

E-SJI NEWS

SJI Board Awards FY 2012 Second Quarter Grants

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SJI received 20 grant applications requesting a total of \$1,147,684 for the 2nd quarter of FY 2012. The Board met on April 23, 2012, at the [National Center for State Courts \(NCSC\)](#) in Williamsburg, Virginia, to make decisions on those applications.

In addition, NCSC provided overview briefings about their operations. The Board also had the opportunity to visit the [Courtroom 21 Project](#), a part of the Center for Legal and Court Technology at the College of William & Mary School



In this Issue

2nd Quarter Grant Awards	1
SIG Awards - Self-Represented Litigation	2
CCE: Courts and the Media Series	2
Status of FY 2013 Appropriations	2
New Resources for Race and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts	3

of Law. The Courtroom 21 Project is the world's most technologically advanced trial and appellate courtroom, and is used for testing new court technologies, in addition to providing ongoing education.

During its meeting, the Board awarded 13 grants totaling \$612,090. One (1) Project Grant was awarded to the Missouri Office of the State Court Administrator (OSCA) for an Access to Justice Project designed to increase their capacity to meet federal and state-mandated access to justice requirements through an electronic forms hosting and delivery system.

Eight (8) Technical Assistance (TA) Grants were approved, including: Phase III support to develop judicial branch educator competencies for the National Association of State Judicial Educators (NASJE); implementation of a high performance court framework in the Scottsdale City Court, Arizona; a supreme and superior court unification project in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana

Islands; and grants to the Kansas Supreme Court, New Mexico AOC, Washington AOC, San Mateo Superior Court in California, and Dane County Clerk of Courts in Wisconsin for court improvement, analysis, and reengineering projects.

Four (4) Curriculum Adaptation & Training (CAT) Grants were approved, including: a grant to the Washington AOC for an intensive court interpreter training initiative; statewide delivery of case management training for Colorado juvenile probation officers on a new risk assessment tool, which builds on a previous grant (SJI-11-T-011) to develop the new assessment tool; development and the online delivery of judicial webcasts for judges (including new judges) for the [National Judicial College \(NJC\)](#); and support for the in-house certification of a 12-person team from the Missouri OSCA to deliver the NCSC's [Institute for Court Management \(ICM\)](#) Certified Court Manager (CCM) credential.

SJI Board Awards Strategic Initiative Grants on Self-Represented Litigation and the State Courts

During the 2nd quarter Board meeting, 6 SIG grants were awarded totaling \$275,158. These projects address one of SJI's new [Priority Investment Areas](#): Self-Represented Litigation and the State Courts.

SIG grants were made to the: 1) Judicial Council of California to train bilingual JusticeCorps volunteers to provide enhanced ser-

vices for self-represented litigants (SRLs); 2) Indiana Administrative Office of the Courts to train volunteer college and law students to serve statewide pro se clinic clients; 3) National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to develop a standard set of definitions and counting rules for cases involving one or more SRLs; 4) Self-Represented Litigation Network (SRLN) and

NCSC to develop formal case triage protocols for assistance to SRLs; 5) SRLN to facilitate state court reimbursement under Title IV-D, and promote awareness of this resource; and 6) South Carolina Access to Justice Commission for delivery of legal information to SRLs in underserved areas of South Carolina.

CCE Hosts Program for Bench Bar Media Dialogue

With support from SJI, the Council for Court Excellence (CCE) held the first in a series of four programs discussing media-related trends and issues in the state courts (SJI-11-E-176).

The program titled, *The Technology and Law of Cameras in the Courtroom*, was held in Washington, D.C. on March 27, 2012, and featured several distinguished panelists who discussed the legal implications of the media's audiovisual presence in the courtroom. Presenters discussed best practices and personal experiences, either serving in, or reporting from, courtrooms across the United States.

CCE will host several other presentations this year on other topics that deal with the intersections between courts, media, and the law. For



more information on the next program in this series, and how you can attend, please contact Peter Willner at willner@courtexcellence.org.

The panel presenters and program moderator for the March 27, 2012 program featured (from left to right in the picture): Michael Satin, D.C. Public Defender Service; Judge Jose Lopez, D.C. Superior Court; Chief Judge Royce Lamberth, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia; Fred D'Amrosi, WUSA9-TV; Kathleen Kirby, Wiley Rein LLP; Ronald Machen, U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia; and Lucy Dalglish, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Status of FY 2013 Appropriations

On April 17, 2012, the Senate Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Subcommittee on Appropriations marked up the FY 2013 CJS bill, which included \$5,121,000 for SJI—the same level provided in FY 2012 and requested in the FY 2013 President's Budget. The Senate Appropriations Committee approved the CJS bill on April 19, 2012.

Also on April 19th, the House CJS Subcommittee marked up the bill, which included \$5,121,000 for SJI. The House Appropriations Committee approved the bill on April 26, 2012.

SJI greatly appreciates the continued support of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. SJI will provide updates as the appropriations process continues to move forward.



Final Phase of Campaign to Ensure Racial and Ethnic Fairness Provides Valuable Court Resources

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) recently announced that the final products from the SJI-funded *Phase II: A National Campaign to Ensure the Racial and Ethnic Fairness of America's State Courts* (SJI-08-I-084) are now available on the NCSC website.

The project is the final phase of the National Campaign to Ensure Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts—a project initiated in collaboration with the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) Access and Public Trust Committees in 2006.

The resources include a report on three pilot educational programs on implicit bias and shorter excerpts that can be used as stand-alone pieces for presentations and judicial education programs. A summary and accessible links to the resources developed under this grant include:

1. [Helping Courts Address Implicit Bias: Resources for Education](#): describes and evaluates the three pilot judicial education programs on implicit bias and offers lessons learned.

3. [Implicit Bias: Frequently Asked Questions](#): addresses some common questions about implicit bias and what contemporary science tells us about this cognitive phenomenon.



Race & Ethnic Fairness in the Courts

It also includes appendices with resource materials for programs on implicit bias.

2. [Addressing Implicit Bias in the Courts](#): briefly describes the implicit bias phenomenon and outlines potential strategies that court professionals can use to combat implicit bias.

4. [Strategies to Reduce the Influence of Implicit Bias](#): identifies conditions that may give rise to implicitly biased judgment or behavior and details seven general approaches to address implicit bias in the courts

based on current scientific research.

A [manuscript](#) submitted to the *Justice System Journal*, and a forthcoming article in the *UCLA Law Review* is also available.

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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.

