Judicial Committee on Information Technology

December 2, 2022 – Office of Court Administration/Zoom

Meeting Minutes

I.   **Call to Order**

Justice Simmons called the meeting to order at 10:01AM.

<u>Voting Members Present</u>
Honorable Rebecca Simmons
Bob Wessels
Honorable Lawrence Doss (virtual)
David Escamilla (virtual)
Honorable Roy Ferguson (virtual)
Honorable Dan Hinde
Honorable Laura Hinojosa (virtual)
Todd Smith
Carlos Soltero
Dean Stanzione (virtual)
Mark Unger (virtual)
Dennis VanMetre
Ed Wells (virtual)

<u>Non-Voting Members Present</u>
Honorable Jeffrey Boyd (virtual)
Honorable David Canales (virtual)
Honorable Michael Cruz
Michael Cuccaro (virtual)
Doug Gowin (virtual)
Jessica Griffith (virtual)
Honorable Blake Hawthorne
Tracy Hopper (virtual)
Roland Johnson (virtual)
Megan LaVoie
Honorable Russ Ridgway
Honorable Nancy Rister (virtual)
Sian Schilhab (virtual)
Honorable David Stith (virtual)
Honorable Ralph Swearingin (virtual)
Deana Williamson (virtual)

OCA Staff
Casey Kennedy, Director, Information Services
Louis Tomasetti, Director, Government Relations

Others Present
Evan Acosta, Tyler Technologies
Todd Cope, Tyler Technologies
Billy Hart
Clint Ludwig, Tarrant County
Chris Ricci, Tyler Technologies
Steve Schenk, Thompson Reuters/Pro Doc
Honorable Beverly Walker, Fort Bend County
Brad Weems, Williamson County

II.   **Meeting Minutes from the Previous Meeting**
Motion to adopt the meeting minutes from the previous JCIT meeting in September 2022 by **Bob Wessels.** Seconded by **Todd Smith. Motion carried with no objections.**

III.   **Program Updates**

A.   eFileTexas/re:SearchTX/Guide and File
Evan Acosta with Tyler Technologies presented an updated on the eFile program. He reported on the current trends including an increase in user volume. He reported that JPs are continuing to onboard and are now responsible for approximately 10% of each days filing.

Mr. Acosta reported that the traffic on re:SearchTX is continuing to grow. He reiterated that attorneys continue to ask for access to criminal eFiling documents as well as the judgements and orders.

For the self-help tool, he reported that we're seeing an increase of use in the tool with now approximately 75% of the completed documents being filed electronically.

On eFile 2.0, Mr. Acosta reports that Phase 2 is still on schedule and reviewed the key features.

B.   Uniform Case Management System (UCMS)
Casey Kennedy gave the update on the UCMS. He reported that both vendors are working with their early adopter county and expect to go live next week with Tyler and then by the end of the year. Each vendor also has a list of additional counties to join. By the end of Q2 2023, OCA expects to have about 60 county offices on UCMS.

IV.   Subcommittee Updates

    A.   Updated recommendations on immediate access to electronic court filings subcommittee

        Justice Simmons provided an overview of the issues presented to JCIT from the Supreme Court. She then reviewed the recommendations given from the subcommittee report.

        The committee then discussed the subcommittee recommendations along with the positive and negative aspects of giving the public access to documents prior to acceptance by the clerk.

        Motion to recommend against immediate access to electronic filings prior to clerk acceptance by **Bob Wessels**, seconded by **Carlos Soltero**. **Motion carried with no objections.**

        The subcommittee continued discussions on individual recommendations provided by the subcommittee. Justice Simmons asked the committee to review the individual recommendations and send any changes by mid-week.

V.   Old Business

    A.   Free Access to re:SearchTX for certain groups

        Mr. Escamilla sent a federal form with adaptations. Justice Simmons asked that JCIT consider the form in a future meeting.

VI.   Adjourn

Justice Simmons adjourned the meeting at 12:03P.M.