

SJI Newsletter

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Conservator Accountability Project Releases Implementation Guide

The Conservator Accountability Project (CAP) began in 2015, with two key goals to help courts modernize their conservatorship process, specifically through the use of technology and analytics.

Supported by an SJI Grant, the <u>National Center for State Courts (NCSC)</u>, working with CAP, has released a new guide titled, <u>Conservatorship Accountability Project: Modernizing Conservatorship</u> <u>Processes and Improving the Protection of Assets</u>.

Minnesota, which served as the model for the guide, has been a unified court system since the late 1980's and was able to secure outside resources and broad legislative support for the implementation of MyMnConservator (MMC) – a mandatory conservatorship accounting software, and the Conservator Account Auditing Program (CAAP), also used statewide.

During the pilot phase of CAP, the NCSC, working directly with several states, including New Mexico, Iowa, Indiana, Texas, and Clark County, Nevada, found that most states did not have access to the resources needed to implement broad-scale changes under the present conditions. Data collection efforts showed that most state courts still have a difficult time documenting the number of active conservatorship cases. Rather than create a guide that only a few courts could implement, this guide informs readers of the efforts and advancements under way.



NACM Wraps a Successful Annual Meeting - Makes Content Available Online

The <u>National Association for Court Management (NACM)</u> is dedicated to educating court professionals, providing community, sharing information, and advocating on important court and justice system topics.

NACM's Annual Meeting recently concluded with the theme, *Courts & Society: Creating Public Trust Through Engagement & Innovation*. The meeting showcased a number of exceptional educational programs while offering networking opportunities for our national and international guests.

Each plenary and select programs were live-streamed, recorded, and can now be accessed in the <u>NACM</u> <u>Video Gallery</u>. Highlights of each session can be found <u>here</u>. NACM encourages court professionals to watch these videos and also share this great resource with colleagues.

The NACM 2020 Midyear Meeting will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina, at the Westin Charlotte from February 9-11, 2020. Registration has not yet opened, so keep an eye on the <u>NACM Conference website</u>.



Court Statistics Project Publishes 2019 State Court Caseload Digest

The <u>Court Statistics Project (CSP)</u>, a joint project between the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the <u>National Center for State Courts (NCSC)</u>, has published the 2019 edition of <u>State Court</u> <u>Caseload Digest</u>, which uses 2017 data to update caseload totals.

National, civil, domestic relations, criminal, juvenile, traffic, and appellate caseloads are covered. On the national level, after years of increasing caseloads reported by state trial courts in the previous decade, the most recent 10-year period shows a slow but steady decline since 2008. Total trial court caseloads in 2017 were roughly the same as those reported in 1993.



Court Technology Conference Preregistration Closes August 31

Only days remain to <u>preregister</u> for the 2019 Court Technology Conference, being held in New Orleans, Louisiana, September 10-12, 2019.

In addition to hundreds of opportunities to connect with colleagues, vendors, and industry experts, the conference will feature a <u>Solution Showcase</u> provided by vendors. The <u>online schedule</u> of plenaries and workshop presentations is now available.

Back by popular demand, NCSC's Court Consulting Services and Technology Divisions will provide their free consulting service, "The Doctor Is In," at CTC2019 in New Orleans, Louisiana. From September 10–12, the NCSC will provide up to an hour and a half of consultation with one of their experienced court management consultants. Consultants can meet to discuss technology or court administration issues that a court may be facing. If you would like to schedule a one-on-one discussion with NCSC staff, please contact Kent Kelly at <u>kkelly@ncsc.org</u> prior to the event.

Several consultants and managers will be in attendance. Each interested party will be asked to provide a specific court topic that they wish to discuss. Please note that sessions and availability are limited. Sessions can be scheduled for Tuesday, September 10 and Wednesday, September 11 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. or Thursday, September 12 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

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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.

Products and Resources

Since 2011, SJI has designated the library at the National Center for State Courts as the official repository of published work related to SJI-supported grant projects. You can search the ecollection online by using the term, State Justice Institute.

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