



JISC DATA DISSEMINATION COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 6, 2017 (8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.)
Teleconference
Call-in Number: 1-877-820-7831, Passcode 797974

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present

Judge Thomas J. Wynne, Chair
Judge G. Scott Marinella
Ms. Barb Miner
Ms. Brooke Powell
Ms. Aimee Vance

Staff Present

Ms. Stephanie Happold, Data Dissemination Administrator
Ms. Yvonne Pettus, System Support Analyst, ISD-Operations

Members Not Present

Judge J. Robert Leach
Judge Jeannette Dalton
Judge David A. Svaren

Guests

Mr. Mark Allen, Deputy County Clerk, Snohomish County

0. Call to Order

Chair Judge Thomas J. Wynne called the meeting to order. Participating Committee members, guests, and staff identified themselves.

1. Expunged Cases Displaying in Odyssey

AOC staff presented. Recently, AOC staff received permission by the Odyssey clerks to “fix” how expunged cases were displaying in Odyssey due to issues caused by conversion from JIS/SCOMIS. There are two options to fix the cases in Odyssey: the ‘Expunge Case’ command and the ‘Case Party Replace’ command. AOC staff provided examples of both from Odyssey and Odyssey Portal that showed the before and after for each option. As these commands affect how expunged case information will display in the Odyssey case management system and portal, AOC staff needed direction from the Committee on what command to implement.

In SCOMIS, the ‘Expunge Case’ command displays Case Number, Title/Style (which should state ‘Expunged’), County, Case Status, Case Type, and Case Filed Date. The Odyssey ‘Expunge Case’ command completely hides the case from displaying for any user. In Odyssey the only way to access the case information is to use the ‘Unexpunge Case’ command, but the user has to know the case number. AOC staff’s concern about using this command was that completely removing a case from view does not meet the requirements of data access policies and court rules.

The ‘Case Party Replace’ command displays the Case Number, Title/Style (which should be ‘Expunged’), County, Case Status, Case Type, and Case Filed Date. However, using ‘Case

Party Replace' and changing the case title to 'expunged' do not wipe out case events, charges, etc. Even if the county clerk deleted each event manually, these are soft deletes, the case items deleted are still available to many users (for example: county clerks have access to view deleted events), and the soft delete action would be required for items contained in the case (for example: warrants, protection orders). There are also case items that are unable to be deleted, such as the last charge on a criminal case. There is concern about how many steps 'Case Party Replace' would require and that some case data would still be viewable to certain users.

The Committee unanimously provided the following direction to AOC:

1. The Expunge Case Command in Odyssey hides too much case information. The existence of expunged cases should be available to the public, albeit with very limited information. They asserted that the existence of expunged cases comports with GR 15(h), and Article I, § 10 of the Constitution of the State of Washington that states: "Justice in all cases shall be administered openly, and without unnecessary delay."
2. Therefore, the Case Party Replace command should be used. However, in looking at the screenshots AOC staff provided, the Committee thought the command did not hide enough as the 'case type' should also be removed and instead say 'expunged.' In order to do that, a new case type would need to be created.
3. The extra work involved with the Case Party Replace command, such as all the manual soft deletes, was discussed. The Committee members did not think this was a huge issue as there should not be many expunged cases, the soft deletes comported with GR 15(h), and the fact that the order to expunge should still exist and be available to the public as stated in GR 15(h)(3)(A). The fact that clerks could still possibly see the deleted information was not an issue.
4. DDA Happold is to meet with SC-CMS staff about this direction and about the new case type. She will then report back to the DDC if everything decided at this meeting was feasible. Once an approach to expunged cases is finalized, AOC is to also reach out to WSACC and SCJA so they are aware of how expunged cases will be handled in Odyssey.
5. There was concern about cases being expunged without statutory authority. The DDC will discuss possible education about destroying/expunging cases to be created for the associations at the next meeting. They also would like education to be sent to SCJA and WSACC about the new case type when it is created including how to use it, when to use it, and why.
6. In parallel to all this, Ms. Pettus was given the go-ahead to work on the known expunged cases to remove the party names from displaying in Portal.