

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE on INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

MEETING MINUTES

October 11, 2019
Price Daniels Building

I. Call to Order

Bob Wessels called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

JCIT Voting Members

Chair, Justice Rebecca Simmons
Vice-Chair, Bob Wessels
Honorable David Escamilla
Honorable Missy Medary (*phone*)
Honorable Brian Quinn (*phone*)
Dennis Van Metre
Dean Stanzione
Honorable John Warren
Ed Wells
Honorable Woody Gossom Jr.
Honorable Sheri Woodfin (*phone*)

JCIT Liaison Members

Miles Brisette (*phone*)
Honorable Jeffrey Boyd
Honorable David Canales (*phone*)
Honorable Judy Crawford (*phone*)
Honorable Annie Elliot
Doug Gowin (*phone*)
Jessica Griffith (*phone*)
Honorable Blake Hawthorne
Gary Hutton
Tracy Hopper (*phone*)
Roland Johnson (*phone*)
Honorable Jennifer Lindenzweig (*phone*)
Karen Miller
Honorable Velva Price (*phone*)
Honorable Russ Ridgway
Honorable Nancy Rister
Sian Schilhab
David Slayton
Stephanie Sterling (*phone*)

Honorable Ralph Swearingin (*phone*)
Mark Unger

Others in Attendance

Jesus Acevedo, Fort Bend County (*phone*)
Rhonda Brashears, The Underwood Law Firm (*phone*)
Kizzy Burton, Tarrant County (*phone*)
Kelsey Clark, File and Serve (*phone*)
Jaclyn Daumerie, Supreme Court
John Dahill, Conference of Urban Counties
Terry Derrick, Tyler Technologies
Daisy Espinoza, Tarrant County (*phone*)
Rebecca Foster, Office of the Attorney General – Child Support Division
Chief Justice Tom Gray, Tenth Court of Appeals
Cindy Holloway, Tarrant County (*phone*)
Jeanine Hudson, DPS (*phone*)
Richard Luna, iDocket
Noel Johnson, Travis County
Alisia Morris, Tarrant County (*phone*)
Dallas Osborn, Net Data (*phone*)
Diana Parsons, Travis County (*phone*)
Laura Richard, Fort Bend County (*phone*)
Danny Rogers, Travis County
Holly Taylor, Court of Criminal Appeals
Sonia Trevino, Texas Court Reporters Association
Phillip Vaden, Tyler Technologies
Paul Watler, Jackson Walker
Mark Ward, Tarrant County (*phone*)
Deana Williamson, Court of Criminal Appeals
Brad Weems, Williamson County (*phone*)
Deborah Woltersdorf, Office of the Attorney General -

Office of Court Administration Staff

Casey Kennedy, Director, Information Services
Dinorah Kline, Project Manager
Mena Ramón, General Counsel (*phone*)
Amanda Stites, Project Manager
Thomas Sullivan, Project Manager

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve May 10, 2019, minutes as presented. **Motion by Dean Stanzione, second by John Warren. Motion carries.**

III. Committee Updates

A. re:SearchTX Criminal Subcommittee - Update and discussion of proposed recommendations by the subcommittee.

Mr. Kennedy reviewed the criminal re:Search TX draft recommendations. A discussion followed regarding the clerk's ability to review and change cases incorrectly flagged to be suppressed from appearing in re:Search and possible warnings to attorneys stating that the check box to suppress should be marked only if appropriate. The recommendation was made to add a help box that will automatically pop up any time sensitive data is indicated and ask for verification that the document contains sensitive data. Mr. Kennedy will work with the committee on specific language and will circulate for a vote by email. The recommendation will then go to the Supreme Court (SC) and the Court of Criminal Appeals (CCA). The next step will be for SC and CCA to draft orders instructing OCA to go forward with the changes.

B. Standards Subcommittee - Discussion of proposed Technology Standards (Version 6.5)

Mr. Wessels provided an overview of the proposed changes to the Technology Standards and additional changes that were received:

- Standard 3.1 - added g: once accepted, available to the filer for download for 30 days via the link
- Juvenile Case Filing Types added
- Discovery added to criminal case filing types
- Standard 4.8.5 - designated contact for return or rejected filings
- Justice Simmons requested that the sentences be flipped.
- Firm on the case role
- Additional case types added

Vote, subject to the change in the sentence regarding designated contact for return for correction, **to recommend adoption of the revised Technology Standards. All in favor, none opposed. Revised standards are recommended for adoption.**

IV. New Business

A. Requests for additional designation of groups of registered users that receive documents at no charge.

Mr. Kennedy provided an overview of the issue. Organizations receiving funding from Legal Services are designated to have free access to documents. Two additional groups - law schools and government filers at state agencies - are asking for free access. Mr. Slayton suggested that OCA develop a form that can be completed by groups requesting access. The requests can then be reviewed by JCIT. Justice Simmons proposed an access committee to handle the requests. The committee will be chaired by David Escamilla. Additional committee members will be Karen Miller, John Warren, Tracey Hopper, Ed Wells, Bob Wessels, and David Slayton.

B. Update on OCA's eFiling Re-procurement Project (eFile Texas 2.0)

Thomas Sullivan provided an update on the open procurement. The original contract was signed in 2012. There are no more extensions and the contract ends 8/31/21. OCA has contracted with Gartner to assist with developing the RFO, the documents for DIR and the contract. Gartner is not providing legal assistance. OCA is working on a separate contract for outside counsel. The goal is to have a contract signed by 8/31/20, which allows for one year for transition. Approximately 75 subject matter experts have participated in requirement gathering. The goal is to have the final requirement document by early November. The steering committee has representatives from JCIT. While JCIT has no formal role in selecting a vendor, OCA will keep JCIT engaged and informed.

C. Update from Tyler

Terry Derrick provided an update on eFiling activity:

- eFiling - Working on January 2020 mandate for Group 6
- Redaction - Approximately 14,000 utilizations per month.
- Outreach activities - Pop-up messages; updated emails; flyers and counter cards; working on Bar Journal article.
- Increase in registered users - Approximately 25,000 registered users.

Integration of CMS and re:Search – Six counties are currently integrated, which will increase the number of final orders. Counties not integrated can upload final orders manually. Clerks weren't pushing for integration before the law changed that makes it clear they can't be held liable for documents on re:Search. Mr. Slayton expects the list of integrated counties to grow. The integration requires two additional APIs and high-volume counties may have network upgrade costs. Mr. Slayton asked if messaging is occurring about all documents including orders are available in integrated counties. Tyler discussed the CLE and legal aid communications in the integrated counties. A recommendation was made to share the information with other counties to encourage more counties to integrate. Mr. Warren suggested that Tyler package the communication and roadmap used in Dallas for use in other counties.

Justice Simmons asked about the number of JP courts that are eFiling. Mr. Slayton estimated that approximately 50 JPs are eFiling and recommends that JCIT look at a mandate for eFiling in the JP courts. Justice Simmons invited Judge Ridgway to chair an exploratory committee for JP eFiling and asked him to provide a presentation at the next meeting about how eFiling in JP court is working. Justice Simmons asked that Mr. Hutton also participate in the presentation. Mr. Slayton stated that it is a good time to discuss JP eFiling because the jurisdictional limit goes up in September 2020 and the Supreme Court is creating a task force to look at the JP rules.

V. Meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

The next meeting will be December 6, 2019, in the Supreme Court courtroom.