remote video interpreter services.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Electronic Filing will be in place in all District Courts and all County Courts,
- Minimum courtroom technology guidelines will be defined and adopted for Trial Courts.

5.1.2 Create and define technology training for court staff.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Providing computer based training courses for all judges and court employees,
- Providing up-to-date word processing, spreadsheet, presentation software with every PC that is state funded and delivered to a court,
- Providing government electronic mail accounts to all judges and court employees.
- *Judicial Branch Education Committee will set this standard.*

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- *Judicial Branch Education Committee will set this standard.*

5.1.3 Identify technology investments that move the courts toward a common system and use of technology.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- *Having a minimum of one technology related funding request to the Nebraska Information Technology Commission approved for funding on a project related basis.*

- Using Court Improvement Project funding to assist in the development of juvenile court programming in JUSTICE to meet American Safe Family Act guidelines.
- Submitting at a minimum one grant proposal for additional technology funding.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Using Court Improvement Project funding to complete the development of juvenile court programming in JUSTICE to meet American Safe Family Act guidelines.
- Submitting at minimum one grant proposal for additional technology funding.
- *Converting the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Clerk's case management system to interface with JUSTICE as for seamless electronic transfer of case data.*
- Identifying costs for the upgrade/conversion of JUSTICE to a graphical user interface.

5.1.4 Create centralized and uniform web site information standards and guidelines for trial courts.

This goal has been completed all courts in the Judicial Branch have a web presence with at a minimum contact information and links to court applications.

5.1.5 Identify appropriate communications bandwidth services for all courts.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- *Having verified with the Office of the CIO bandwidth uses and needs at each courthouse costs to enable all 93 courthouses to move to dedicated bandwidth where needed to support court functions. (i.e. video, internet connectivity, training/education)*

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Ensuring the every courtroom has suitable bandwidth to use technology in an effective and efficient manner based on the technology recommendations from the Courtroom Enhancement subcommittee.

5.1.6 Explore outsourcing of technology applications through the use of electronic service providers or off-the-shelf software applications.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- *Continued monitoring other states through the National Center for State Courts data to learn what systems they use for court and administrative use. Report to the Technology Committee on findings.*

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- *To be determined by the Nebraska Supreme Court based upon recommendations from the Technology Committee.*

5.1.7 Ensure that technology does not create a segment of society that is not able to participate in the judicial process. Plan for the “Pro Se” filer to use technology through public access.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- *Updating the Court’s web site with information targeting the Pro Se filer.*
- *Explore the use of kiosks and Internet application for use by Pro Se filers.*

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- *Exploring the potential for Pro Se filers to use E-Filing when submitting files to the court.*

5.1.8 Provide rural courts the same technical functionality as urban courts.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Working with the Courtroom Enhancement subcommittee to ensure technical functionality is equal between urban and rural courts.
- Identifying any gaps in technology and work to eliminate them.
- Reporting to the Technology Committee findings.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- To be determined by the Nebraska Supreme Court based upon recommendations from the Technology Committee.

5.1.9 Plan and assist Problem Solving Courts use of technology.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- *Migrate all Problem Solving Courts to the new single server system with robust reporting capabilities and adding of new Courts into the system.*
- *Continue to work with Problem Solving Courts on new ways to use technology to promote Problem Solving Courts.*

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- *Provide an electronic interface between PSCMIS and JUSTICE*

5.1.10 Set the correct level of expectation with regard to use of technology in the Judicial Branch.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Reporting to the Technology Committee successes and failures of the pervious year.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- To be determined by the Nebraska Supreme Court based upon recommendations from the Technology Committee.

5.1.11 Create Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plans for the Judicial Branch.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Conducting a minimum of one test of the plan using a desktop scenario.

- Incorporating in the Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plans a special section regarding evidence safekeeping.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Conducting annual tests of the Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plan.
- Ensuring the Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plan is updated on a quarterly or semi annual basis.
- Having Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plans in place for all trial courts.

5.2 Standards

Through the use of standards Nebraska courts will make every effort for the uniform collection of information.

5.2.1 Identify the need and define courtroom technology standards.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Working with the Technology Committee and the Courtroom Enhancement Subcommittee to identify and define technology standards for Nebraska Courts.
- Researching National Judicial organizations for the standards they recommend and utilize for Courts.
- Participating as a member of the Court Information Technology Officers Consortium.
- Reporting to the Technology Committee findings.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- To be determined by the Nebraska Supreme Court based upon recommendations from the Technology Committee.

5.3 Jurisdictional Boundaries

Nebraska courts will use technology to identify and respond to trends that are challenging today's traditional jurisdictional boundaries, recognizing these efforts must consider existing laws, court rules and professional ethics.

5.3.1 Understand the issues presented by pro se litigation, use technology to adapt.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Researching how other states are using technology to assist Small Claims and Pro Se filers.
- Developing a report for the Technology Committee that contains recommendations on how we can improve in the area of Small Claims and Pro Se filers.

5.3.2 Understand and plan for efforts among lawyers to practice law in multiple jurisdictions subject to the requirements of State of Nebraska statutes, court rules and profession ethics.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Staying aware of national trends in this area.
- Monitoring developments in this area along with the Nebraska State Bar Association.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Monitoring developments in this area along with the Nebraska State Bar Association.

5.3.3 Understand and plan for the desire for litigants and lawyers to appear by telephone, video or the Internet in lieu of appearing in person at a courtroom.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Participating as appropriate with the implementation of video interpreter services.
- Participating as appropriate with the implementation of video arraignments.
- Recommending Rules/Policies for using technologies in Nebraska Courts.
- Staying up-to-date on newer technologies that may find use in a courtroom (i.e. pod-casting, internet access, etc).

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Monitoring the use of technology with regard to Court Rules and policies.
- Recommending Rules/Policies changes for using technologies in Nebraska Courts.
- Staying up-to-date on newer technologies that may find use in a courtroom (i.e. pod-casting, internet access, etc).

5.4 Technology Rules and Statutes

Nebraska courts will proactively explore and update court rules to be useful in working with technology issues.

5.4.1 Ensure that court rules are up-to-date with current technology practices

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Reviewing annually Court Rules regarding the use of technology.
- Notifying the Technology Committee of recommended changes or additions.
- Being current on national and state trends regarding the protection and privacy of personal data.

5.4.2 Work proactively with Judicial Branch committees on technology matters as they apply to suggested changes in State Statutes.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Working with Judicial Branch committees as appropriate to review and discuss technical matters as they apply to state statutes.
- Monitoring the potential impact of legislation as it applies to technology used in courts.
- Setting up a process to report findings to the Technology Committee.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- To be determined by the Nebraska Supreme Court based upon recommendations from the Technology Committee.

5.4.3 Keep abreast of technology policy changes as they apply to court proceedings or processes by national judicial organizations.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Maintaining an active interest and understanding of national judicial organizations' technology policy issues and reporting to the Technology Committee areas for concern or further research.

5.5 JUSTICE

Nebraska courts will develop a long term plan for the JUSTICE case and financial management system.

5.5.1 Evaluate the long term use or potential replacement of the JUSTICE financial and case management system.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- *Elimination of all green screen terminals on JUSTICE.*
- *Adding personal computers in the trial courts so that 75% of court employees are using computers when using JUSTICE.*
- *Complete the conversion of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Clerk's case management system to interface with JUSTICE.*
- *Completing the migration of the Douglas County District Court and Separate Juvenile Court case management system with JUSTICE.*
- Implementing as appropriate problem log refinements and updates to JUSTICE.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Adding personal computers in the trial courts so that 100% of court employees are using computers when using JUSTICE.
- Ensuring older hardware and personal computers are refreshed on a three year basis.
- Processing 100% of all Nebraska Court cases filed through JUSTICE.
- Determining system requirements to replace or convert the JUSTICE financial and case management application.
- Implementing as appropriate problem log refinements and updates to JUSTICE

5.5.2 Create a JUSTICE interface with Probation's NPMIS and PSCMIS systems to allow data to be electronically transferred from JUSTICE to NPMIS to reduce re-entering of data and creation of errors in the data.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Implementation of data sharing between NPMIS and PSCMIS and JUSTICE.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Successfully passing of case information between NPMIS and PSCMIS and JUSTICE.

5.6 Data Collection and Sharing

Nebraska courts will collect and share data in an appropriate manner.

5.6.1 Proactively be alert for the potential and actual misuse of collected data for court systems.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Working with the Office of the CIO and other state agencies to ensure court collected data is not misused.
- Establishing written agreements on data use with agencies that share court generated data.
- Working with Nebraska.gov to ensure JUSTICE data placed in a fee based subscription service is not misused.
- Staying current on schemes surrounding the use of court data.

5.6.2 Use technology appropriately.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- By annually reviewing the Court's written Acceptable Use Policy on the use of technology.
- By annually reviewing and updating the Court's Security Policies

5.6.3 Proactively use redaction where possible on personal/private information in accordance with court rules and state statutes.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- By being aware of Court Rules or State Statutes regarding the protection of personal data.
- By maintaining awareness in Court Rules or State Statutes regarding the use of redaction in safeguarding personal data.

5.6.4 Continue to expand court data sharing with other state agencies where appropriate.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Annually reviewing the number of agencies receiving data for JUSTICE or other Court generated data and providing a report to the Technology Committee.
- Working appropriately with state agencies when expanding data sharing of the Court's information.

5.6.5 Continue to allow subscription based public access to court data via the Internet.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Meeting quarterly with Nebraska.gov management to review number of subscribers including individual and bulk subscriptions.

- Working with the Technology Committee and Nebraska.gov management to define improvements or changes to this service.
- Providing an annual report to the Technology Committee summarizing public access to court data.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Increasing fee based subscription by 10%.
- Developing at a minimum one new service product for the public.

5.6.6 Expand subscription based public access to appellate court data via the Internet.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Planning for public electronic access to appellate court data.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Delivering public electronic access to appellate court data.

5.6.7 Encourage increased accountability through the use of technology.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Providing a report to the Technology Committee regarding accountability efforts within case management systems.

5.6.8 Insure the highest level of security for collected and shared data.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Developing a written security policy for collected and shared data.

In two years success will be measured for this goal by:

- Developing a training course for court employees regarding the security of court data.

5.6.9 Stay current of new security matters regarding technology.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Attending at least one conference that deals with data security issues and practices.
- Participating with Nebraska Information Technology Commission's Information Security committee.

5.6.10 Be clear in the issue of "ownership of data" court filings and court generated data are owned by the court.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Including in the written security and data sharing policy a clear definition of court generated and owned data.

5.6.11 Develop a standard set of data elements to be used in data sharing applications.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Working with other judicial entities to develop a standard set of data elements to be used in the sharing of data.

5.6.12 When creating/changing forms in JUSTICE; engage the trial court judges and staff in the development phase.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Engaging the JUSTICE Automation Committee when creating or changing forms in JUSTICE.
- Engaging the District Court Judges Association and the County Court Judges Association as appropriate when creating or changing forms in JUSTICE.

5.6.13 Use national resources when developing new processes do not rely solely on Nebraska based resources.

In one year success will be measured for this goal by:

- Exploring on a national basis the use of new technology and processes for the judicial branch of government.

6 Appendices

6.1 Appendix A – List of (2006) Technology Committee Members

The Honorable William Cassel, Chair, Nebraska Court of Appeals
The Honorable Kenneth C. Stephan, Nebraska Supreme Court
The Honorable Gary B. Randall, Douglas County District Court
The Honorable John A. Colborn, Lancaster County District Court
The Honorable Michael K. High, Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court
The Honorable Douglas F. Johnson, Douglas County Separate Juvenile Court
The Honorable Roger J. Heideman, Lancaster County Separate Juvenile Court
The Honorable L. Curtis Maschman, Richardson County Judge
Warren R. Whitted, Jr., Attorney at Law
William J. Lindsay, Jr., Attorney at Law
William E. Olson, Jr., Attorney at Law
Les Seiler, Attorney at Law
Thomas W. Tye, II, Attorney at Law
William L. Howland, General Counsel, Accountability & Disclosure Commission
Richard Leiter, UNL College of Law
Craig Dallan, Professor, Creighton School of Law
Rudy Tesar, Clerk of the Douglas County District Court
Ann Rosenberry, Clerk of the District Court, Scotts Bluff County District Court
Barbara Pousson, Judicial Administrator, Sarpy County Courthouse
Janet Bancroft, Court Administrator's Office
Dave Wegner, Deputy Probation Administrator
Janice Walker, State Court Administrator
William Miller, Court Administrator's Office

Individuals participating but not appointed:

Paula Crouse, JUSTICE Business Analyst
Randy Ceerle, Chief I.T. Officer, Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court

6.2 Appendix B – List of Current (2009) Technology Committee Members

The Honorable William Cassel, Chair, Nebraska Court of Appeals
The Honorable Kenneth C. Stephan, Nebraska Supreme Court
The Honorable Gary B. Randall, Douglas County District Court
The Honorable John A. Colborn, Lancaster County District Court
The Honorable Robert R. Otte, Lancaster County District Court
The Honorable Laureen Van Norman, Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court
The Honorable Douglas F. Johnson, Douglas County Separate Juvenile Court
The Honorable Roger J. Heideman, Lancaster County Separate Juvenile Court
The Honorable L. Curtis Maschman, Richardson County Judge
Warren R. Whitted, Jr., Attorney at Law
William J. Lindsay, Jr., Attorney at Law
William E. Olson, Jr., Attorney at Law
Chris Johnson, Attorney at Law
Thomas W. Tye, II, Attorney at Law
William L. Howland, Attorney at Law, Retired
Richard Leiter, UNL College of Law
Craig Dallon, Professor, Creighton School of Law
John Friend, Clerk of the Douglas County District Court
Ann Rosenberry, Clerk of the District Court, Scotts Bluff County District Court
Barbara Pousson, Judicial Administrator, Sarpy County Courthouse
Janet Bancroft, Court Administrator's Office
Dave Wegner, Deputy Probation Administrator
Janice Walker, State Court Administrator
William Miller, Court Administrator's Office

Individuals participating but not appointed:

Paula Crouse, JUSTICE Business Analyst
Randy Ceclre, Chief I.T. Officer, Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court