

SJI NEWSLETTER

Volume 27, No. 3

Senate Confirms Chief Justice Minton to Serve on SJI Board of Directors

Share the News

SJI uses [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to promote the work of its grantees and also shares information of interest to the entire state court community.

If your organization's work complements ours, let us know and we will share



On December 10, 2016, the U.S. Senate confirmed Chief Justice John Minton from Kentucky to serve on the SJI Board of Directors.

Chief Justice Minton was nominated by the President on July 13, 2016. He was elected to the Supreme Court of Kentucky in 2006, and reelected in 2014. His fellow justices elected him as Chief Justice in 2008, 2012, and 2016. Chief Justice Minton was in private practice for 15 years before serving as a Circuit Court Judge from 1992 to 2003, and a Kentucky Court of Appeals Judge from 2003 to 2006. In 2016, he was elected by his fellow



chief justices to serve as President of the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and Chair of the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) Board of Directors. He holds degrees from Western Kentucky University and the University of Kentucky College of Law.

SJI Awards First Quarter Grants

The SJI Board of Directors met on December 5, 2016 to make decisions on quarterly grant applications and awarded a total of sixteen (16) new grants.

One Strategic Initiatives Grant (SIG) was awarded to the Pretrial Justice Institute and the NCSC for a national Pretrial Justice and the State Courts Initiative. The initiative will: 1) provide technical assistance, such as readiness assessments for engaging courts in pretrial reform, webinars on specific issues, and virtual tours on successful pretrial programs; 2) provide more in-depth technical assistance to state and local courts via a sub-grant process; 3) and promote community sharing and directly link to the work of SJI and DOJ/Bureau of Justice Assistance-funded CCJ/COSCA National Task Force on Fines, Fees, and Bail Practices. The initiative will be guided by an advisory committee of chief justices,



state court administrators, judges, court managers, and pretrial service agency directors, with input from other key stakeholders.

In this Issue

New SJI Board Member Confirmed	1
SJI Awards FY 2017 1st Quarter Grants	1-2
Civil Justice Initiative RFP	2
KY Pretrial Services Virtual Tour	3

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

Two (2) Project Grants were approved, including support to the Minnesota Judicial Branch to support the MyMNGuardian project to expand the [MyMNConservator](#) system to add guardianship filing and improve compliance in the filing of guardianship reports; and the [National Association for Court Management \(NACM\)](#) for training on critical and emerging court management issues, including a focus on each of SJI's [Priority Investment Areas](#).

Eleven (11) Technical Assistance (TA) Grants were approved, including: the St. Louis County, Missouri, Circuit Court for a [Minimum Standards for Municipal Courts](#) Implementation project; the Wisconsin Judiciary for an assessment of payment of legal financial obligations state-

wide; the [Texas Municipal Courts Education Center](#) for statewide educational programs on improving service delivery to court users; the 24th Judicial District Court in Louisiana for an assessment of intensive probation services; courthouse security assessments in New Mexico; and support to the Minnesota courts to address sex trafficking of children.

Two (2) Curriculum Adaptation & Training (CAT) Grants were approved: 1) a grant to the [National Association of Women Judges \(NAWJ\)](#) to support educational programming on elder issues in the courts; and, 2) a training program for St. Louis Municipal Courts on the Minimum Standards for Municipal Courts. Next deadline for grant applications is February 1, 2017.

Civil Justice Initiative Implementation Phase: Request for Proposals

With grant support from SJI, the NCSC and the [Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System \(IAALS\)](#), are partnering on a three-year project to implement the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) resolution endorsing the [Report and Recommendations of its Civil Justice Improvements Committee](#). The 13 recommendations are designed to secure the fair, speedy, and inexpensive resolution of civil cases in state courts.

In support of this effort, the partners are sponsoring a series of pilot projects that demonstrate the successful implementation of one or more of the CJI Recommendations. The online [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) describes the application process for courts to be considered as demonstration pilot sites, and the project requirements if selected.

The Steering Committee for the CJI Implementation Plan is interested in supporting projects that fully implement one or more of the CJI Recommendations, especially projects that:

- Address all or most of the civil caseload for the population served by the court;

- Engage multiple groups of civil justice stakeholders in the implementation process;
- Provide a clear roadmap for other courts to follow in implementing similar projects; and,
- Offer candid assessments of the impact of the project on key performance measures.

Applications to become a demonstration project are due on or before January 15, 2017.



The CJI Implementation Plan Steering Committee will provide notice to the selected projects no later than February 15, 2017. The selected demonstration projects must be initiated no later than September 1, 2017.

Questions about the RFP process, and the CJI in general, should be directed to Paula Hannaford-Agor at phannaford@ncsc.org or (757)259-1556.

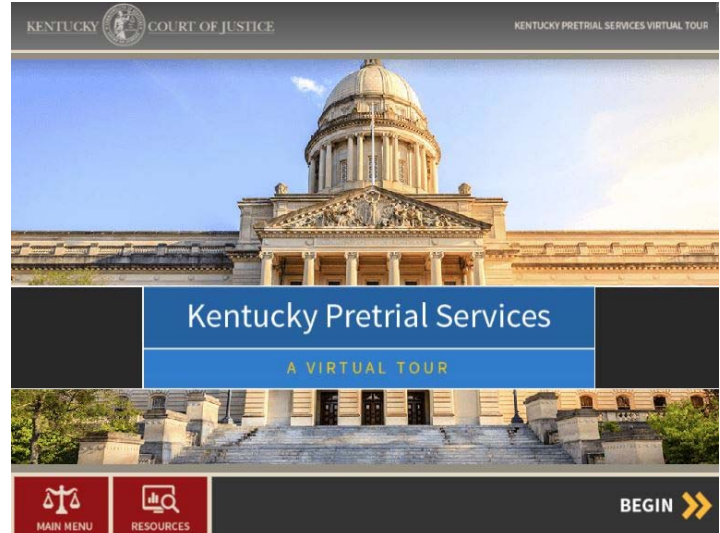
Kentucky Pretrial Services Virtual Tour

Hosted by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), the [Pretrial Justice Center for Courts](#) is a national collaborative initiative featuring the latest efforts to develop and improve pretrial services.

Recently, [Kentucky Pretrial Services](#) launched a [virtual tour](#) aimed at fellow pretrial service providers and those stakeholders new to the [Kentucky Court of Justice](#) process. The Kentucky Supreme Court sought and received support from SJI for this project.

Conceived as a means for Kentucky to efficiently transfer knowledge about the program, and reduce both the strain on the Court's resources and the travel costs of jurisdictional teams from across the U.S., the virtual tour features three main components, including: 1) structure; 2) process; and 3) impact. Each component has several sections which walk state courts and their partners through the essential elements Kentucky considered when establishing and executing this program.

In addition to a self-paced platform, the tour features a resource tab which includes pretrial forms, national research related to pretrial programming, relevant legislation and rulings, Kentucky-issued reports, and related websites.



Established in 1976, Kentucky Pretrial Services has served as a model program committed to providing essential services in a fair and effective manner as a defendant's case makes its way through the courts.

SJI Board of Directors

Chair

Chase T. Rogers
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Connecticut
Hartford, CT

Vice Chair

Daniel J. Becker
State Court Administrator
Utah AOC
Salt Lake City, UT

Secretary

Gayle A. Nachtigal
Senior Circuit Court Judge
Washington County Circuit Court
Hillsboro, OR

Treasurer

Hernan D. Vera
Principal
Bird Marella P.C.
Los Angeles, CA

Jonathan Lippman
Chief Judge of New York (ret.)
Of Counsel
Latham @ Watkins, LLP
New York, NY

John D. Minton, Jr.
Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Kentucky
Frankfort, KY

David V. Brewer
Justice
Oregon Supreme Court
Salem, OR

Wilfredo Martinez
County Judge
9th Judicial Circuit of Florida
Orlando, FL

Marsha J. Rabiteau
Executive Director
Legal Policy Strategies Group
Bloomfield, CT

John B. Nalbandian
Partner
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP
Cincinnati, OH

Isabel Framer
President
Language Access Consultants, LLC
Copley, OH

Jonathan D. Mattiello
Executive Director

The State Justice Institute is a federally-funded, non-profit corporation established by federal law in 1984 to improve the quality of justice in the state courts.

