



July 2024 | Vol. 34, No. 10

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## Grantee Spotlight: Utah 10-Year Retrospective on Utah Civil Discovery Reforms



In 2011, Utah became the first state to embed the concept of proportionality into its rules governing discovery in civil cases. Utah Rule 26 created three tiers based on the amount-in-controversy at stake with tight deadlines and significant restrictions on the scope of allowable discovery for cases valued less than \$50,000 (Tier 1), slightly longer deadlines and expanded discovery permitted for cases valued... [Read more](#)

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## In the News

### The Council of State Government (CSG)'s Justice Center Releases New Resources on Improving Youth Justice and Outcomes

Youth across the country are facing unprecedented challenges, from community violence to mental health issues to school absences. These new resources from the CSG Justice Center provide state leaders, policymakers, and youth justice professionals with critical data and evidence-based solutions to address the growing challenges faced by youth and the systems designed to support them: [Navigating Concerns on Youth Crime, Violence, and Justice: What Does the Data Say?](#) Details the most recent national data trends on youth mental health, arrests, violence, court cases, incarceration, and disparities along with key implications and recommendations for needed policy, practice, and funding improvements. These resources provide state leaders, policymakers, and... [Read more](#)

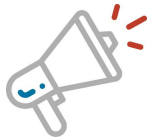
### Growing Use of Digital Assistants and Virtual Tools to Improve A2J

Courts across the country are recognizing the potential of digital tools to bridge the gap for self-represented litigants navigating complex legal issues. These tools assist users in

understanding the legal process and help them make informed decisions about their case. Working with the [National Center for State Courts](#) (NCSC), Philadelphia's Municipal Court recently introduced two new digital assistants: [Tenant Landlord Digital Assistant \(T/LDA\)](#) and [Consumer Debt Information Bot \(CODI\)](#). These tools serve as virtual companions—offering step-by-step guidance and plain language explanations—for self-represented litigants in landlord-tenant and consumer debt cases, adding Philadelphia to the growing list of courts embracing innovative technology solutions to... [Read more](#)

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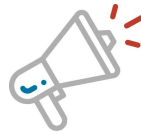
## Announcements



Upcoming Webinar!  
The [National Center for State Courts](#) (NCSC) will be hosting:  
*Streamlining Jury Selection: The Power*

*of Remote Case-Specific Juror Questionnaires* on **Thursday, July 18th, 2024, at 3:00PM EST.**

Discover how remote case-specific juror questionnaires can revolutionize jury selection by providing greater convenience for prospective jurors, offering more meaningful insights into juror impartiality, and reducing operational costs through improved juror utilization. Join in for a comprehensive webinar featuring esteemed panelists from the Superior Court of Arizona, Maricopa County, as they share their successful implementation of this innovative approach. For more information and to register now, click [here](#).



Upcoming Training!  
*Order in the Court & the Home: Adjudicating High-Risk Cases &*

*Judicial Safety Considerations.* This training program is hosted by the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) (NCJFCJ) and the [National Association of Women Judges](#) (NAWJ), and is being held in Washington, D.C. on **August 1st, 2024, at 12:00PM EST.** This training opportunity is a product of the NCJFCJ's DV AWARE Project (Domestic Violence Analysis, Warning, Action, Recovery, and Engagement), funded by the [State Justice Institute](#). This four-hour in-person training offers a unique opportunity for judicial officers and key team members to increase knowledge and promising practices using three stages to organize courts' preparation for and response to dangerous incidents. Register [here](#).



**[SJI Funding Toolkit:](#)**  
New Weekly Guide to Federal Grant Programs. Access the weekly guide to [Federal Grant](#)



Upcoming Conference!  
Join the [National Association for Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers](#) (NAPCO) for the 2024 NAPCO Annual

[Programs](#) in one concise document, organized by topic area, and that highlights key information to help jurisdictions make decisions about whether to pursue these open funding opportunities. [The SJI Funding Toolkit](#) is designed to support local courts, state courts, and their justice system partners as they pursue federal and philanthropic funding opportunities. For more information on the toolkit and to access this resource, click [here](#).

Conference, funded by [SJI](#), being held from **August 25th-28th, 2024**, in Denver, Colorado. This three-day event is devoted to leadership, governance, team-building, and key issues confronting trial court presiding judges, court executive officers, and their leadership teams, whether they serve in unified, general, or limited jurisdiction courts. Exhibitor and Sponsorship Information is also available. Registration is now open! To register, click [here](#).

If you are interested in sharing court related news or announcements in the SJI newsletter, please send all content to [contact@sjj.gov](mailto:contact@sjj.gov) by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Are you a SJI grantee interested in being featured in our monthly newsletter and on our website? Follow the instructions on our [Grantee Spotlight Submission Instructions page](#).



The next deadline to submit a grant application to SJI is **Aug 1, 2024**.

Learn more about [SJI grants](#) and [apply](#) today!



## State Justice Institute

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