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BACKGROUND

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- O In 2023, the Tennessee Supreme Court established the Court System Information and Technology Oversight Committee to assist the Court in developing a strategic plan for the use and maintenance of technology in Tennessee's judicial system and overseeing implementation of that plan.
- The Court appointed appellate, trial, and general sessions judges; court clerks; and staff from the Administrative Office of the Courts.
- The Committee's mission is to promote the effective and efficient use of technology within the court system to improve access to justice, enhance court operations, and increase public trust and confidence in the judiciary. The mission is significantly broader than e-filing
- Our last strategic technology plan was published in 2008—fifteen years ago.

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- $\, \bigcirc \,$ The Committee has been meeting monthly since June 2023.
- The Committee reviewed technology strategic plans from other state court systems, and members gave presentations about the current state of technology in their respective courts.
- In October 2023, the Committee held a strategic planning retreat led by Tennessee's Office of Customer Focused Government and then continued refining the plan at subsequent Committee meetings.
- The Tennessee Supreme Court unanimously approved the Technology Strategic Plan proposed by the Committee. The plan was released in March 2024.
- Communication with stakeholders is a critical component of the plan. The Committee needs your input and welcomes your questions and comments.



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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

APPELLATE COURTS GENERAL SESSIONS COURTS The Honorable Holly Kirby The Honorable Kee Bryant-☐ Chief Justice, Tennessee McCormick Supreme Court ☐ Judge, Sumner County General Sessions Court O The Honorable Sarah K. Campbell (Chair) ☐ Justice, Tennessee Supreme ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE Court COURTS $\bigcirc \quad \text{The Honorable Tom Greenholtz}$ Michelle J. Long ☐ Director, Administrative Office of ☐ Judge, Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals the Courts O James M. Hivner O Brandon Bowers ☐ Clerk of the Tennessee ☐ Chief Technology Officer, Appellate Courts Administrative Office of the Courts

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Goal 1 — Design, implement, and sustain a unified technology strategy for Tennessee's judicial system. Objectives: Lead a culture shift from paper-dependent court operations and processes to a digitized environment. Create user groups to inform and advise deliberate use of technology across the judicial system. Produce a report on the current state of technology used in all courts including but not limited to videoconferencing, video arraignments, case management, electronic evidence, document management, remote proceedings, e-filing, and audio-visual systems. Produce a report detailing the current funding mechanisms for all court systems in all 95 counties. Identify effective technology unification practices from other States capable of being deployed in Tennessee. Create a tactical change management plan to move from the current state of technology to a desired future use of technology. Invest in information technology resources necessary to implement and sustain the unified technology strategy. Advocate for necessary statutory, rule, and policy changes to implement a unified technology strategy.

Goal 2 – Build understanding and trust among user groups and other stakeholders regarding the technological advances within Tennessee's judicial system.

Objectives

- Educate user groups and other stakeholders about the importance and relevance of technology to the judiciary.
- Catalog resources for reference by user groups who have questions.
- Build awareness of technological advances among user groups to promote best practices.
- Continually educate user groups through online and face-to-face classes.
- Inform user groups of best practices to optimize data reporting.



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Goal 3 – Establish a data strategy for Tennessee's judicial system.

Objectives

- $Identify \ the \ data \ needs \ of \ stakeholders \ through \ a \ continual \ needs \ assessment.$
- Standardize data entry and collection.
- Streamline data analytics and reporting to help facilitate decisionmaking.
- Identify and implement industry best practices for data security.
- Enhance the data user's experience
- Adopt effective practices for data validation.
- Conduct a comprehensive review of the systems and practices used to collect, analyze, and report data across the judicial system.

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$\begin{tabular}{ll} Goal 4-Establish minimum technology standards for Tennessee's judicial system. \end{tabular}$

Obiectives

- Determine current practices in each courtroom for technology infrastructure, hardware, software, and security.
- Identify best practices for standards in technology infrastructure, hardware, software, and security
- Propose draft standards for technology infrastructure, hardware, software, and security and seek feedback from judicial districts and other stakeholders.
- Adopt standards for technology, infrastructure, hardware, software, and security.
- Identify minimum technology needs for a modern courtroom by researching best practices and surveying stakeholders.



Goal 5 – Deploy scalable technology solutions to promote justice and increase confidence in Tennessee's judicial system.

- Establish, equip, and support connectivity.
- Enable user groups to operate in a digital judicial system.
- Equip judges and clerks with tools to conduct business remotely.
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 Survey and identify emerging technologies on an annual basis to determine statewide scalability.
- Identify emerging technologies to better capture relevant data for policymakers.
- Implement systems that enable the public to access the judicial system virtually.



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