

# SJI NEWSLETTER

Volume 26, No. 6

## National Summit on Human Trafficking and The State Courts: Videos Available Online

### Upcoming Grant Deadlines

The following is a list of deadlines through the remainder of FY 2016 for new Project, Technical Assistance, and Curriculum Adaptation, and ESP grant applications:

- May 1, 2016; and,
- August 1, 2016.

Please review the [SJI Grant Guideline](#) for more details.

On October 8 and 9, 2015, teams from around the country came together in New York City for the National Summit on Human Trafficking and the State Courts hosted by then-Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman, with key support from SJI (SJI-15-P-029).

The teams were made up of chief justices, court administrators, prosecutors, defense attorneys, advocates, and others with an interest or involvement in efforts to address human trafficking at the state level. There were teams from 46 states, the District of Columbia, and four U.S. territories in attendance.

The summit included panel discussions on Day 1

field, including:

- Human Trafficking from a Judicial Perspective
- Labor Trafficking and Promising Programs
- Working Together -Reaching Out to Our Justice Partners
- Innovative Strategies to Address HT by Courts and Communities
- State Courts Taking Action



OCTOBER 7 – 9, 2015 • NEW YORK CITY

National Summit on Human Trafficking

[HTSummit@NYCOURTS.GOV](mailto:HTSummit@NYCOURTS.GOV)

and the State Courts

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focusing on a variety of subjects related to the work of the state courts, along with their justice system and community partners, in responding to trafficking cases and victims. On Day 2, state teams began developing action plans. The plans incorporated the information and approaches presented on Day 1.

In order to make the expertise and knowledge shared at the Summit more widely available, video of the panel discussions is now available on the [Summit website](#). Panel Videos from the National Summit included a range of topics discussed by experts in the

The [Human Trafficking and the States Courts Collaborative](#), played a major role in the National Summit, along with the New York Unified Court System. SJI began focusing on human trafficking and the state courts over three years ago by supporting the HT Collaborative and their work. This National Summit was a culmination of several years of work on this critical issue. Post-Summit, the HT Collaborative continues to provide technical assistance and training to the state courts on human trafficking.

## NACM Midyear Meeting Content Available Online



SJI continued its grant support to the [National Association for Court Management](#) (NACM) in 2016, which ensured that the educational sessions of NACM's Midyear and Annual meetings would be available online (SJI-15-N-030).

New this year was the inclusion of live streaming, in addition to post-conference content being available through the [NACM website](#). Live streaming is a popular way for NACM members and non-members to receive educational content and learn more about NACM. Anyone interested may [view online or download](#) the Midyear Meeting content at their convenience. Included are high-impact sessions that address existing and emerging challenges for court professionals:

- [Justice for the Poor - Ensuring a Fair Judicial Process for All](#)
- [Meeting the Challenges of the New Civil Landscape](#)
- [Extending the NACM Core to Your Court](#)

NACM also maintains an [archive of past conference content and highlights](#) accessible via their website.

NACM continues to provide education on [SJI's Priority Investment Areas](#) including immigration issues, self-represented litigation, improving language access, remote technology, and human trafficking. The 2016 Annual Meeting will be held July 10 – 14, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Early Bird registration, available through June 3<sup>rd</sup>, is already underway. The Annual Meeting [Digital Agenda](#) is available online including plenary topics, breakout session titles, and meetings of several state court stakeholder groups. SJI's Executive Director, Jonathan Mattiello, will present with Jesse Rutledge of the NCSC and Stephanie Elliott Hess, NACM President, on July 11<sup>th</sup> regarding the State of the State Courts 2015 Poll. This breakout session, like others, will explore the provision of justice, court performance, and the court manager's role in maintaining accountability and transparency in order to ensure public trust and confidence in the judicial branch.



## Courts of Coconino County, Arizona Complete Revisions to Long Range Strategic Plan

The Courts in Coconino County, which is situated in the north central part of Arizona and seated in Flagstaff has been committed to long-range strategic planning efforts since 2000. Every five years, with the input from justice system and community partners, a dedicated team of judges, court administrators, and staff hold a Strategic Planning Forum, where the Coconino Courts Strategic Plan and Priorities are updated. In late 2015, with support from SJI and technical assistance provided by PRAXIS Consulting, Inc., [Justice 2035: Charting a Course for Courts in Coconino County](#) was completed (SJI-15-T-037).

Each Strategic Planning Forum held since 2000 routinely attracts participation by over 100 stakeholders, with 128 participants contributing

their time in 2015 to the following group activities:

1. Completing a critical assessment of the Courts, summarizing the Courts' greatest strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats/challenges (SWOT analysis); and,
2. Identifying and prioritizing suggested strategic initiatives in each of the five strategic focus areas.

Among the greatest challenges faced by Coconino Courts according to responses acquired during the Forum were:

1. Lack of resources/declining budgets;
2. Increasing need for legal assistance/services; and,
3. Increasing need for treatment programs/services.

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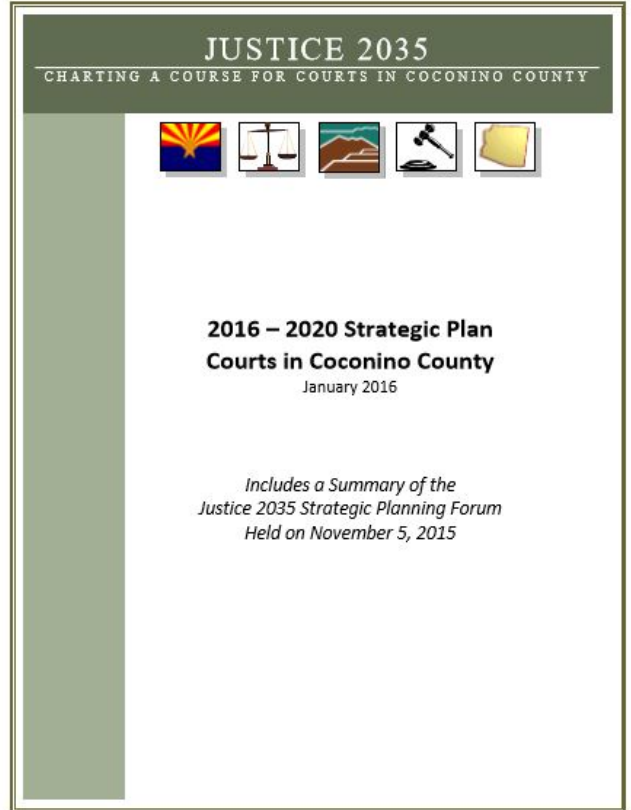
Identified strengths included the competency of court professionals, a commitment to Family Law and Pro Se services, as well as focus on language access and alternative programs, such as problem-solving courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). The Forum was eager to see improvements in the following:

1. Improve/expand technology;
2. Improve facilities and security; and,
3. Provide better customer service and enhance access.

A core component of the final report is breaking down Strategic Focus Areas (SFAs) into manageable tasks, making the outcomes more attainable and clearly understood across the courts and their partners. The Coconino Courts settled on the following five SFAs:

- Access and Quality Services
- Fair and Timely Resolution and Efficient Operations
- Strong Relations and Partnerships
- Professional, Competent, and Engaged Workforce
- Court Infrastructure

Consistent with SJI-funded grants, the full final report is available through the [National Center for State Courts \(NCSC\) Library eCollection](#).



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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.

