



Report to the Governor
C.L. "Butch" Otter
and the
1st Regular Session of the
64th Idaho Legislature

IDAHO JUDICIARY

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IDAHO'S COURT TECHNOLOGY FUND

Odyssey to Improve Access, Enhance Data Sharing and Maximize Efficiency

The Idaho Judicial Branch continued the implementation phase of its most significant business and technology transformation initiative, which includes a transition to digital court records and statewide business practices in Idaho's courts. In this past year, the iCourt Project Team deployed the new case management and electronic filing applications simultaneously to 12 counties including Canyon County (the 2nd largest court in Idaho). The iCourt Project Team also began working with the remaining 30 counties to prepare for their transition in 2018. These new applications are providing greater convenience for court users, better information exchanges with judicial partners, and significant efficiency improvements for court personnel.

State-of-the-Art Court Case Management System

On October 10, 2017, twelve counties comprising "Wave 1" (Canyon, Owyhee, Boise, Elmore, Valley, Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, and Minidoka), successfully transitioned to the court's new case management system, Odyssey. This implementation was the first multi-county implementation event of the iCourt project.

Leading up to the go-live, five weeks of specific training sessions were held in four regional locations to equip judges, court clerks, and other county personnel on how to use the new case management system. The iCourt project team then provided on-site support in all 12 counties for this go-live over a period of 3 weeks (October 8 – 27, 2017). In addition, Ada County and Twin Falls County offered resources to assist throughout Wave 1 as part of the go-live transition.

Data from ISTARs (the court's legacy case management system) for these 12 counties was successfully converted to Odyssey. Courts were fully operational on "day one" with the ability to hear cases with digital case files. Access to court data for the public and judicial partners transitioned from the ISC Data Repository to the iCourt Portal. The iCourt Project Team developed and scheduled reports to be delivered to specific judicial partners (such as prosecutors and public defenders) to assist with their daily business processes. Misdemeanor probation offices and problem solving courts transitioned to the Supervision module, continuing the transition to a statewide supervision application.

Statewide integrations to the Idaho State Tax Commission, Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho State Police, Idaho Fish and Game, Division of Juvenile Corrections and VINE were expanded for Wave 1 counties. New e-citation integrations were implemented for Canyon and Jerome counties. Idaho State Police e-citations become operational for all 12 counties.

Legacy court documents previously scanned by counties were converted into Odyssey. Counties then began scanning active cases directly into Odyssey. Cassia and Elmore encountered issues with their legacy scanned documents which the iCourt Project Team were able to resolve. All counties are now functioning with digital case files, providing easier access to court files at anytime, from anywhere.

Financial transactions were accepted at each court at the time of go-live. On-line payments are also now available via the iCourt Portal for all 12 counties. Financial processes were outlined for the court clerk staff and county auditors. All 12 counties traveled to Boise to conduct their first end of month financial close process using Odyssey, ensuring court monies were accurately distributed to state and local entities.

Due to the complexity of this project and the number of moving parts, the iCourt Project Team expected issues to occur as part of this implementation event. With this being the first multi-county deployment of the iCourt project, combined with the larger user

count, it was inevitable issues would arise; however, no severe issues occurred that prevented court operations in the 12 counties. As of November 13, 2017, over 91% of all reported issues had been resolved.

Electronic Filing

Odyssey File & Serve (OFS), used by the legal community to submit court filings electronically and to digitally serve other parties, was implemented for the Wave 1 counties on October 10, 2017. OFS was made available for voluntary e-filing for the Wave 1 counties, and attorneys from across the state quickly began submitting electronic filings to these counties. Effective November 13, 2017, mandatory electronic filing was required of all attorneys filing cases in Wave 1 counties.

Future Implementations

The Wave 2 phase of the iCourt project, comprised of 14 counties to include Districts 1 and 2, along with the remaining 4 counties in District 3 (Adams, Gem, Payette and Washington), is on track for a go-live date of April 9, 2018.

The Appellate Project to transition the Idaho Supreme Court and Court of Appeals to Odyssey continues to move forward with a target go-live in the spring of 2018. This project is trending slightly behind schedule for a variety of factors as this is the first transition from the appellate courts' existing platform, which is different from the existing ISTARs case management system used across all counties. The iCourt Project Team has been working with Tyler Technologies to address schedule concerns and implement mitigation strategies for this project phase.

Wave 3, for the 16 counties in Districts 6 and 7, has begun and is on track for a target go-live of October 9, 2018. Initial kick-off meetings were held in late August in both Districts 6 and 7.

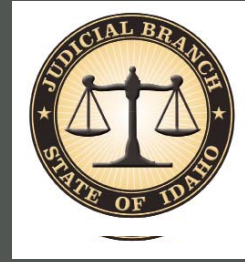
Status of the Court Technology Fund

The legislature has long supported a statewide approach to court technology, beginning with appropriations in FY1989, the creation of the Court Technology Fund in 1997, a subsequent increase to the Fund in FY2006, and continuing with the funding provided in 2014. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 1-1623, the Supreme Court is required to provide an annual report on the following aspects of court technology and the Court Technology Fund:

(1) Status of the Fund:

a. In response to the Supreme Court's proposed five-year business plan to fund the technology project, the Legislature has appropriated four one-time general fund appropriations in FY2015, FY2016, FY2017, and FY2018 in the amounts of \$4.85 million, \$2.18 million, \$2.00 million, and \$1.85 million, respectively. The Court is requesting the fifth and final one-time appropriation of \$1.80 million for FY2019.

b. The Technology Fund also receives funds from increases to civil filing fees as the result of HB 509 (2014). Fee revenues into the Technology Fund as a result of this statute fluctuate due to variables which are beyond the Court's control including the number of case filings and collection rates. As stated in last year's report, the actual revenues received since 2014 have not met the projected estimates; these declines contributed to the need for additional revenues into the Technology Fund to meet the projected needs outlined in the iCourt 5-year business plan. Although civil filing fees have begun to increase, revenues attributable to HB 509 have yet to reach the projected fiscal impact of \$5.49 million stated in the bill.



Mission Statement of the Idaho Courts

As the Third Branch of Government, we provide access to justice by ensuring fair processes and the timely, impartial resolution of cases.

The Idaho Courts stand for:

*Integrity
Fairness
Independence
Respect
Excellence
Innovation*

The Idaho Courts strive to:

**Provide Timely,
Impartial Case
Resolution through
Legally Fair Procedures**

Ensure Access to Justice

**Promote Effective,
Innovative Services**

**Increase Public Trust
and Confidence in
Idaho Courts**

Adopted by the
Supreme Court
October 31, 2011
and revised
April 25, 2016

c. In response to the HB 509 revenue shortfall, the Supreme Court requested funding to supplement the projected \$3.73 million shortfall. The Legislature has appropriated one-half of the expected loss as a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$1.88 million. The Supreme Court is requesting the second half of the expected loss as a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$1.88 million in FY2019 to recover the remaining revenue shortfall from civil filing fees.

(2) Maintenance, replacement and enhancement of technology: The Court continues to use the Fund to maintain the existing ISTARs software and will do so until all counties are converted to Odyssey. As indicated above, the technology team has made significant progress in deploying and supporting Odyssey for a total of 14 counties (Twin Falls, Ada and all Wave 1 counties). The team is preparing to implement an additional 30 counties this upcoming fiscal year, along with the appellate courts.

(3) Manner in which court technology has advanced the courts in Idaho: The deployment of court technology, to include Odyssey, is transforming how our courts work and how individuals interact with the courts. Through electronic filing and service, electronic case processing, electronic court operations, and electronic access, citizens can now expect the same level of service and capabilities within their courts as they expect with other entities that they commonly engage. Furthermore, this transformation is enabling the courts to optimize the time and use of existing court personnel, to share statewide data via a unified statewide case management system, and to enhance statewide, district and local court data reporting capabilities.



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