

The clerks of the appellate courts announced today a new uniform appellate docketing statement for the courts of appeals. Instead of multiple docketing statements for the various courts of appeals, there is now one standardized form. Developed with the aid of the Office of Court Administration, the electronic docketing statement is available as a PDF form. The process of completing the form is greatly simplified by pull down menus for certain case information, such as case types.

The Office of Court Administration is working on making the new docketing statement a "smart form" that will allow case information to be uploaded automatically into TAMES- a new case management system for the appellate courts.

"The Office of Court Administration was pleased to develop this new docketing statement in partnership with the appellate court clerks," said Casey Kennedy, the Director of Information Technology for the Office of Court Administration. "We look forward to continuing to work with the appellate clerks to integrate the docketing statement with TAMES. Together these projects should reduce case processing times and make our appellate courts more efficient."

A committee of appellate court clerks composed of Karinne McCullough, Jeff Kyle, Keith Hottle, Chris Prine, Blake Hawthorne, and chaired by Lisa Matz, worked together to standardize the docketing statement and to design the layout of the form.

"I'm proud of our Texas appellate clerks for working together to bring greater uniformity to the appellate process", said Lisa Matz, the clerk of the Fifth Court of Appeals in Dallas. "We are all committed to working together to make appealing cases less complex for attorneys and for persons representing themselves."