

SJI NEWSLETTER

Volume 26, No. 1

National Summit on Human Trafficking

Promoting Our Work

SJI not only uses [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to promote the work of its grantees, but 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 that information.



The National Summit on Human Trafficking and the State Courts was held October 7-9, 2015, in New York City. Each state sent a team made up of judges, court managers, and other key stakeholders, as appointed by that state's chief justice. The Summit was an overwhelming success, with teams from 46 states, 4 U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia.

The first day was filled with expert panel discussions on human trafficking from the judicial perspective; labor trafficking; engaging stakeholders; and innovative strategies to address human trafficking by courts and communities. The second day included breakout sessions for state teams to work on their state court action plans for responding to human trafficking.

The state teams then reconvened to report back on the action planning and discuss their goals moving forward.

The Summit was hosted by the New York Unified Court System, under the leadership of Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman. The Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ), Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA), National Center for State Courts (NCSC), New York State Bar Association, and the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York also partnered on this incredible event. More information about the Summit, including plenary session videos, will be released soon.

New Factsheet on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, & Human Trafficking

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[The Intersection of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking](#) is designed for a wide range of justice system stakeholders and offers some practical advice for developing integrated solutions initiated by the court.

Research indicates that the vast majority of human trafficking victims experience multiple forms of abuse, such as domestic violence and sexual assault. This factsheet helps justice system stakeholders understand the overlap between intimate partner violence and human trafficking, and offers advice for jurisdictions interested in planning or enhancing a court-based response.

The factsheet also provides multiple resources for further reading including additional products from



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The Intersection of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking

The vast majority of human trafficking victims experience multiple forms of abuse, such as domestic violence and sexual assault. This fact sheet helps justice system stakeholders understand the overlap between intimate partner violence and human trafficking, and offers advice for jurisdictions interested in planning or enhancing a court-based response.

the [Center for Court Innovation](#) and the SJI-funded [Human Trafficking and the State Courts Collaborative](#).

[Resources](#) continue to be made available by the HT Collaborative.

Conservatorship Accountability Project Seeks Pilot States

Made possible through an SJI Grant, the Center for Elders and the Courts (CEC) at the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), has posted a call for states to become pilots for the [Conservatorship Accountability Project \(CAP\)](#) (SJI-11-N-177). CAP aims to modernize conservatorship accounting and tracking processes and build safeguards to protect vulnerable adults from financial exploitation. A full synopsis of the CAP is available [online](#).

CEC invites state courts to apply to be one of three pilot sites that will receive free technical assistance from the NCSC. The application deadline is **Friday, December 11, 2015**. A selection panel will review applications and announcements will be made in January 2016. To be eligible for participation as a CAP pilot state, the following qualifications are required:

1. Submit application from the highest court of each state;
2. Assemble a team of experts representing, at a minimum, a project manager, court technologists, business analysts, and guardianship/conservatorship experts, and end user expertise from professional and/or private conservators;
3. Have the ability to pilot the software in the state within twelve months of the receipt of technical assistance;
4. Have the capacity to integrate the software into the case management system. At a minimum, statewide conservatorship forms (e.g., budgets, audit forms, accountings) will be necessary to design the final software solution; and,
5. Become founding members of the CAP Network and be willing to contribute to the development of a technical manual and an implementation guide.



Conservatorship Accountability Project (CAP) Pilot Sites Application Form

APPLICATION: Applications are due by **December 11, 2015**. Applicants must provide contact information and must address the items listed on the following pages, which will serve as the basis for evaluation by the selection committee. The Background Information Form should be used as a cover sheet and does not count toward the page limit. The proposal itself should be no longer than three single-space pages. Signatures of the Chief Justice and State Court Administrator are required.

Applications should be emailed to: Brenda K. Uekert, PhD, buekert@ncsc.org. Feel free to contact Dr. Uekert at 757-259-1861 with additional questions.

For more detail regarding the application and project point of contact, please review the full, "[Conservatorship Accountability Project \(CAP\) Pilot Sites Application Form](#)," online.

NCSC is working closely with the Minnesota Judicial Branch and its Conservator Account Auditing Program, which oversees the nation's only conservatorship software program, [MyMNConservator \(MMC\)](#). Through the CAP pilot, the state courts selected will receive resources to move their conservatorship case management closer towards implementation of a similar system. Courts interested in participating in the pilot, but not yet familiar with the MMC, may attend an online demonstration on **Wednesday, November 4, at 12:00 CST**. To register for the demonstration, please contact Minnesota's Conservatorship Account Auditing Program (CAAP) Program Manager, Cate Boyko, at Cate.Boyko@courts.state.mn.us.

Guardianship Webinar Offers Ways to Improve Protocols and Practices in the State Courts



To help courts effectively handle the growing number of guardianship cases, the National Center for State Court's [Center for Elders and the Courts](#) developed a [webinar](#) that outlines specific steps courts can take to improve services.

The webinar, sponsored by the National Association for Court Management (NACM), based on its [Adult Guardianship Guide](#) — encourages courts to improve data collection and move toward performance measures.

Web Library for Cases Involving Immigrants

Legal Momentum, through its partnership with the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP, pronounced *new-app*), received successive Curriculum Adaptation and Training (CAT) grant awards in 2012 and 2013 to develop and provide resources to assist courts and judges in cases involving immigrant parties, victims, and witnesses (SJI-12-E-169 and SJI-13-E-199).

These resources, including bench cards, charts, and other tools, assembled over the past three years, have now been cataloged in a [web library](#), hosted by the American University, Washington College of Law. Included in the web library for use by state courts and their partners are:

1. [DHS: Immigration Options for Crime Victims \(Brochure\)](#)
2. [U-Visa Certification Tool Kit for Federal, State and Local Judges, Commissioners, and Magistrates \(February 3, 2014\)](#)
3. [Judicial Ethics of U Visa Certifications](#)
4. [Bench Card: DHS Enforcement Priorities Information for State Court Judges](#)
5. [Securing Attendance of Immigrants in Detention at State Court Proceedings](#)
6. [Economic Remedies, Services and Public Benefits For Crime Victims and Children](#)

7. Recordings from [Webinars and Webcasts for Judges and Court Staff](#)

Also included in the web library are slideshow presentations given across the United States to judges and court administrators, including:

- [State Courts and the Protection of Immigrant Crime Victims and Children \(Austin, TX\)\(October 18, 2013\)](#)
- [State Courts and the Protection of Immigrant Crime Victims and Children \(Wisconsin Dells, WI\)\(November 8, 2013\)](#)
- [State Court Rulings and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status \(Washington, D.C.\) \(December 5, 2013\)](#)
- [State Courts and the Protection of Immigrant Crime Victims and Children - Webcast, Washington D.C. \(January 31, 2014\) State Courts and the Protection of Immigrant Crime Victims and Children - Fairfax, VA July 29, 2014](#)

Additional items found in the web library include several legal and social science bibliographies, as well as information regarding additional training opportunities available from [NIWAP](#) and [Legal Momentum](#).

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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.

