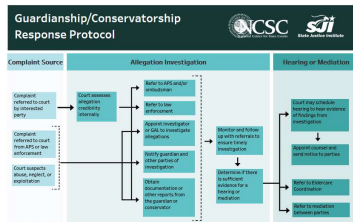




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Grantee Spotlight: Monitoring Guardianships and Conservatorships



To improve guardianship case management, the [National Center for State Courts](#) (NCSC) is leading two SJI-funded projects to help guide courts through guardianship monitoring. **Developing a Judicial Response Protocol to Address Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation in Guardianship Cases** features an interactive tool designed to help judges respond to allegations of harm to individuals subject to guardianship. Because most judges hear guardianship complaints infrequently, this tool helps... [Read more](#)

In the News

Rural Justice Innovations

Research shows rural Americans are more likely than urban residents to be jailed, to overdose, and lack access to substance use treatment, mental health care, and public health services. That's why it's so important to identify innovative solutions to address justice inequality in rural communities. The [Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center](#), in partnership with the [National Center for State Courts](#), and [Rulo Strategies, LLC](#), authored the [Rural Justice Innovations](#) publication to highlight the inaugural group of nineteen Rural Justice Innovation sites selected by the [Rural Justice Collaborative](#) (RJC)... [Read more](#)

State Leaders Seek More Equitable Processes for Handling Debt Collection Cases

[Pew Charitable Trusts](#) has just released a new article on [equitable processes for handling debt collection cases](#). As levels of consumer debt continue to rise and state civil courts attempt to implement new technologies enacted during the pandemic, court leaders and

administrators have a historic opportunity to address the growing need to change how they handle debt collection lawsuits... [Read more](#)

New Audiobooks to Help Young Survivors of Human Trafficking

The [Office for Victims of Crime](#) (OVC) is pleased to release a set of audiobooks from the Child Victims and Witnesses Support Materials series for young survivors of human trafficking. Originally released as graphic novels in January 2022, these three audiobooks were created by national experts and young trafficking survivors—who also served as the voice actors—to support youth who are victims or witnesses in cases of... [Read more](#)

Announcements



Register now! As part of the [Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System](#) (IAALS) [Redesigning Legal Speaker Series](#), on March 21st, 2023, at 1:00PM EST, IAALS and its partners will examine the various legal service providers beyond lawyers who help people with their legal problems and discuss why it will take this entire ecosystem to fully tackle the access to justice crisis. Allied legal professional programs are spreading across the country. Register [here](#).



New Webinar! [NCSC](#) will be hosting *Family-Centered Fridays: User-Centered Court Culture* on March 31st, 2023, at 12:00PM EST. During this webinar, Maricopa County (Ariz.) Superior Court Judge Bruce R. Cohen will encourage participants to consider how the judicial process can exacerbate trauma for families engaged in custody or child-related proceedings as well as how to be mindful of the impact exposure to trauma has on judges and court personnel. Register [here](#).



Upcoming Course! The [National Judicial College](#) (NJC) will be hosting *Civil Mediation* from March 27-31st, 2023, in Reno, Nevada. Mediation is an important option in every system of justice. Judges with mediation skills can have opportunities open up to them both on and off the bench. This five-day, 40-hour course is hands-on, interactive, fast-paced and practical.



Eviction Diversion Initiative Grant Application Now Open! NCSC is now accepting applications for the [Eviction Diversion Initiative Grant Program](#) through Friday, April 21st, 2023. Grants will be awarded to 6-9 state and local courts to launch or expand eviction diversion programs and transform the eviction court experience. EDI grant funds can be used to hire dedicated court staff to

Enrollment is limited. For more information and to register for this course, click [here](#).

oversee the eviction diversion and court reform work and to build community... [Read more](#).

If you are interested in sharing court related news or announcements in the SJI newsletter, please send all content to contact@sjj.gov by the 10th 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 **May 1, 2023**.

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



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